

THE BLUE BERET



MAY 1986



APRIL IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

16-24 Apr SWEDCIVPOL (50%)

VISITS

3-4 Major R N Bracken and Captain P C Roberts visited the British Contingent.

6-20 Mr Rowley and Ms Cowly visited the Irish Contingent.

7-14 Colonel Jacobsen, Colonel Schunk, Major Blichert-Hansen, Captain Mathiesen visited the Danish Contingent.

8-10 Mr Meijer visited the Swedish Contingent.

9-11 Comb B R Marshall and Lt-Comb B R Buck visited the Canadian Contingent.

14-21 Dr Otto and Mr Magnusson visited the Swedish Contingent.

15-23 Major Geburt visited the Canadian Contingent.

15-23 Major Miller visited the Canadian Contingent.

16-24 Ms Lundquist and Ms Dahllof visited the Swedish Contingent.

16-24 Major Gustavsson visited the Swedish Contingent.

17-26 Mr Skjelsbaek and Lt Col Ness visited the MPIO.

18-20 Major Elliot and Captain Rider visited the Canadian Contingent.

21-29 Photographer Lund and journalist Schon visited the Danish Contingent.

22-28 Captain Barrett, Sgt Dicks and Warrant Officer Montpetiti visited the Canadian Contingent.

24-27 Brigadier C M J Barnes visited the British Contingent.

28-30 Major-General R J C Reilly visited the British Contingent.

30 Colonel C A Brown visited the British Contingent.

FUTURE EVENTS

SPORT

12-13 May UNFICYP Tennis Competition-FSC Sqn
23 May UNFICYP Athletics Competition - Dhekelia

"Whats On In Nicosia"

British Council

20th May "A Musical Show" featuring the songs of the Beatles interpreted by a troupe of 65 signers and 35 dancers. 8.30 pm, Municipal Theatre.
29th May Feature Film "Nuts In May" 8 pm.

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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

Sector 2 - Farming SNCO

Photograph by:
Sgt A Beaton

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

This month we welcome three new staff members to the Military Public Information Office. Sgt Angus Beaton has now taken up his duties as the new Force Photographer, Mrs Karen Morgan has worked hard on this issue as the new "Blue Beret" Assistant Editor and Mrs Marie Sargon is becoming deeply involved in visits co-ordination as the new Office Secretary.

I also must say farewell this month, since my two years are now up and this is my last issue of the Blue Beret. I would like to thank you all, and your predecessors during the past two years, for making my UNFICYP tour as Military Public Information Officer such a rewarding experience. It has been a great privilege to serve in this unique and friendly international environment and I leave with many happy memories of my tour.

My successor, Major Alex Twickel arrives this month and I leave him with my best wishes for all aspects of his duties, and in particular, success in his role as editor of the Blue Beret. Farwell!

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By: ILt C Meijer

Sector 5 is now under new command. The Swedish contingent 88 C took over responsibility for the Sector as of 8 April 1986. The Battalion has adopted the nick name Tre Kronor (Three Crowns) after the Commanding Officers own regiment back home in Sweden. By tradition Tre Kronor has for a long time been the official symbol of Sweden. For centuries Tre Kronor has represented various events in Swedish life, and during the 18th century also some of the Life Guard regiments.

The Battalion, with a strength of 700 soldiers, has, since UN training during the autumn of 1985, been on standby for service to the Swedish Government or the United Nations.

394 members of the Battalion including civilian police and HQ staff, were chosen to relieve the currently serving Battalion 87 C in Cyprus, rotating twice, on 26 March and 16 April. The new Battalion 88 C has been recruited in the traditional Swedish way. All personnel have had basic training

Marching away the flag



and, of course, the popular Swedish Drill Squadron.

TRE KRONOR



The new Swedish Commander, Lt Col Johan Molin, right, and the departing Commander, Lt Col Sune Larsson, ready for handing over the flag.



The Battalion has been flown out to Cyprus from a wintry and cold Sweden and despite the totally different climate, with a difference in the temperatures of perhaps 30 - 40°, the Battalion has begun carrying out its duties in Sector 5.

Our predecessors have worked hard and achieved good results. Our Battalion is to complete and maintain their efforts.

Photos by: Unit Photographer in various branches of the forces all over Sweden. The Battalion consists of several categories of personnel. The are as follows: personnel who are employed on active service in the armed forces at home in Sweden; Reservists, contracted conscripts and also some voluntarily trained civilians, i.e. the female personnel.

