

# THE BLUE BERET



DECEMBER 88





## MESSAGE FROM THE FORCE COMMANDER



# COMMENDATION OF TROOP PERFORMANCE 14-16 NOVEMBER 1988

The events of 14, 15 and 16 November in the areas of Ledra Checkpoint and Beaver Lodge were the most serious and violent demonstrations in Cyprus in many years and I am very proud of the manner in which soldiers from all sectors conducted themselves. Although crowd control is not a normal duty in peacekeeping operations, it was necessary this week in order to accomplish the mandate given UNFICYP by the Secretary General of the United Nations. The self-control, dedication, and perseverance demonstrated by the soldiers, while being attacked by rocks, iron bars and petrol bombs, was exactly what was required to show the demonstrators and authorities of both sides that we are aware of our responsibilities and can conduct them professionally. The operation, under command of Sector 3, also proved that troops from all four contingents can work together to achieve a common mission, in the true spirit of a United Nations force.

I hope that your soldiers will never again have to be employed in such dangerous circumstances but I rest assured that they can perform such duty if called upon to do so. Please pass my appreciation to all troops who were involved and congratulate them for their superb performance.

*G. Greindl*  
 Günther G GREINDL  
 Major-General



VOLUME 25 NUMBER 12

DECEMBER

1988

Published monthly by the Military Public  
 Information Office of the United Nations  
 Force in Cyprus, HQ UNFICYP  
 P.O. Box 1642, Nicosia, Cyprus  
 Telephone: Nicosia 464000, Ext. 2235

## Editorial Staff

## Editor

Commandant P.J. Nash

## Editorial Assistant

Mrs Angela Smith

## Secretary

Mrs Deborah Robinson

## Photography

Staff Photographer-SSgt Ken Webster

Contingent Photographers

## Unit Press Officers

Sector 1	Maj J Buhl
Sector 2	Capt A Brown
Sector 3	Capt R Wadsworth
Sector 4	Capt G Klement
Sp Regt	Major N Oxley
FSC Sqn	Capt C Crewdson
MP Coy	CWO P Burbury
UNCIVPOL	Insp J Roche

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.

The copyright of all material in this journal is vested in United Nations Publications except where acknowledgements are made to another copyright holder. No article or illustration may be reproduced without the permission of the Editor.

Printed in Cyprus by  
 Stavrinides Press Limited,  
 Tel. 452525, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Front cover

THE CHILDREN OF  
 ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL  
 WITH SANTA

# THE BLUE BERET



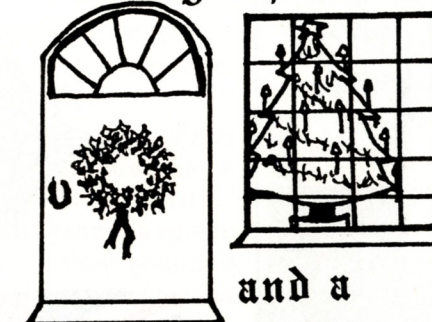
## Editorial

As it is December, Christmas naturally features on several pages of our magazine this month. The front cover shows Santa Claus ably assisted by the FSC Squadron at St Michael's School, UNPA and the rear cover is a painting by Mrs J Bell which was chosen as the 1988 UNFICYP Christmas Card.

1988 has certainly been a most eventful year in Cyprus and consequently for the United Nations Force stationed here. The special message from the Force Commander as published opposite is a fitting tribute to the professionalism and discipline shown by UNFICYP soldiers. Let us hope that 1989 will bring a lasting solution to the problems of this great island in the Mediterranean.

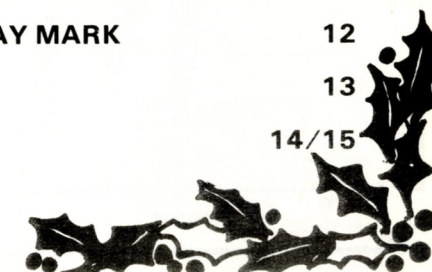
From all the editorial staff of the Blue Beret, we wish all our readers wherever they may be, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Merry Christmas

