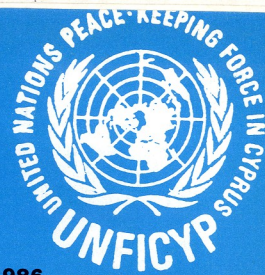


THE BLUE BERET



APRIL 1986



MARCH IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

26 Mar-16 Apr SWEDCON

VISITS

4-20 Capt Col and S/Sgt Hannah visited the British Contingent.

5-19 Capt C R Usherwood visited the Canadian Contingent.

10-14 Maj Skjerner visited the Danish Contingent.

11 Maj-Gen C E W Jones visited the British Contingent.

13-20 Maj-Gen and Mrs Spacie visited the British Contingent.

17-19 Maj Mathiesen and four instructors visited the UN MP Coy.

17-20 Ms Dahlloff visited the Swedish Contingent.

18 Mrs J Hardwick visited the British Contingent.

18-20 Lt-Col Harleman visited the Swedish Contingent.

18-20 Lt-Col P C Aune visited the UN MP Coy.

20-27 Capt Lingeman visited the British Contingent.

22-23 Lt-Col Horsfall visited the British Contingent.

24-25 Col M V Hayward visited the British Contingent.

24-27 Col Murphy visited the Irish Contingent.

24-27 Maj -Gen Barry visited the Irish Contingent.

24-27 Maj Makelainen, Capt Hannukkala and Capt Nurminen visited the Finnish Contingent.

26-3/4 Mr Meijer visited the Swedish Contingent.

FUTURE EVENTS

MEDAL PARADES

30 Apr AUSCON
25 Apr ANZAC DAY

"WHATS ON IN NICOSIA" British Council

17 Apr "Yanks" film starring Vanessa Redgrave, Richard Gere, William Devine.
7.30 p.m.
25 Apr Chanticleer Theatre, 7.30 p.m. Tickets £1.50. Pop Group "Pyewackett".
Pop music through the centuries.

American Center

23 Apr "The Year of Living Dangerously" 7.30.

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The Blue Beret is the house journal of the United Nations Force in Cyprus and as such, is intended to provide a source of information on current events within the Force, on UN matters of general interest and on local tourist advice.

Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper size 160mm by 210mm. This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Force Commander. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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Front cover

DANCON March
Photograph by:
Sgt A Thomson

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

This month sees the start of a period of total change in the Military Public Information Office. Sadly we lose three staff members at the end of April.

The longest serving of these, Mrs Joan Nield, joined the office in February 1984 and until August 1984 was the Assistant Editor of the Blue Beret as well as visits co-ordination secretary. Following a much needed staff increase Joan then concentrated on the visit co-ordination role until June 1985 when she returned to the job of Assistant Editor of the Blue Beret magazine. Joan has shouldered most of the responsibility for production of the magazine over these periods and in particular has been the inspiration behind the additional use of colour, which I am sure all readers will agree greatly brightened the magazine.

The Force Photographer, Sgt Thomson, arrived in UNFICYP in April 1984. I am sure that all who have seen his work will agree that we have been very lucky to have had him for the past two years. Blue Beret readers will be interested to note that he shot almost all of the Blue Beret front covers and many of the inside black and white photos throughout this period. The quality has always been superb.

Finally, last but by no means least, we say farewell to Mrs Mary Villers, who has been the office secretary since June 1985. Mary has dealt not only with visits but has generally provided all the essential clerical back up to the office as a whole. She has always been a willing and enthusiastic member of our staff. I am sure that you would all wish to join with me in saying farewell and "bon voyage" from all of us to all of them.

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UN MP COMPANY TAKES THE PLUNGE

Written and photographed by WO2 JR Lynes

Members and families of the UN MP Coy finally took the plunge and travelled to Xeros MP Det on Sunday 23 Feb 86 to join the "Polar Bear" swimming club. This is an annual MP event which is normally held at the beginning of Feb but had to be delayed, not because of the lower water temperatures as rumour would have it, but by work and other sporting activities.

We left Nicosia bright and early, however none of us needed reminding that "SPEED KILLS". Who could possibly be in a hurry to be the first in the sea so early in 1986? The old but true saying, "Better late than never" enabled the water to become much warmer, and someone even alleged that they may have seen the sun.