The average age, which is approx. 25 years, is lower in the two Rifle Companies and naturally higher in the HQ Coy. About 20% of the personnel have previous UN experience from various missions such as UNTSO UNEF ONUC UNDOF and UNIFIL.

HISTORICAL ROUND-UP

By: Capt Alex Brown

Photograph by: Fus Wilson



The Drums Platoon ready to beat Reveille on St Georges Day - 23rd April.

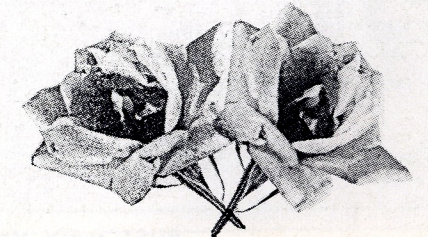
Since the last issue of the Blue Beret magazine our mid tour rotation has taken place. A Company has taken over from B Company at the Box Factory (B32) and C Company has replaced Fire Support Company in the Old School at B18. B and Fire Support Company now being responsible for the security of the Eastern Sovereign Base Area at Dhekelia. Having settled into the routine on the line, both A and C Companies have organised exchange visits with Sector 4, currently manned by one of our affiliated Regiments, 3 RCR.

April has not only been a busy month operationally, but it has also seen us celebrate two of the most important dates in our Regimental calendar. On the 25th April we celebrated one of our main Battle Honours, Gallipoli Day. In 1915 during the First World War an Allied Force

comprising, British, Australians and others landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula to confront Turkey. A Fusilier Brigade was the first to land on the Peninsula then the Lancashire Fusiliers led the assault on a narrow beach which had cliffs one hundred feet high, rising steeply from the shore. The men rowed to the beach in small boats. At the end of the first day this Battalion had lost nearly half its strength, including the Commanding Officer, the Second in Command and all the Company Commanders as casualties. During the assault the Lancashire Fusiliers were awarded 6 Victoria Crosses for outstanding courage and gallantry. Today joint ceremonies are held each year in Gallipoli at which the former protagonists commemorate the fallen of both sides.

The Regimental Day is St George's Day, 23rd April, which is

the anniversary of the Birthday of the Regiment. It is also the day when all our Battle Honours, less the four major Honours are commemorated. This day is normally marked by a ceremonial parade, preceded by the Drums Platoon bedecked in the red and white roses of a united England beating reveille around the Barracks. One of the customs of the day is the wearing of red and white roses behind the cap badge. The roses are worn with a red rose, from the house of Lancaster to the right of the badge, and a white rose from the house of York to the left of the badge.



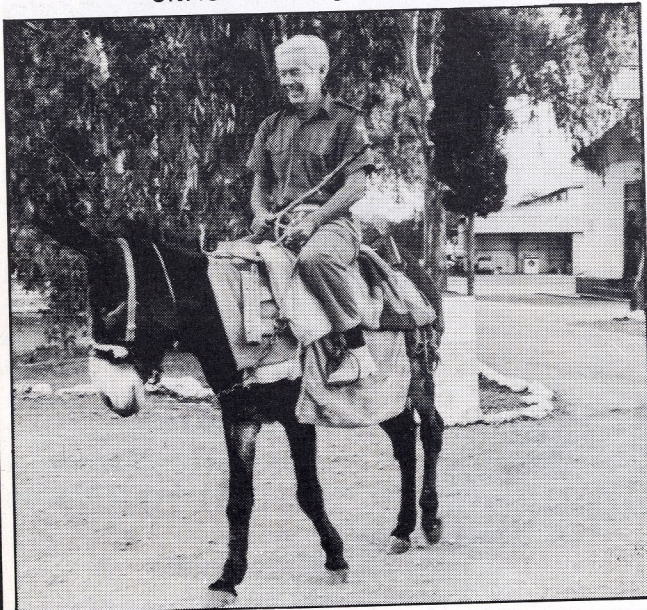
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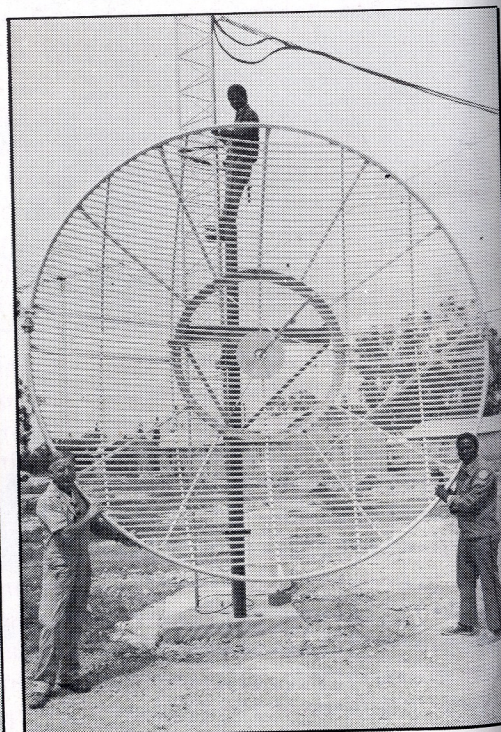
Force Commander greets Mr Park Jung Tae, Sec. Gen. of the International Tae Kwon Do Federation, who visited the UNFICYP club to give instruction.



