

THE BLUE BERET



FEBRUARY 1982



JANUARY IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

27 Jan—3 Feb Half Austrian Contingent

MEDAL PARADES

22 Canadian Contingent

29 Swedish Civilian Police

VISITS

3—15 Capt J Lefevre visited 2R22eR, the Canadian Contingent.

12—18 Maj F Mulligan and a party of twelve to remove armoured vehicles from the Canadian Contingent.

13 Mr Jarvis the Fire Officer visited UNFICYP to conduct a fire inspection.

13—24 Lt Col T Guiler, Commander Sector 4 designate visited UNFICYP with a party of ten on a recce for the incoming Canadian Contingent.

14—21 Maj M Bray and SSgt Kelly of 60 Sqn RCT visited UNFICYP on a recce for the next UNFICYP Transport Squadron.

19—27 Gen J Allard (Ret), Capt Jones and WO Messier visited the Canadian Contingent 2R22eR.

21—24 Maj Gen Landergren, Lt Col Gard and Col Wiberg visited the Swedish Contingent for a medical inspection.

25—28 Messrs Thyresson, Forsberg and Jonasson visited the Swedish Contingent to discuss legal matters.

25—29 Lt Col H Pye, Deputy Chief of Staff designate visited UNFICYP on a recce.

26—3 Feb Maj F Lareau visited the Canadian Contingent to discuss legal matters.

26—3 Feb Maj G Baril, MCpl P Marcotte and seven Canadian journalists visited the Canadian Contingent and HQ UNFICYP.

27—3 Feb Lt Col G Bladbjerg, Commander Danish UN Department paid a liaison visit to the Danish Contingent.

30—2 Feb Mr Brian Urquhart, Under Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs visited HQ UNFICYP and all UN Contingents.

MILITARY AND RECREATIONAL COMPETITIONS

19 Football Competition Final

21 Cross Country Competition

FUTURE EVENTS

At the AMERICAN CENTRE, Nicosia

Wednesday 17 February at 7.30 p.m.

Ninotchka starring the enchanting Greta Garbo in this classic sophisticated comedy directed by Ernst Lubitsch. Garbo plays a "glum, scientifically-trained Bolshevik envoy who succumbs to Parisian freedom, ie, champagne", as described by film critic Pauline Kael. This was Garbo's comedy debut and the original ads trumpeted, "Garbo Laughs!" Also starring the suave Melvyn Douglas.

NEW VIDEOTAPES. Videotape recordings (VTRs) are available in the Library for viewing on request. It is recommended that those wishing to screen VTRs (especially for groups) call ahead to arrange a time.

VOYAGER II—Rendezvous with Saturn: Last August's second encounter with the mysterious and beautiful ringed planet answered some puzzling questions but raised many more about the nature of Saturn's rings, moons and atmosphere. NASA scientists discuss the latest discoveries and show some of the dazzling photographs transmitted by Voyager as it passed Saturn and headed on toward Uranus and Neptune. This VTR is a sequel to *Saturn Rediscovered—The Flight of Voyager I* (also available in the Library).

AT THE BRITISH COUNCIL

3 Museum Street, Nicosia

Mon 22 Feb at 7.30 p.m.

THE STORY BENEATH THE SANDS. A BBC series of six 30 minute films.

Buried in the sands of the Middle East for thousands of years were the monuments of ancient civilizations long since faded from memory—only the legends

lived on. In this series John Coston explores the origins of six old legends that tempted early archaeologists 200 years ago to search beneath the sands. The legends, vividly illustrated in story book fashion, are retold and linked with the monuments which survive today.

PART 1—The King Of The Other World. This tells a Roman version of the Osiris myth with illustrations drawn from the tomb of Tutankhamun, from modern Egypt and the bull burials at Saqqara and Abydos.

PART 2—The Lost Palaces of Nineveh. Tells of the excavations of Nimrud and Nineveh in Iraq and of the modern reconstruction of the walls of Nineveh and draws parallels between the Biblical stories of Jonah and Noah and their Babylonian counter-parts Ut-Napishtim and Ea.

PART 3—The Emperor From Africa. The Emperor is Septimus Severus and the film explores the ruins of his cities of Leptis Magna and Sabratha in Libya.

Thursday 25 Feb at 7.30 p.m.

THE STORY BENEATH THE SANDS

PART 4—The Lost Glory of Iran. This film considers the real and legendary characters of Darius, Cyrus and Alexander and, incidentally, illustrates some of the uses to which the legends have been put in the very recent past.