Individual launchings and the initiation ceremony, which was conducted by Xeros Det Comd, Sgt BK Jensen, were, because of



Apprehensive potential members observe the first victims.

the cold, beyond written description. Verbal accounts of the days activities or indeed any police advice or assistance will be gladly given at any of the UN MP Detachments situated Island wide. These are located at Nicosia, Famagusta, Ayia Napa, Larnaca, Limassol and of course Xeros. Whichever beach you select this summer, please drive there carefully.



Mrs Lynes having passed the initiation ceremony gives a deceptive smile.

SWEDCIVPOL MEDALS PRESENTATION

By Ch Insp M.T.S. Hellqvist



The medallists.



Force Commander chats with Supt Mauritzon and Ch Insp Martinsson.

This solemn and familiar event took place on Saturday 15th of February at HQ, SWEDCIVPOL, Larnaca. The Force Commander presented the UN-medal to six officers, and the SWEDCIVPOL choir sang the National Anthem.

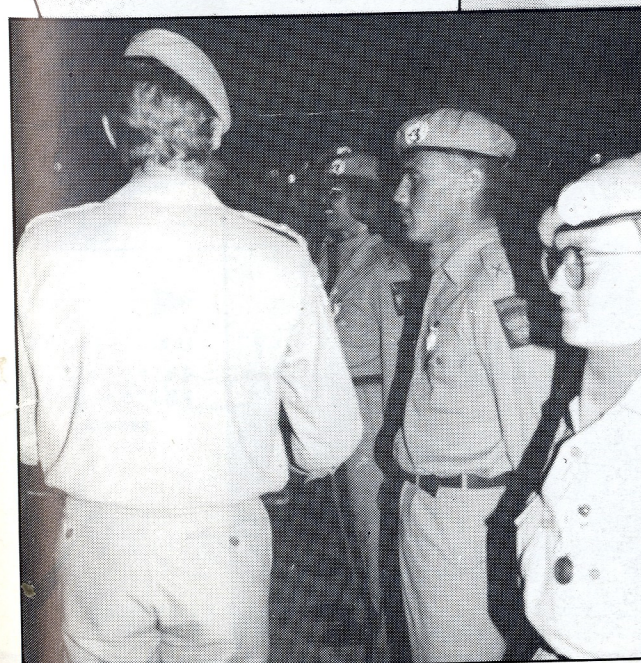
Maj Aldman and Lt Lallo, SWEDCON, concluded the parade programme by playing Swedish folksongs on trumpets.

Afterwards the guests and the policemen enjoyed a delicious dinner. The following police officers became UN-medallists: Chief Inspectors Ramang and Hellqvist, Inspectors Nordqvist, Sjobom, Bergkvist and Elrud.

SWEDCON MEDAL PARADE

By: Lt C Meijer

SVERIGE



PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS

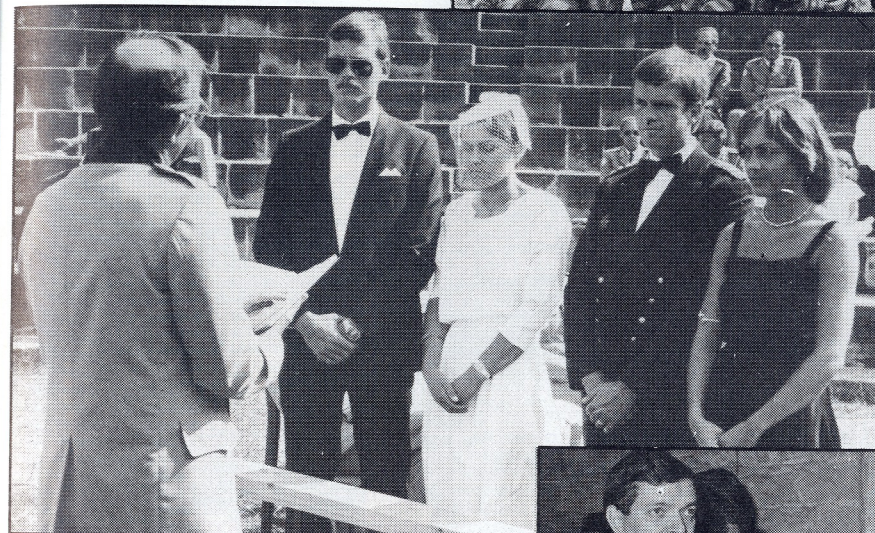
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THE LIFE GUARDS BAND CONCERT AT FAMAGUSTA GATE, NICOSIA



COS with the GUNNERS attached to 2 RRF, the Sector 2 Battalion, after the presentation of UN Medals.