2nd Nicosia Brownie Pack celebrating their 8th Birthday also saying "Thank You" and "Goodbye" to Brown Owl - Mrs Sue Towler.



← Lt Col Mogens Gremstrup - CO Sector 1
Could this be the Guard Hussars new transport?

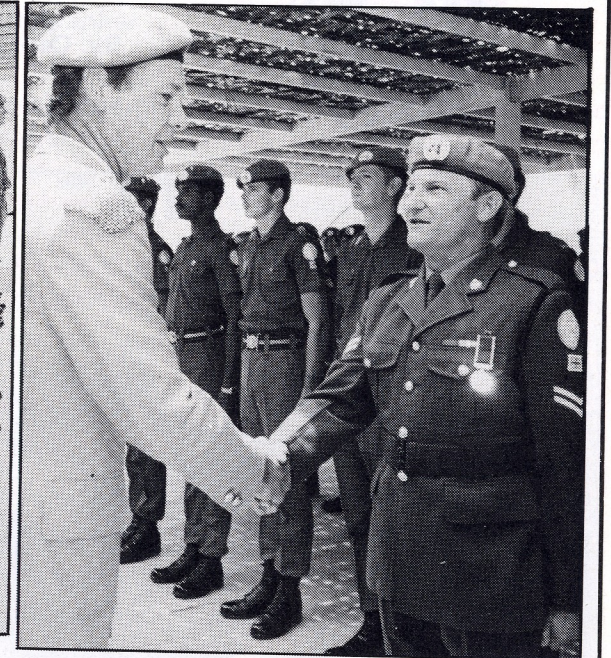


UN Radio Ariel.



AUSTCIVPOL-Medal Parade.

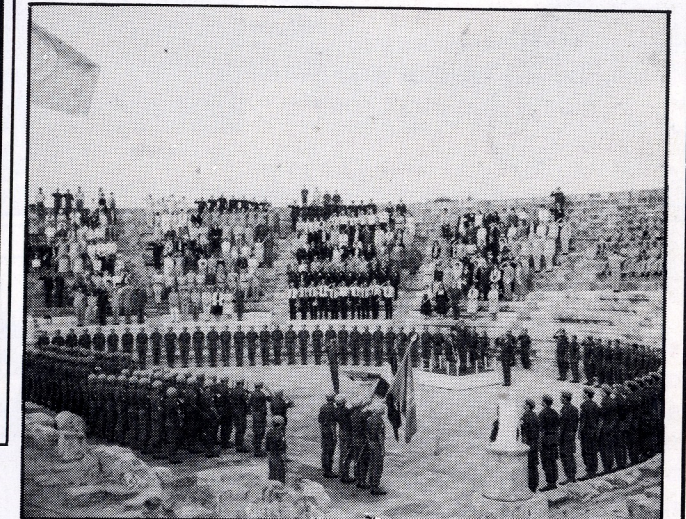
66 Sqn RCT Medal Parade



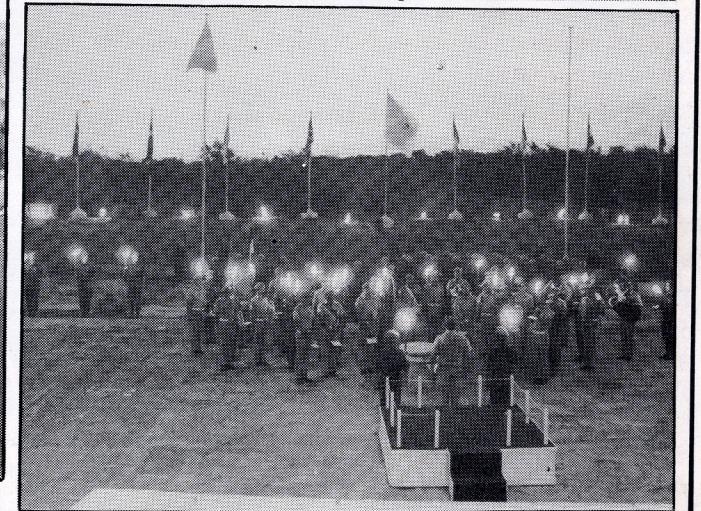
Col Leigh congratulates Cpl Jelff on receiving his LSGC Medal.