and a  
Happy New Year

## Contents

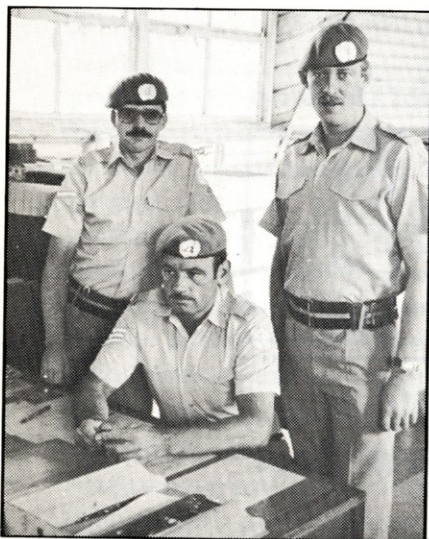
	PAGE
MESSAGE FROM THE FORCE COMMANDER	2
EDITORIAL / CONTENTS	3
ALL CHANGE IN SECTOR 2 / MP COY NEWS	4/5
NEWS FROM FSC / AUSTRIAN MEDAL PARADE	6/7
DANISH CHRISTMAS / DEAR SANTA	8
AUSTRIAN CHRISTMAS / AUSCON PATROL MARCH	9
UNFICYP GOLF	10
MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION RESULTS	11
STRATHCONA'S PASS HALFWAY MARK	12
AN AUSTRALIAN CHRISTMAS	13
NEWS IN BRIEF	14/15





# ALL CHANGE

By the time this article is published in the Blue Beret, the British contingent in Sector 2 will have rotated. The outgoing 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards will be firmly back in Detmold, West Germany, not only dusting off their tanks after a six month absence but also reflecting on the Regiment's time spent serving with the United Nations in Cyprus. Time certainly has flown, it only seems like yesterday that we arrived on the island clad in



LCpl Walton, SSgt Bennett and LCpl Mellor.



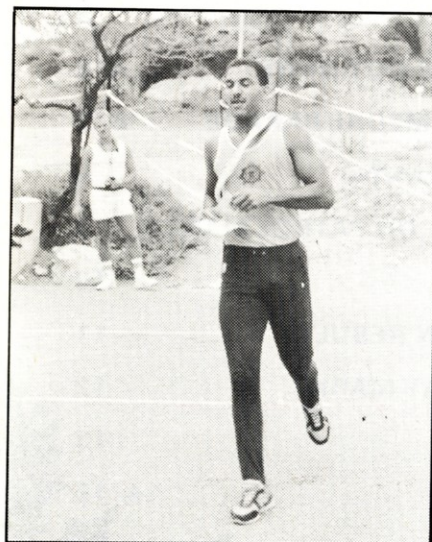
Capt A W Neish



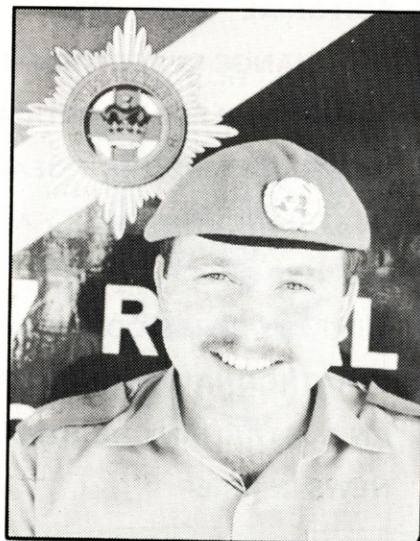
tropical combats, carrying SLR's in our new found role as infantrymen. Due to a mixture of operational commitments both on and off the line, extensive use of the various adventure training facilities on the island, and the chance to travel in a most interesting part of the world, there have been precious few 'free days' since our arrival in June. The aims and goals of the Tour, by sending a Germany based Armoured Regiment, certainly



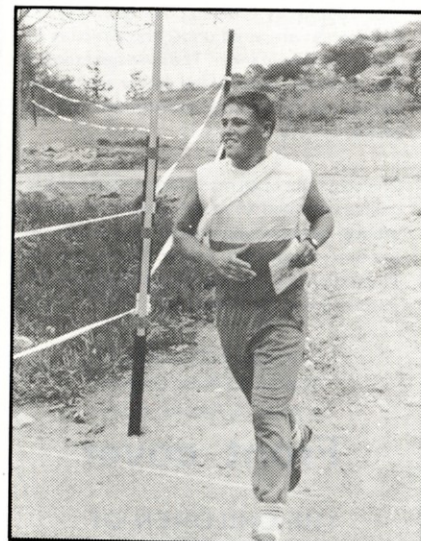
Lt Cray (Jonny Combat).



Tpr Stewart.



LCpl Fitch.