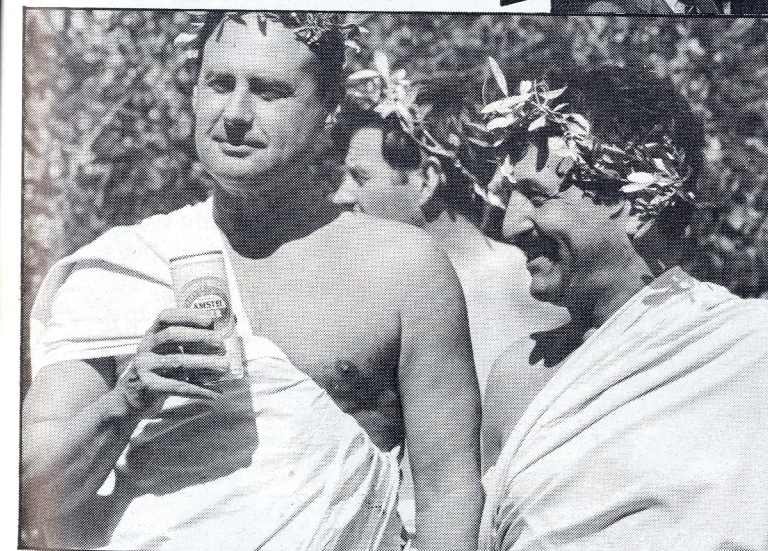


DANCON's Double Marriage ceremony held at Soli Theatre.

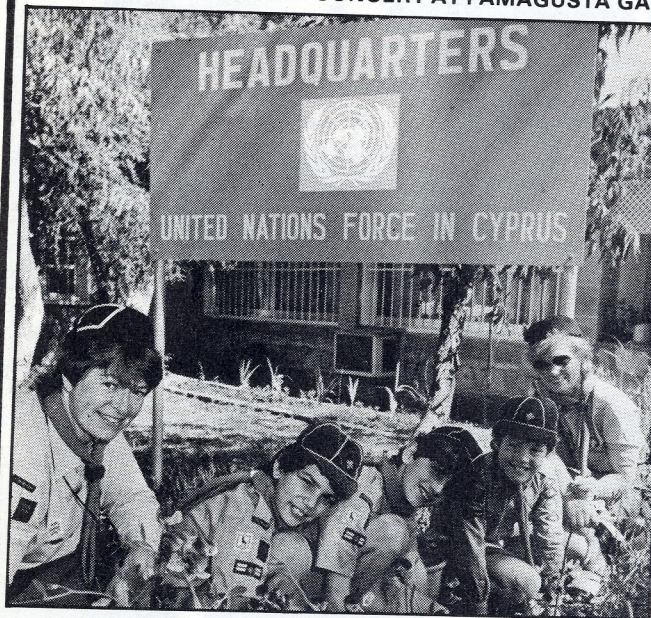
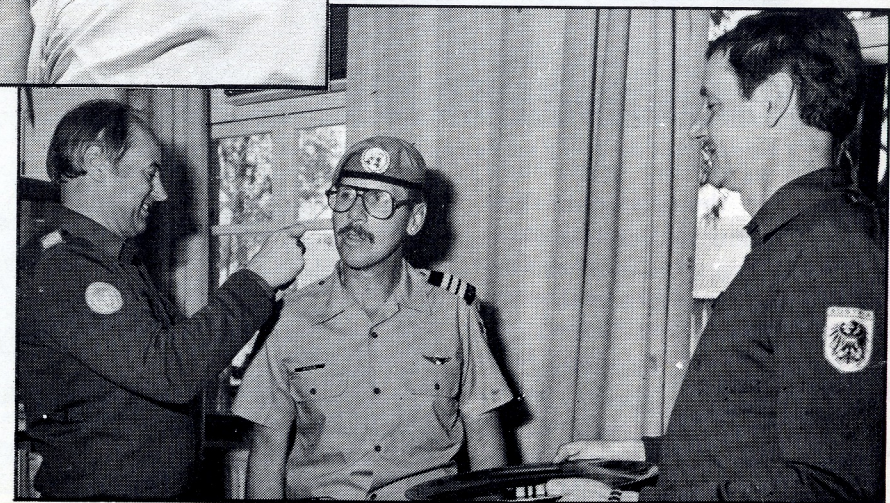
Finnish Minister of Defence meets members of FINCON.