Major Morrison, OC TPT Sqn Presenting L/Cpl Harris with his UN Medal.



Force Commander chats with Capt Lamprecht.





MEDICAL TRAINING IN AUSCON

By: Capt M Lamprecht

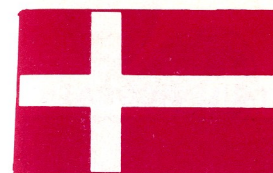
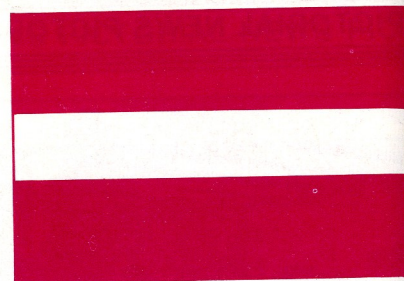
Photos by: L/Cpl B Groeger



which our soldiers have in this training proves that they realize its importance. As you can see by the photograph, our ambulance men take every chance to improve their skills under realistic conditions. They also train with the co-operation of soldiers from the FSC Sqn. Although they are doing a serious job they always have a lot of fun. That shows that they like their job. But nevertheless we all hope that we need their help as seldom as possible.

First Aid is one of the basic skills each soldier has to learn. In contrast to many other skills, soldiers are trained for First Aid, not only to be used in case of war but it certainly is an important matter in daily life. You never know whether you will be forced to show your skills on the road, and when it happens, you cannot look in a book first to know what to do. Thus continual training is necessary.

In AUSCON we have two physicians alternately on duty. They are not only responsible for our soldiers' health but also for their training. Having regular visits to the OP's they take every chance to give instruction in basic medical training. The interest



B-COY DANCON

By Maj Gregers Grau

Photos by: Unit Photographer



B-Coy which is responsible for the eastern part of Sector I, is accommodated in Skouriotissa which means "Our Lady of the Slag Heaps".

As you know, Cyprus has been a copper producer since ancient

The mine was excavated step by step by the slaves over many years. When the dripping water began to lessen, the slaves dug further into the hill. It sometimes happened that a cave in of the ground killed all the men, blocking the pass.



Skouriotissa, the camp and "Our Lady of the Slag Heaps".

times. On many sites on the island remains of their production can be found.

We don't know how mining was carried out in the past, but the first written text, by Dr Galen from Asia Minor, relates from 166 AD. He is known in medicine as the "Father of Experimental Physiology" and visited many places in Cyprus. One of many was Skouriotissa, which at that time was an underground mine. He tells, "At the bottom about 600 feet from the entrance there was a pool of tepid, thick, green greasy water. The smell of the air is suffocating and is tolerated with difficulty, being redolent of chalcitis and the rust of iron. The water has a similar smell". The nude slaves carried the jars with the greatest haste in order not to remain long in the mine. There are lights at moderate intervals, but they frequently become extinguished.

The old church in Skouriotissa.



In the period from about 1200 to 1911 the mining almost stopped. In 1911 the C.M.C. (Cyprus Mining Corporation), an America company, leased the mine for a period of 99 years by hiring the area around Skouriotissa from the church. At that time there was an old monastery with an old church in

Skouriotissa. The company used heavy machinery, and the mining was carried out by digging out the minerals in an open mine. In many places in Cyprus you can still see the great traces inside the mines, like enormous steps. Unfortunately it's forbidden to take photographs of these mines but I hope you can imagine them.

The mining stopped in 1974 as the port for exporting the minerals, Xeros, could not be used for this operation any longer as it is situated in the north, and the C.M.C. stopped operating and gave back the area to the church, which is represented by the Bishop of Morphou.

In the year 1975 B-Coy was formed and it was accommodated in houses rented from the Bishop of Morphou. The camp is open to the public because of the old church in the camp which is still in use, and we ourselves use it for our monthly services, too.

B - C o y h a s g o o d accommodation and the place is a pearl on the island. The atmosphere of history is still to be felt when you stand still, watching "Our Lady of the Slag Heaps" and imagine the poor slaves carrying away the jars, as we now ourselves go around freely doing our peacekeeping services.