LCpl Cottam

# IN SECTOR 2

seem to have been achieved in giving us a very welcome break from the Northern European Theatre.

Having finished a most busy and varied 6 months, we hand over to 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery who are currently based in Paderborn West Germany. We wish them well in their six month tour and hope they enjoy it as much as we have.



Chief Petty Officer 1st Class Peter Burbury took over as CCWO of UN MP Coy on the 10th November 1988.

Chief Burbury is serving in his 32nd year of the Canadian Forces, 27 of which have been as a military policeman, the previous five years being served as Marine Engineer Tech in the Royal



Tpr O'Fee

Canadian Navy. Chief Burbury's home unit is CFB Esquimalt, Victoria British Columbia.

He is no stranger to the Island having served a previous tour in the UN MP Coy in 1976/1977. The 'Chief' as he likes to be called, says he will run a tight ship and anticipates smooth sailing for the UN MP Coy!



On 25 Oct 88, the Force Commander presented UN medals and numbers to UNFICYP MP Coy members at his office in the HQ UNFICYP, in the presence of the Force Provost Marshal, Maj G Nault.



Farewell Cyprus and a very happy Christmas from all ranks in the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards.



**NEW COMPANY CHIEF  
WARRANT OFFICER  
UN MP COY**





# NEWS FROM SCOUT

The Colonel of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince Of Wales's), Colonel M ff Woodhead, visited D Squadron in Cyprus from the 26th October to 2nd November. He toured Prince William Camp and met the SHQ staff and 1 Troop, at present led by his son, 2Lt Tim Woodhead, and the two Mil Skills teams in training. He also visited 2 Troop at Athienou, 4 Troop at Camp Liri and 5 Troop at Skouriotissa.

Colonel Woodhead accompanied some of the Squadron's Officers when they visited HMS Brazen, a type 22 Frigate of the Royal Navy, which was docked at Akrotiri, on route to the Armilla Patrol in the Gulf. HMS Brazen is the affiliated Royal Navy ship to the 9th/12th Royal Lancers.



The Colonel of the Regiment meets Tpr Martin of MT.



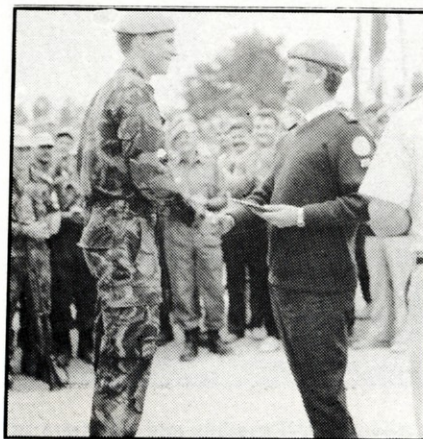
The Colonel of the Regiment meets Tpr Martin of MT.



HMS Brazen - 9th/12th Royal Lancers' affiliated ship.

Annually, the Eastern Sovereign Base Area organises a 15 x 1 mile relay race, known as the Dhekelia Dash. The Scout Car Squadron competed in this event with very creditable results - we came third overall and won the guest category.

Thursday 3rd November saw the UN Field Hockey Competition at the UNPA. After successfully beating Sector 2 'B' and Support Regiment, the Squadron played Sector 2 'A' in the final to win 1-0. Another trophy to add to our collection!



Lt Meynell collects the plaque from the COS.

Talking of trophies - the Scout Car Squadron (only 110 men) entered two teams in the Military Skills Competition and came second and third! The last event, the assault course, saw our 'A' team beaten by only nine seconds by our friends, C Coy DANCON, with whom we were training! Both our teams deserve congratulations and praise for such a wonderful effort, a culmination of two weeks of vigorous, demanding training.