Roman/Austrian "orgy" at HQ UNFICYP!



Promotion by Force Commander of Lt Col A.A. Peterson, CO Sector 4.



The Force Commander cuts the tape to open the new track between OPs D14 and D26. The track was made by Sappers from 62 Cyprus Sp Sqn RE.

Scouts "JOB WEEK" Gardening at HQ UNFICYP.

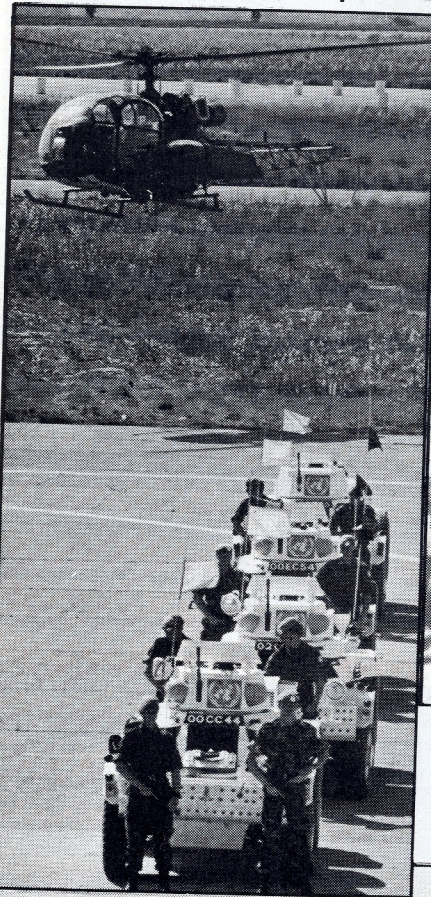


UN Flight celebrating XR376's faithful service.

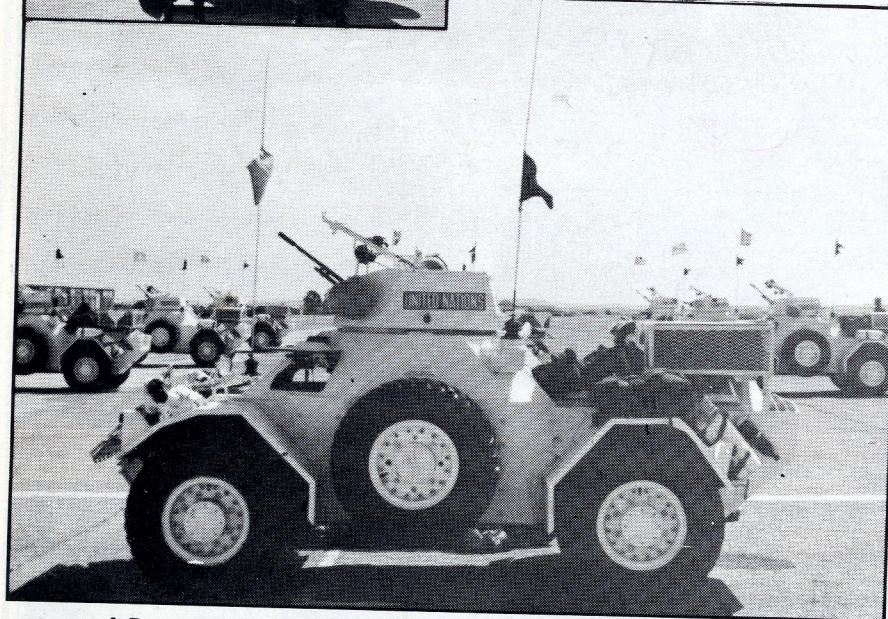
HALF - TIME FOR THE SCOUT CARS

By: Capt HD Dyson

Photos by: Capt HD Dyson
Sgt A. Thomson



SHQ Troop in a hull down position, avoiding the Squadron Corporal Major.



A Ferret Scout car during the Force Reserve Display for Mr Goulding.

Already the Squadron has been in Cyprus for 3 months and has completed half its tour. The Scout Car troops have now spent 3 weeks in every sector, and will soon be revisiting their first sector.