ROAD SAFETY - UNFICYP

By SGT BILL MCGRATH

Recently the UNFICYP safe driving competition was held at Nicosia International Airport. As has been customary during all past events, UN MP Company contributed to the event by firstly constructing a simulated motor cycle accident on the approach road to the airport terminal and secondly UN MP set up a road safety radar stand at a location in front of the airport terminal. Again both at the simulated accident scene and on the road safety/radar stand emphasis was placed on the UN motor cyclist.



Simulated motor cycle accident.

We are all aware of the serious motor cycle accidents which have happened in recent times. So much is the concern by UNFICYP at the increase of serious motor cycles driven by UN members banned from being driven at certain periods, if not totally banned altogether. "Think Safe", "Drive Safe".

ANZAC DAY - COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

ANZAC Day, the 25th April, is the anniversary of the day the men of Australia and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZACS), landed at Gallipoli in 1915. The position on which they landed, soon to become known as Anzac Cove, was over a kilometre north of what had been planned. Instead of the expected open country, they faced precipitous, scrub covered cliffs. As their boats struck shore, they came under heavy Turkish rifle and machine gun fire, suffering heavy casualties.

In August, the Allied forces,

which included British, Australian, New Zealand, Indian and French troops, launched an offensive. The assaults met with heavy losses, attacks faltered and the allies were unable to withstand counter-attacks.

As winter set in, it became clear that the Gallipoli campaign had failed and the troops were evacuated on 20th December 1915.

Though the campaign was a failure, ANZAC has come to stand "for reckless valour in a good cause, for enterprise,

resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship and endurance".

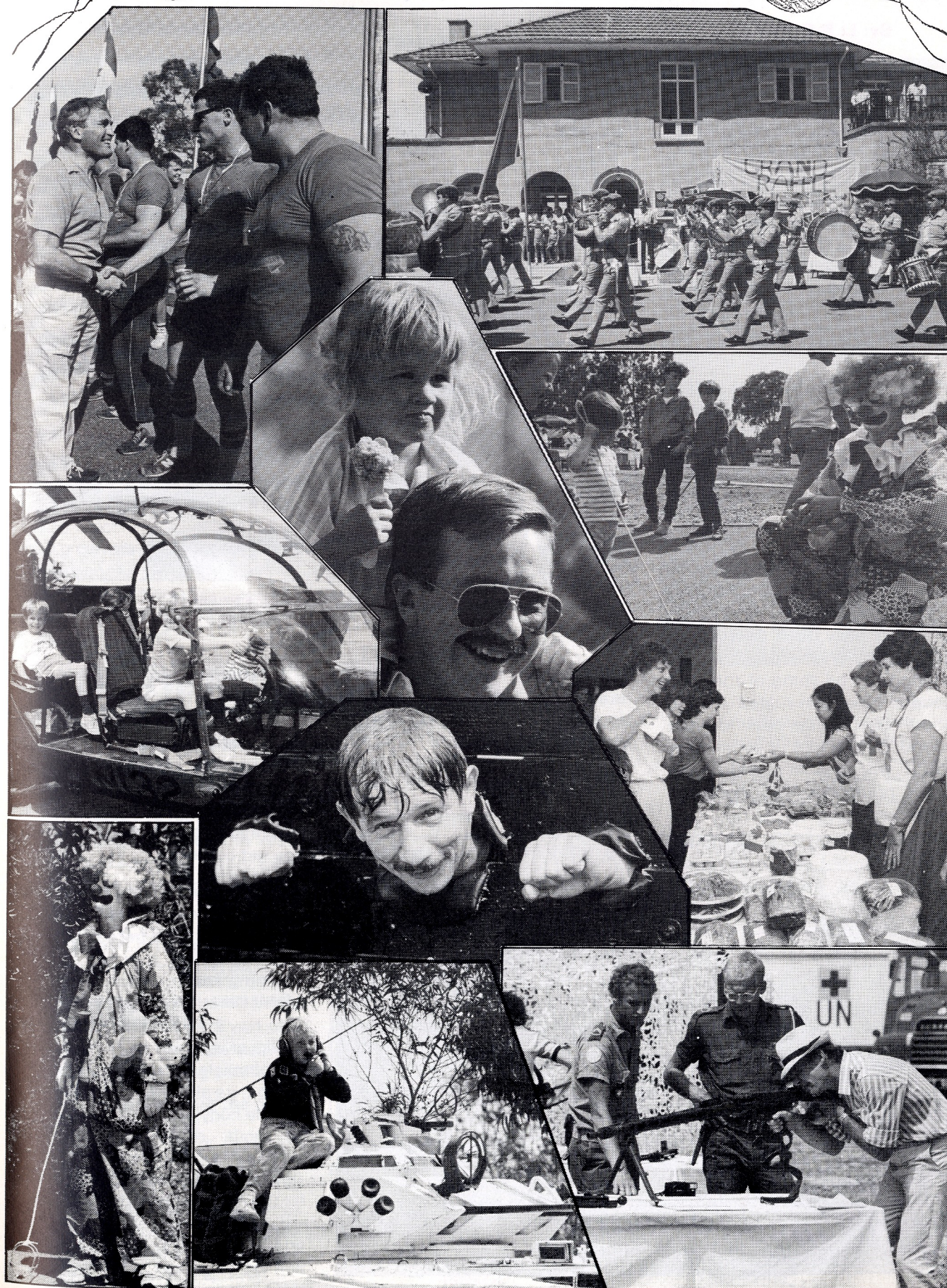
On ANZAC Day, the Australian Police Contingent held a dawn Commemorative Service at Wayne's Keep Cemetery where a number of Australian war dead are buried. The ceremony was followed by a breakfast hosted by AUSTCIVPOL at its Mess and a Flag Raising Ceremony to raise the Australian National Flag for the day. Following a function in the afternoon, a sunset Flag Lowering Ceremony was conducted with the playing of the Last Post and Reveille by a Bugler from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. The Gallipoli campaign is also a part of that Regiments long and proud military history.