Finally, our very own Father Christmas, (alias Sgt Martyn Hull,

# CAR SQUADRON



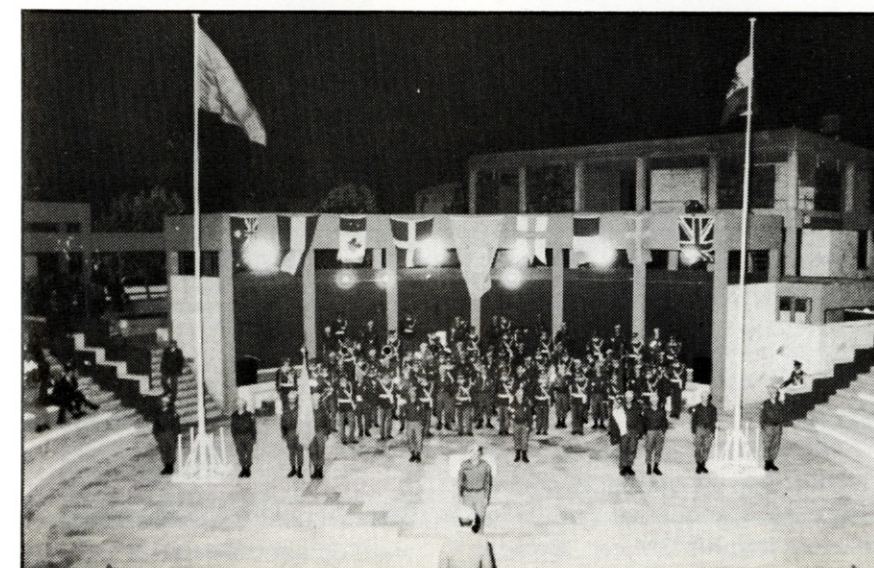
our Master Chef) has been touring the UNPA married quarters on his sleigh - lovingly converted from a Ferret by our REME soldiers, LCpl Cook and LCpl Redman. He's been talking to all the good boys and all the good girls, and together with us all wishes you a very Happy Christmas.



Father Christmas on his Ferret -sleigh.

## AUSTRIAN MEDAL PARADE IN PARALIMNI

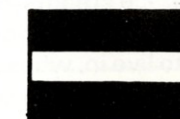
The 3rd Austrian Medal Parade this year took place on the 20th of October in the modern Amphitheatre of Paralimni. For the first time the Austrian Guards Band accompanied the ceremony, playing military marches and the 'grand tattoo'. In this festive atmosphere 60 NCO's and officers received their UN medal from the Force Commander Maj Gen G.G. Greindl, the Contingent Commander Lt Col S. Wieser and



the Battalion Commander Lt Col E. Dallinger.

We were honored by the presence of many distinguished guests among them high ranking officers and civilians, who enjoyed the music and closely observed the standard of the drill.

The evening was concluded by a rich buffet for the official guests in the Town Hall of Paralimni and in Camp Duke Leopold for the decorated soldiers.





## CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS IN CYPRUS



## DANISH STYLE



The celebration of a Danish Christmas in Cyprus has to take into consideration the difference in the climate between the two countries. In Cyprus the sun is usually shining with the temperature far warmer than Denmark over Christmas, poor Father Christmas has to leave his sleigh behind and come sailing in from the cold north! However the weather is cool enough to enjoy a glass of that hot Scandinavian Christmas drink known as Glogg and warm enough to still be able to enjoy a cool Brandy Sour.

One thing that will never change a Danish Christmas wherever in the world it may be, is the vast number of Christmas lunches Scandinavians love to hold. The Scandinavian lunch can last for hours, starting at noon, to end far beyond

midnight. A cold buffet of an impressive number of dishes is only a dim excuse to drink an equally large amount of schnapps to compliment the food and beer



by Lt R M Pereira Holmboe



to work up an appetite. These Christmas lunches culminate on Boxing Day with the lunch of lunches - the feast of feasts!

Following the Boxing Day Christmas lunch the Danish Sector take part in one of the old Sector traditions (well fairly old) - the traditional Christmas bathing session, cleverly designed to provide you with the appetite and thirst for yet another feast, and at the same time maintaining hygienic standards by ensuring that everyone bathes at least once a year. (King Neptune according to legend baptized his followers by mercilessly throwing them into the cold sea) - nowadays however even King Neptune himself is not spared - the rebellious mob will see to that.

It is also customary to invite the local school children to the Sector who enjoy a day of singing and dancing ending in a presentation of gifts for the children for Denmark.

## Dear Santa,

From Cyprus to you is such a long distance, I hope this short note reaches you in time, for this Christmas I have a long list.

First and foremost I need a housecoat (it's extremely cold walking to the showers in the morning!). For the guys in my OP,



something to keep them happy during their long periods of boredom would be great. For City Sqn boys a can of RAID and a box of Rat Trap is a must.

For the HQ lads... don't bother, things are so good up in BBC, what with regular ice cream truck runs, large rooms for everyone and a quiet area to live in, who could ask for anything more!!



For the RSM a television with a 2000 hour tube is a Christmas dream come true.