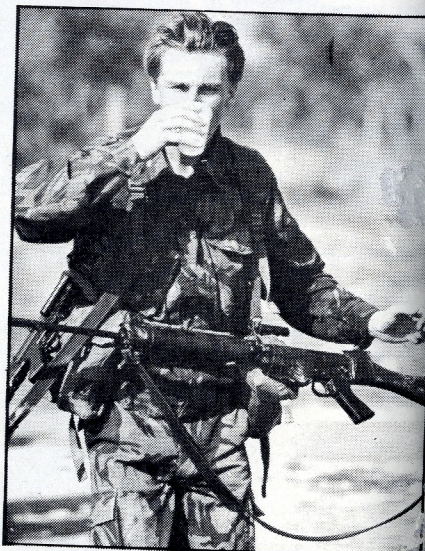
In addition to successful Force Reserve Exercises in Sectors One, Five and Four the Squadron has

had many visitors. The most notable of which was Mr Goulding for whom the Force Reserve, in its entirety, staged a dramatic drive on and drive past display.

The Squadron was well pleased with its overall sixth position in the Military Skills Competition, thanks to the hard

efforts of Lt Mitford-Slade and CoH Yarrow. More recently the Squadron has participated, with varying degrees of success, in the many other competitions laid on by the Sectors. Much of March has been taken up with the preparations for the BRITCON Medal Parade, of which there will no doubt be plenty in the next magazine.

We were lucky enough to have The Band of The Life Guards visit us for two weeks at the end of March, during which they played at many venues and on the Medal Parade.



Lt Mitford-Slade completes the Forced March - well armed and thirsty!

VISIT BY MAJ-GEN J BOYNE TO UNFICYP REME WORKSHOP

Photos by: Sgt A Thomson



Maj Gen Boyne arrives at REME Workshop.



Long Service & Good Conduct Medal presented by Maj Gen Boyne to WO2 A Browne, seen here with Maj Gen Boyne and his wife Joanne and son Lee.



Long Service Certificate Awards presented by Maj Gen Boyne: L to R: Mr & Mrs Takis Eliades, Mr & Mrs Hashmet, Maj Gen Boyne, Mr Y Pyrkotis, Mr & Mrs M Nikolaou.



Mr Harris Chouldjian meets Maj Gen Boyne.



WOULD YOU LIKE A RIDE IN MY BIG RED FIRE ENGINE?

By Lt M A Butcher

Photo by Sgt A Thomson



66 Sqn RCT played host to a visit by a group of school children from Evangelismos Special School, Nicosia, on Thursday morning 13 February 1986.

During their visit they saw an impressive display of UN vehicles from 4 tonne and 8 tonne trucks, to Scout Cars, a Fire Engine and Recovery Vehicle. They all went



for short drives in the vehicles, with the Fire Engine and its siren becoming the firm favourite.

The high-light of the day was a guest appearance by an Alouette helicopter from the UN Flight. The children enjoyed their visit although with their handicapped problems they probably did not understand the UN or why the soldiers were there.

The important thing was the contact between the children and the soldiers, or was it the other way round?

Our thanks to Scout Car Sqn, REME Wksps, Flight and the UNPA Fire Service for their assistance and Padre Peter Brooke for organising the visit.



THE PAIN AND THE PLEASURE

By: Maj J. Ingham

Is it all worth it? Every six months the soldiers picked from the hat to represent their respective Sectors in the UN Military Skills Competition must ask themselves the same question. First comes selection for the training squad, followed by two weeks of hard preparation. Then comes final team selection: the excitement of those who succeed, and the disappointment (or is it relief?) of those who do not quite make it or have fallen by the wayside through injury or some nagging illness.

For those who have not taken part in the training, here is a resume of what the competitors undergo – a taste of sweat and the effort involved.

First there is the fitness training in preparation for the 15Km forced march with full fighting dress. Not for the fainthearted this part. With a bogey time of 2 hours to beat, and a target of 1 hour 40 minutes in order to gain maximum bonus points there is no room for any weak links. Daily marches gradually building up to a peak 2 or 3 days before the event are the order of the day. A time for gritting the teeth on the final stretches and repairing blistered feet and chafed hips at the end.

Next the assault course, where sheer physical strength and agility play as vital a part as the techniques and teamwork needed to cross the larger obstacles. Gradually the toll mounts – more blistered hands, skinned knuckles, bruised knees and inevitably the odd fall that puts one or two more people out of the running. Slowly the times are reduced on practice runs, until thankfully, time for rehearsal runs out.