It is with a sense of pride and honour, that we thank all those persons who participated with us in the commemoration of ANZAC Day and in particular the men of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

By Stn Sgt R. BRADLEY



ALL THE FUN AT THE SPRING FAIR





SECTOR FOUR LINE WEST

By: Lt R B Weing

Oscar Company, 3RCR is responsible for Line West in Sector 4. Although it is definitely not one of the largest parts of the Buffer Zone, it is definitely one of the busiest. As Oscar Company's tour in Cyprus nears the completion of our second month, the men are well established into the routine of what to do and when to do it.

A rather uneventful handover from 2RCHA took place in early March. Whilst this was being done, OP's, patrols and normal training were all being conducted by all the platoons of O Coy. "Once you did your first duty they're all easy after that", remarked Pte Doug Tabbert of 7 Pl.

So far Fantasy Island hasn't been bad at all. Getting used to the heat and dryness so far has been relatively easy. (But then again, we're from "Winterpeg"). This is easily seen by some of the tans people have developed in the short time we've been on the island. By the end of six months 3RCR will look like one of its sister regiments, The Jamaican Regiment.



Off on another "stroll".



Pte Dwyne Keefe rappelling of Ledra Palace.



Photos by: Cpl Hall

"I could stay in Irish Bridge for six months if they let us", said Pte Tom Brown when asked about the changeover from duty on the line to duty as reserve platoon implemented at week two. To go along with that was the RSM's statement "a change is good, or you get bored."

Battle fitness seems to be on everybody's mind here in Cyprus. It's your first thought in the morning and your last thought at night. Whether you go on one of Lt Bob Hay's 16 km "march or die" walks or a relaxing romp through the obstacle course with WO Paul Benoit, it's always a good workout for the body.

O Coy will continue to be busy for the next four months, but there will be some well earned breaks, and before we know it, the tour will be over and we will be in "Winterpeg" once more.

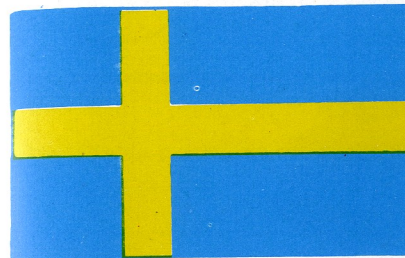


INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK



Pea Soup, a Swedish National Dish.

Peas with pork, for 5 people



Pea Soup - The old "army food", is traditionally eaten every Thursday with a glass of warm punch.

This is what you need;

350 g yellow peas
2½ litre of water
½ kg of shoulder of bacon
100 g onion
100 g carrots
2 teaspoonful thyme/marjoram
2-4 pieces of ginger
Salt, if desired

This is what you do;

Rinse peas, i.e dampen a towel and spread it out on a table.

Pour the dry peas on to the towel. Remove all miscoloured peas, pebbles and other rubbish.

Put the peas in a pan which is big enough to hold twice the ready quantity of soup.

Add water and let the peas swell for 10-12 hrs.