For the CO... perhaps you could let him ship his Mercedes staff car back to Canada as he much prefers it to his GM car. (Besides,

it looks great). Most of all Santa, send home my love to my family and tell them I will be home soon.

Having virtually no problems,  
Tpr Bloggins  
(Not OP 65!)

CHRISTMAS  
IN AUSTRIA

Preparation for Christmas in Austria starts four Sundays before Holy Night, when one of four candles on a decorated wreath is lit. Every Sunday an additional candle is lit until all four are burning for Christmas. This time is called Advent and is the time for thought and contemplation.

It is however also the time of hectic Christmas shopping and as the long awaited day approaches the Christmas tree is set up in the living room and decorated with

fruits (especially red apples), cakes and little figures.

The children hope for a white Christmas and open the final windows on their Christmas calendar.

In the late afternoon of the 24th of December the excitement of the children grows as they have to stay in a separate room whilst their parents put their presents under the Christmas tree.

When everything is ready the family gathers around the tree and



sing Christmas carols. After the parcels and presents are opened all family members sit down to an enjoyable dinner which is usually fish or duck.



## THE FIRST AUSCON PATROL MARCH

On the 1st November the first AUSCON patrol march took place in the Second Coy area.

Fifteen teams of five men set out from OP 05 towards OP 28 along the 12km patrol track. As the teams reached OP 14 they had to pass a test in recognition, communications, signals and map

reading, and then set off towards OP 28.

With the finishing point in view the teams had to pass three more sections including grenade throwing, shooting and first aid.

The winning teams were awarded medals by Lt Col Dallinger, Commanding Officer of

Sector 4, who congratulated the men on their performance.

The winning team was:

Lt Lenhard  
MCpl Hagleitner  
MCpl Lebert  
MCpl Moser  
Cpl Voelkl



WO Sabathy and his team.



First Aid-an important part in military training.



# THE BELL'S UNFICYP GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP 1988

By: Mr D Turner

The big event of the year for the UN Golf Society was staged at the Joint Services Golf Club, Dhekelia on Wednesday 16th November. The competition's main sponsor this year was Bell's Whisky (Wights Ltd - Nicosia), with the Armed Forces Financial Advisory Services (AFFAS), Pharos Travel and Phivos Motors (Nicosia) contributing other prizes.

As in previous years, the competition was played on 30 holes, following a par golf format where competitors equal or better a fixed score at each hole. This means that players are competing against the course and express their progress as being 'up' 'down' or 'all square'.

The original field of 42 entrants was dramatically cut by operational commitments only 24 hours before the start of play. Nevertheless, by 0630 hours 30 golfers gathered for breakfast at the clubhouse and the first 3-ball match teed off for their first 18 holes at 0706.

Weather conditions were overcast with the threat of rain. A blustery wind was always going to make playing conditions difficult. At lunchtime, at the end of the first round, three players (WO2 Donaghy, SSgt Hughes and CQMS Mullen) led the field at 1 down. Six other players were



Dream win for last year's cinderella — SSgt S / Hughes.

within 2 holes of the leaders and the stage was set for an exciting final 12 holes in the afternoon.

In the cut and thrust of competition, risks were taken and 'casualties' resulted. However, at the end of the day SSgt Hughes improved his halfway position by playing some excellent golf and came in ahead of the field at 3 up. In the same competition last year he had propped up 27 other competitors with a score of 27 down! Other individual prize winners were: Division 1: 1st, WO2 Donaghy, 2nd WO2 Wiggam, 3rd CQMS Mullen. Division 2: 1st SSgt Hughes (overall champion) 2nd Cpl Hunter, 3rd WO1 Dent.

The UNFICYP Team prize

winner were HQ UNFICYP A (WO2 Donaghy, Sgt Pibworth) with the runners-up Wksp B (Cpl Hunter, WO2 Burton). The AFFAS Trophy for invitation players was won by WO2 Osborn (JSGC Episkopi). Fun prize winners were: Longest drive - MCpl Krepakerich, Nearest the Pin (Hole 18) - Major Eggleston and the Worst Slump PO2 Spotowski. A special prize was presented to Miss Jill Dale (HQ UNFICYP) for being the competition's first lady entrant.