No soldier is worth his salt if, at the end of the day, he arrives at the objective unable to shoot



Two sets of winning smiles

accurately. This is where the ultimate skill will show on the day. With an aching body and tired arms, every shot on the target counts for 5 points, every squeeze of the trigger could win or lose the competition. The team coaches alternately harangue and praise, encourage and rebuke, for the small things make a difference here. "Make sure the weapons are cleaned and oiled". "Don't snatch the trigger", "Aim off for moving targets". Once again scores mount slowly and gradually until no more range time is left.

But what about the many other soldiering skills soon to be tested? During the days preceding the competition, in between the more glamorous spectator events just outlined, time has to be found for practicing night navigation, coping with simulated medical emergencies, vehicle recognition, accurate throwing of grenades, construction of a bullet proof observation post, and the nightlong vigil to observe and accurate logging of movement and events in the target area.

Let no-one think this is a sinecure of an exercise. The hundreds of UN soldiers who go through this training every six

Photos by: Sgt A Thomson

months will testify to the body sapping effort needed to complete the course, let alone do well on the day.

In the event, the teams from Sector 2 did do well in the latest competition, taking first and second places overall; but it was, and always will be, a close run thing. This time the deciding factors at the end of the competition were the forced march and shooting. The grim determination of young Fusiliers almost straight from recruit training who forced that last ounce of strength to run the final mile of the march paid off. As did the concentration drilled into young heads for aiming at the moving targets.

Whilst Sector 2 can celebrate the victory of its two teams, perhaps we should reflect. Whilst everyone likes a winner, the final margins were very small, and the difference between the pride of second place and the disappointment of third place was 2.1 points out of 1500: one shot on the targets, or 1 minute faster on the march. That is the margin between pain and pleasure.

Is it all worth it? Yes, but there's no pleasure until the end.

3 RCR TAKES COMMAND OF SECTOR 4

By: Lt Ewing

Photos by: Unit Photographer



On a cold windy day in Western Canada, soldiers boarded an aircraft for a distant land. As the plane took off everyone had a feeling of accomplishment. After months of preparation, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment was finally on its way to Cyprus and it was certain no one was going to miss the minus 25°C weather of Winnipeg.

After a long but uneventful flight the Island was finally spotted. When the pilot announced that the temperature

↑
3RCR soldiers happy to leave the
Winnipeg winter.

→
"You don't need coats on here!"
3 RCR arrives in Cyprus.

↓
"March on the Colours" Sector 4
Change of Command.



was plus 13°C, everyone began to roll their sleeves and then proceeded to carry their coats off the plane. It was obvious that the warm clothing requirements for Winnipeg would not be required here.

The first weeks featured initial tours of the UNBZ by all members of 3 RCR. As well, the RCR



soldiers immediately began to share in the shifts at the OPs with the gunners of 2RCHA. It was just like Ex Blue Beret which had been conducted in Canada, only now, when giving an OP briefing, there were real mountains to point at instead of hand drawn ones on barrack walls.

The Change of Command of Sector 4 took place during the morning of 6 Mar when LCol J.S. Cox signed for the responsibility of Sector 4 from 2RCHA. With his signature Canada's 45th Cyprus Rotation officially commenced.



OUR ENGINEERS- THE "BUMBLE-BEES" OF THE BATTALION

Text: Capt. Lamprecht

Photos: 1/Cpl Kichler



The platoon-leader 1/Lt KAUFMANN Wolfgang in his office giving instructions to his store-NCO, WO1 GRADNER Herbert.

The mechanic, Cpl SCHNEIDER Clemens, a very busy man.



The construction team with their boss Sgt PLATTER Werner in front of the new Operations-building.

Peace – keeping first of all is asking for soldiers. Not to fight but to prevent fighting. No doubt, our soldiers in the Buffer Zone do their job well. Anyway a battalion must be a TEAM in order to be able to manage the variety of tasks a UN-unit is responsible for. One important member of the Austrian team is our Engineer's Platoon.