Put the pan on the cooker and bring to boil, keeping lid on.

Skim the peels off, repeatedly, using a perforated ladle.

The peels will rise more easily if the lid stays on during peeling.

Put the piece of pork in the pan.

Put pieces of onion, slices of carrots and spices in a bag and leave it in the soup while cooking.

The spices and root vegetables can also be cooked in a separate pan, and the extract be strained into the soup on final tasting.

When the meat is ready, take it out and cut in even slices or cubes.

The peas are not ready until they turn soft.

Serve the pea soup hot on warm plates with the meat either on a side plate cut in slices, or in the soup cut in cubes.

Mustard is always served, and sometimes hot punch, with the pea soup.

Note 1.

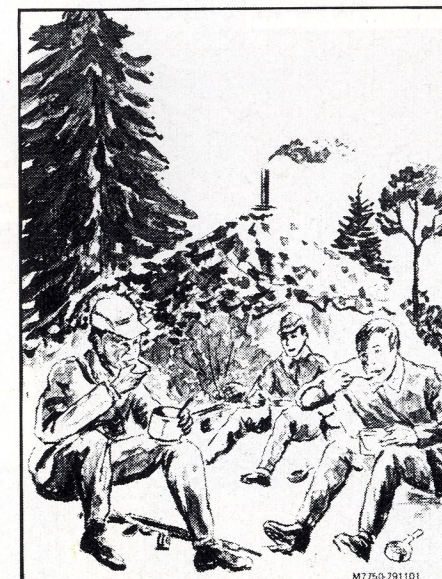
According to legend ginger acts against wind, which could develop when eating peas or beans.

Note 2.

In the south of Sweden, thyme is mainly used to add flavour, in the North marjoram is used instead.

Note 3.

Since you can come across peas which are old and difficult to prepare, it would be wise to prepare the soup the day before it is actually to be served.



Swedish soldiers enjoying their "Weekly surprise" (same every Thursday!).



Erik XIV. Porträtt på Gripsholm tillskrivet Steven van der Meulen, sannolikt tillkommet i samband med Eriks engelska giftermalsplaner.

The Pea Soup tradition is very, very old, how old is hard to say, but the old King Erik XIV was murdered in 1677, probably by poison in the Pea Soup! But don't you be-afraid to try it - it's delicious.

Pancakes

5-6 eggs
1 litre of flour
1-1½ teaspoonful of salt
2 litre of milk
2 spoonfuls of melted margarine

Preparing the pancakes.

Put flour and salt in a dish. Add half of the milk and whip the mixture smooth. Add the rest of the milk and the eggs. Leave the mixture for a while and then whip it up again and add the melted margarine.

Start frying.



THE FERRETS

By: Capt H D Dyson

Photos by: Sgt A. Thomson

B Squadron The Life Guards is now two thirds of the way through its UNFICYP Tour and for most of us the time is going too fast.

The Medal Parade was particularly rewarding for the Squadron as our band took part in conjunction with the Band of 2RRF. The Squadron helped with the unique parachute display onto the airport; the first of its kind. We also tried a slightly different format for the Squadron drive off; something a little more akin to our parades on Horseback.

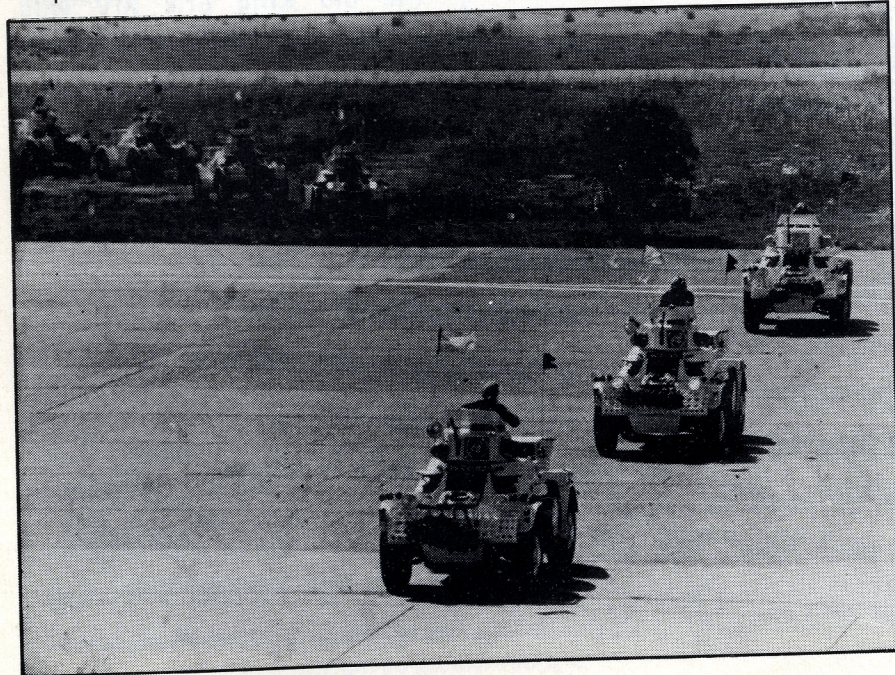
The band had a very enjoyable two weeks in Cyprus and played to large audiences at Curium, Salamis, Ayios Nikolias, Soli and the Famagusta Gate. In its typical, unpredictable fashion the Cyprus weather produced a down pour for their beach day.