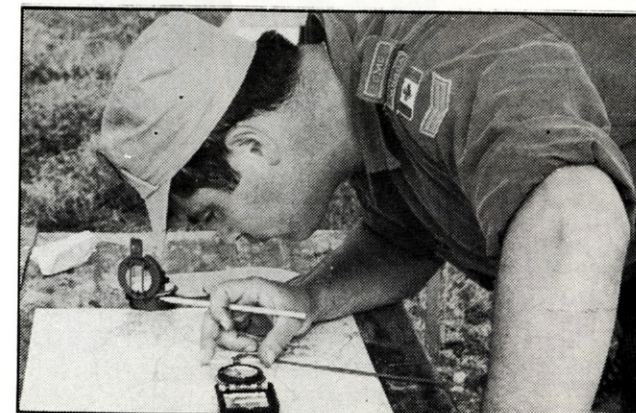
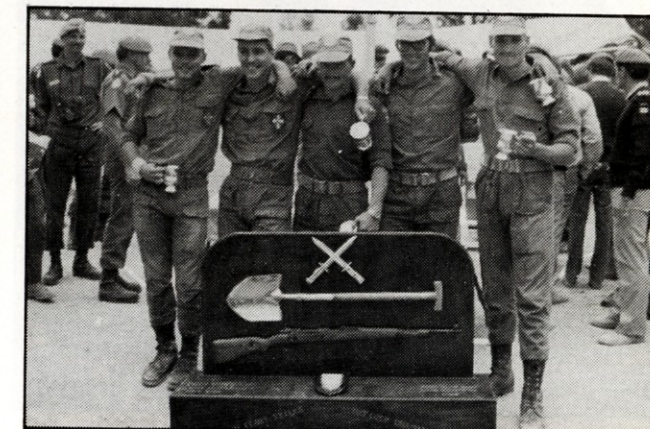
It is hoped that next year's competition will be staged on the Golf Practice Area on the UNPA. For further information about the UN Golf Society contact Mr D Turner, St Michael's School, on extensions 2820 or 2389.



## MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION RESULTS



1st Sector I (C)  
2nd FSC Sqn (B)  
3rd FSC Sqn (A)



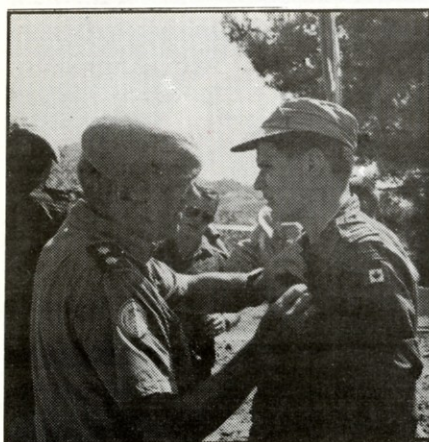




## STRATHCONA'S PASS THE HALFWAY MARK



## Season's Greetings



## AN AUSTRALIAN CHRISTMAS

Christmas in Australia is the same as Christmas anywhere except that it occurs in the summer time, where people extend goodwill to their neighbours and their enemies, which often enough turn out to be the same people.

In the City before the kids go on Christmas vacation there is the usual run of Nativity Plays. Last year in one of Sydney's convents the small boy cast in the part of Joseph was relegated to the role

of the Inn-keeper because he couldn't remember his lines. When the big opening night came and Joseph gave his cue to the Inn-keeper saying, "Inn-keeper, Inn-keeper have you any rooms?". The young man brought the house down in his reply, "Yes plenty." Who said revenge isn't sweet?!

Most of Australia's big cities are on the coastline and Christmas day is when you meet with your friends and family at the beach and partake in chicken and

champagne with an occasional swim in the surf for recovery.

Christmas everywhere is to celebrate the birth of Christ and it's no less solemn in the Australian outback. Boxing Day in most centres, provincial or metropolitan is usually followed by a day of sporting events, which could not be better described than in a poem written by Father John O'Brien:-



## 'TANGMALANGALOO'

The bishop sat in lordly state and purple cap sublime,  
And galvanised the old bush church at Confirmation time;  
And all the kids were mustered up from fifty miles around,  
With Sunday clothes, and staring eyes, and ignorance profound.  
Now was it fate, or was it grace, whereby they yarded too,  
An overgrown two-storey lad from Tangmalangaloo?

A hefty son of virgin soil, where nature has her fling,  
And grows the trefoil three feet high and mates it in the spring;  
Where mighty hills uplift their heads to pierce the welkin's rim,  
And trees sprout up a hundred feet before they shoot a limb;  
There everything is big and grand, and men are giants too-  
But Christian Knowledge wilts, alas, at Tangmalangaloo.  
The bishop summed the youngsters up, as bishops only can;  
He cast a searching glance around, then fixed upon his man.  
But glum and dumb and undismayed through every bout he sat;

He seemed to think that he was there, but wasn't sure of that.