Let us put it this way, their job is to work miracles in our Camp and on the Line. A breakdown in the electric supply? It is the engineers to do repairs. Or no warm water for showering? Then the first to be called on duty is the stand-by-electrician. Maybe you want to have some better furniture? In that case you just make an application and there is no question about you having

your cupboard in no time at all. Our engineers do so many things that it is hardly possible to enumerate all of them. The current most outstanding project are the construction of the new operations office and fence in our Camp. They also installed a new

emergency power plant that will automatically supply all important offices with electricity and circuit breakers on all OP's in the Buffer Zone, providing more safety in operating electrical sets. That they are all-round boys they proved, having perfectly organized the UNFICYP Skiing Competition on Troodos.

After a closer look at the guys' work you realize that they really like their job and that they are proud of being engineers. No wonder, they are the best. We all know that. Therefore it is high time to take the chance to thank them for their support. Finally we wish them a successful tour with UNFICYP and a lot of pleasure on the island.

WO1 GABERC Othmar and Cpl KRAXNER Helmut in the joiner's workshop.



INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK



ANZACS AND SOME AUSTRALIAN FOLKLORE

April 25th is the day that Australians commemorate the bravery of those who lost their lives in all wars. Why 25th April? This was the day in 1915 when Australian soldiers first went into battle under the Australian flag. Our baptism in war proved to be one of the most heroic in our history. It took place near Gaba Tepe, Turkey. The Anzacs were landed, in the early hours of 25th

Gallipoli. Maybe their womenfolk found them durable enough to pack and send to them. Maybe, because of their bronzed, firm texture, they are a reminder of our Aussie soldiers. Anyway, do try them.

his billy boiled on the occasions when he could not get hold of a Squatter's Jumbuck. If he had stuck to Damper and left the sheep alone he may not have come to such an unfortunate end!!

ANZACS

1 cup rolled oats
1/2 cup self-raising flour
1/2 cup plain flour
3/4 cup coconut
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon bicarbonate soda
2 tablespoons boiling water
4oz melted butter
2 tablespoons golden syrup.

Mix all the dry ingredients well. Dissolve soda in boiling water and add to the melted butter and golden syrup. Add to dry ingredients and mix well. Place teaspoonsful of the mixture on a greased tray and bake in a moderately slow oven 325F (160C), for 15 minutes or until golden brown. Store in an airtight tin.

DAMPER

8ozs plain flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon butter
1 cup water

Mix salt and flour. Cut butter into flour and, using your fingers, rub into the flour. Mix to a soft dough with water and knead on a floured surface. Roll out to about 1/2 inch thickness and place on a greased scone tray. Bake at 425F (220C) until cooked through.

April, in a cove which was later named Anzac Cove. They were expected to establish a bridgehead on a wide open sandy beach. What they found was a

Another part of Australian folklore rests around the brave people who first explored and developed our inhospitable inland. Many stories of the resourcefulness and sense of humour of our drovers and bushmen have been immortalized in poetry and song. All of these people would have been more than familiar with Damper.

Damper is a kind of bread, traditionally prepared around the campfire. Our infamous 'Jolly Swagman' would probably have cooked Damper, twisted around a eucalypt twig, as he waited while

sheer cliff, stony soil and thick bush with the Turks pouring down a withering fire. Over 8,500 Australians died at Gallipoli and over 19,000 were wounded. The Anzacs earned the reputation of being tough, brave, resourceful fighting men.

The genuine origins of our Anzac recipe are a bit obscure. It seems unlikely that the Anzacs would have had time to throw together a batch of biscuits at

Serve hot with butter and jam or golden syrup.

At your next barbecue, instead of cooking Damper in the oven, try twisting long rolls of mixture, about 1/2 inch diameter, around a eucalypt twig and cook over the flames. Make sure your twig is big enough not to burn before the Damper is cooked!!

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

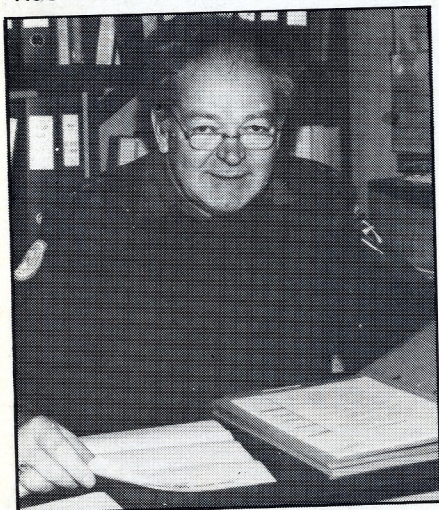


SEC

By: LCpl P. G. Stage

Photos by: LCpl T. Ovesen

The HQ-Coy Secretariat (SEC) consists of five persons. A Contingent Admin Officer, Capt G. Dalskov-Andersen, a Contingent Admin Officer Asst Sgt K.T. Jensen, a Staff Secretariat Clerk, LCpl P.G. Stage and two Asst Clerks, Pte P.F. Rasmussen and Pte J. Karva.