Our troops at the outstations have now visited all the Sectors and have benefitted greatly from the International spirit. Many have already taken their 2 weeks leave, and whilst a few have been daring enough to sample the delights of Jerusalem and surrounds, most have made the now traditional pilgrimage to Ayia Napa.



"who moved the marker"?

The Ferrets "Drive On".



The end of tour is now not far away and preparations are underway for the handover to D Squadron 1st Queens Dragoon Guards who arrive in July.

Before that however the Squadron has its own Medal Presentation Ceremony on 7 May and then hosts the tennis competition on 13 May. The Squadron is also involved in a charity run by a small team along the length of the buffer zone, between May 12-15. Sponsors welcome.



UN 7 a-side Rugby Championship. →



Winners of the Cup - Sp Regt "A" Team.



Runners Up - 2 RRF "B" Team

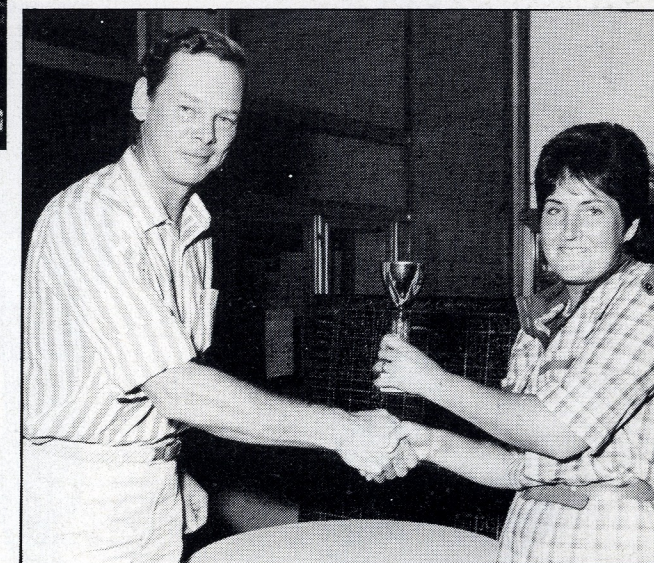
UN Ten Pin Bowling Championships.



"Danish Dynamite" - Six Man Team Winners.



Runners Up "APPRAK" HQ UNFICYP.



Col. Leigh presenting Mrs Hafferty, with the "Ladies Highest Total Pinfall" Cup.



"ALL CHANGE"



FAREWELL TO COS

Brigadier Robin Duchesne arrived in UNFICYP on 4 May 84 and assumed the appointments of Chief of Staff and Commander British Contingent. All his colleagues and those who served under him have been continuously impressed with his inspiring vitality. He has seemed to be present everywhere all the time and has certainly visited every OP (and it seems at times met every soldier) many times over. As illustrated in the picture he has been active in a great many spheres and we will all miss him, his wife Jenny and their family when they depart. Brigadier Duchesne is leaving the Army to take up his new role as Secretary – General of the Royal Yacht Association. We wish him and his family well for the future.



FAREWELL TO DCOS

Colonel Dean Wellsman arrived in UNFICYP on 28 Jun 84 and assumed the appointments of Deputy Chief of Staff and Commander Canadian Contingent. His unfailing good humour and pragmatic approach to any issue have been greatly appreciated by all who have worked with him. As Deputy Chief of Staff he has co-ordinated many of the special projects with direct benefits to the Force. In his extra mural activities Col Wellsman has been active in 10 pin bowling and golf and he is illustrated here suffering the consequences of attempting to combine the two. He leaves us to return to National Defence Headquarters Ottawa, to take up an appointment in the Military Operations Branch. We will miss him and his wife Joan and wish them all best for the future.