The bishop gave a scornful look, as bishops sometimes do,  
And glared right through the pagan in from Tangmalangaloo.

"Come, tell me boy," his lordship said in crushing tones severe,

"Come, tell me why is Christmas Day the greatest of the year?

How is it that around the world we celebrate that day?

And send a name upon a card to those who're far away?

Why is it wandering ones return with smiles and greetings, too?"

A squall of knowledge hit the lad from Tangmalangaloo.

He gave a lurch which set a-shake the vases on the shelf,

He knocked the benches all askew, up-ending of himself.

And oh, how pleased his lordship was, and how he smiled to say,

"That's good, my boy. Come tell me now? and what is Christmas Day?"

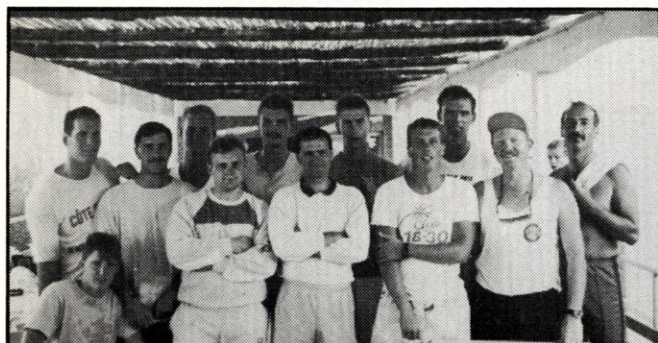
The ready answer bared a fact no bishop ever knew-  
"It's the day before the races out at Tangmalangaloo."



## NEWS IN BRIEF... NEWS IN BRIEF... NEWS IN BRIEF



Sailing Course 6/88.



Sailing Course 7/88.

SUPPORT REGIMENT  
CROSS COUNTRY  
COMPETITION

The winning team was 254 Sig Sqn whose 38 man team won convincingly.



## UNFICYP SAILING CLUB

The final two sailing courses were held in October to end a season which saw over 100 soldiers being taught to sail. The club now has three Wayfarers, two Lasers, a Lark, and a Topper. The safety boat is well used during the courses, and every weekend.

VISIT OF BISHOP  
WALMSLEY RC TO THE  
BRITISH FORCES

Bishop Walmsley visited Support Regiment and their families at the Elizabethan Club on the 19th October.

SSAFA COMMITTEE GIFT  
TO AKROTIRI HOSPITAL

Left: Mrs Pyman Chairman Nicosia SSAFA Committee (centre) presenting a set of 12 UN Prints to The RAF Hospital in Akrotiri. Left to Right: Mrs Roberts, Mrs Pyman and Matron.

## NEWS IN BRIEF... NEWS IN BRIEF... NEWS IN BRIEF

## FAREWELL - SEE YOU SOON

Sgt 'Skip' Stuhlpfarrer, UN MP Coy, saying farewell to the Force Commander prior to returning to Austria on voluntary discharge from the Army. However, it was only a short respite for the UN because on the 26th October he returned to Cyprus en route to Jerusalem to take up a new appointment as a security officer with the UN Field Service. Skip served a total of 29 consecutive months with UNFICYP for the most part with the UN MP Coy. After serving in Limassol and Nicosia Detachments he began work with the Special Investigation Section in December 1986 and remained with the Section until his departure.

FOUR FROM UNFICYP GO TO OSLO NOBEL CEREMONY  
— 10th DECEMBER 1988

The UNFICYP Workshop REME team won the Sp Regt Orienteering Competition on the 17th October the team captain was Major Tom Mathew (front centre).



Left to right: Pte Henrik Joergensen of the Danish contingent; Maj Gen Gunther G Greindl, Force Commander; Sgt Kathy Burdett of Australia, a member of the UNFICYP civilian police and Cpl Jeffrey Docksey of the Canadian contingent.



The Force Commander stirring the Christmas Pudding at the main kitchen, Jubilee Camp.

## CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION WINNERS



Left to Right: Maj Ratchffe (2nd), Mrs Bell (1st) and WO2 Nemetz (3rd).



U  
N  
I  
T  
E  
D  
N  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N  
S