Capt. G. Dalskov-Andersen with some of the papers of the day.

The SEC is a service office for the Danish Contingent. All mail to and from other Sectors, HQ UNFICYP, Danish Army HQ, authorities in Cyprus etc. goes through this office. Most of the in and out going mail is registered and kept in files as is also printed matter concerning all personnel.

The various branches in HQ/DANCON normally get their letters, reports etc. written by the SEC. And if more than one copy is needed it is done by photocopying or printing on the SEC's very little and old off-set machine. By the way the photocopy machine is one of the most important and busy machines in DANCON.

The SEC also has a large stock – for the whole of DANCON – of proformae, (some of them are in English and the rest in Danish), all kinds of paper articles and regulations. This service center is normally quite busy because



Master of the photocopying machine Sgt. K.T. Jensen.



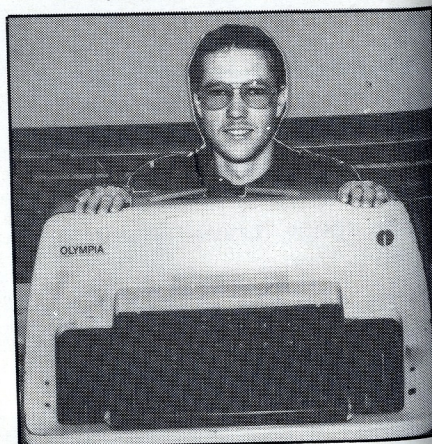
LCpl P.G. Stage in his file after working hours.

besides its primary assignment the SEC sometimes gets some funny assignments such as making designs for new forms, making drawings for instruction books and T-shirts, printing songs, maps etc.

Every half year the SEC participates in the DANCON march (three times!). The SEC is

at the starting and finishing line to keep a record of all the participants. And after the march it is the SEC who writes all the diplomas.

So as you can see, and maybe understand, we do cover a large area within the office work. It must be said that it is a more interesting clerk's job than being an ordinary clerk at home. Besides we have a lot of fun and we like a good joke as the photos on this page should show.



Pte. J. Karva with his typewriter.



DANCON MARCH



Wolfdietrich (12) and Gernot (8) Hansen, the youngest Austrian "soldiers" in the DANCON March.



AUSCON winners of the Heavy Class at the Safe and Skilled Driving.



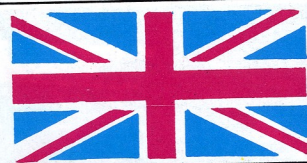
"B" Sqn The Life Guards, the FSC SQN winners of the football competition.

UN Transport Squadron, winners of the Light Class and overall best team at the Safe and Skilled Driving.





BRITCON MEDAL PARADE



ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS IRCON NATIONAL DAY

By: Cmdt D Ashe

IRELAND



The 17th of March is that day when most Irishmen turn green. This concept coincided this year with the local commemorations and customs which marked the Cypriot Green Monday – an appropriate clash of dates.

St Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland, was in fact a Welshman. He came to Ireland as a slave in 462 A.D. He was employed as a

shepherd. He eventually returned to Wales and found for himself Christianity. Later returning to the Emerald Isle he brought Christianity to the natives. He used the Shamrock, which grows in abundance in this green island, to preach his message; its three green leaves depicting the 3 mysteries of the Blessed Trinity.



In UNFICYP the smallest contingent, IRCON, with its 8 personnel, celebrated in style. The ceremonies began with the Blessing of the Shamrock outside St Barnabas Church in the UNPA. This was very much a family occasion with Rev Fr J G Savoie, CANCON, reciting the prayers. Immediately afterwards Mass was celebrated.

Following two afternoon receptions in Club Hibernia, an all ranks function was held in the Officers' Mess. Guests at the functions included the FC; COS and CAO. Travelling guests included Mr Hugh Brophy of UNTSO and the Captain and crew members of a visiting Irish Naval Vessel, L. E. AOIFE. This ship was on the return leg of a re-supply mission to the Irish Battalion with UNIFIL in Lebanon.