PART 5—The Sacred Fires. This is an account of the Zoroastrian religion and its survival in modern times among the Parsees of Bombay and in remote areas of Iran, as well as in the Spring Festival in Iran.

PART 6—The Desert Queen. Palmyra in Syria, on the ancient silk route between China and Rome, and her Queen, Zenobia, and King, Odeanatus, are the subject of this last film in the series.



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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. Descriptions of recent local events or of visits to places of interest are welcome. Illustrations are most welcome. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper. 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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on the cover

A Whirlwind helicopter being loaded with stores on Task Charlie.

Photo: Bob Fousert

Editorial

At the end of this month history is being made with the withdrawal of the venerable Whirlwind helicopter from not only service with the United Nations but also from the Royal Air Force. Cyprus will be the last place of "Whirlwind" service entered into the annals of RAF history.

On the centre pages of this issue we say goodbye to the Whirlwind helicopter and the 84 Squadron RAF Detachment, which will be repositioned to support UNFICYP from RAF Akrotiri.

The Squadron is being re-equipped with the Wessex helicopter and more details of these aircraft can be found on page 14 of this issue of the Blue Beret.

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SOUTHWIND PATROL

Story and photos by Bob Fousert



Every month the Economics Officer of DANCON, Major Henrik Jacobsen, carries out what is known as the Southwind Patrol.

The aim of the "patrol" is to check on the welfare and well being of about thirty Turkish Cypriots who live in nine small villages scattered around the Polis and Paphos areas.

They are mostly elderly people who were born or have spent most of their lives in these villages, though some of them are young.

Abtulli Niyasi (38) lives in the almost deserted Turkish Cypriot village of Akoursas in the hills near Paphos. With his wife and children he is one of the few younger Turkish Cypriots who remain in the southern part of the island, and he has had quite a lot of success as a stock farmer breeding sheep and goats.

It takes $2\frac{1}{2}$ days to complete the 350 mile round trip which starts in Polis and usually ends in Akoursas at the end of the second day.



Senior Sgt Dave King (AUSTCIVPOL) and Major Henrik Jacobsen watching Nedjip Djemali at work in a Paphos pottery.



A cup of coffee and a chat with Andreas Demetriou and Djemali Fetti, who are shepherds in Mallia near Paphos.



The Turkish Cypriot village of Akoursas which is now virtually deserted.

During his trip Major Jacobsen, after delivering mail, passes on information about friends and relatives living in the north. For instance, in the village of Mallia live two Turkish Cypriots employed as shepherds, Andreas Demetriou (new name on adoption of Greek Orthodox Faith) and Djemali Fetti (70). Djemali's wife and daughter now live near Kyrenia having moved there in 1975, but Djemali did not go as he preferred to stay in the village where he has spent most of his life. Therefore Major Jacobsen keeps him informed of the well being of his family in the north.

Besides keeping the Turkish Cypriots in the south in touch with their families and friends in the north, Major Jacobsen also arranges for the people in his area to be able to visit their relatives in the north.

The last day of the patrol normally entails a visit to the local Welfare offices or to the District Officer in Paphos. It is here that Major Jacobsen tries to sort out any problems which may have been put to him during his patrol. Once business in Paphos is finished, it is back to Xeros to continue with normal duties and to prepare for the next Southwind Patrol.



The Press interview a negotiator before the Intercommunal Talks, while a Canadian soldier keeps a watchful eye.

Diplomacy is not something exclusively inherent to high officials or the foreign service. We Canadians feel that service with the United Nations in the name of peace is a diplomat's job, in our case carried out by our lowest echelon—the soldier.

Our soldier knew when he arrived in Cyprus that he was to be a sort of referee between two factions. His basic training, similar in almost every country, was oriented towards offensive or defensive fighting actions. It was then that he learned to be the player. Now the game is essentially the same but he is standing between two opposing forces. He has to see or prevent any faults and take the necessary action to ensure that rules are respected by both sides.

We tend to see him only as an observer on an OP. He is posted very close to both groups so his actions and

behaviour are scrutinized and noted. He is also the first one to take action when incidents occur. He subsequently triggers a decision making process to be followed up at other levels.

Peace-keeping is not only a matter of work done on the Green Line but includes a multitude of other duties. In early January we had a Tour Show that entertained our troops. We received soldiers from the two opposing factions for the last two performances. We also entertained soldiers from the other Contingents. Then again our guests were received by our soldiers in their mess. It was proved once again that where there is music there is peace. This is exactly what emerges from these events.

Sector Four is responsible for security Operations which deal with the Intercommunal Talks, Fulbright Commission, Nicosia Master Plan, etc. Our

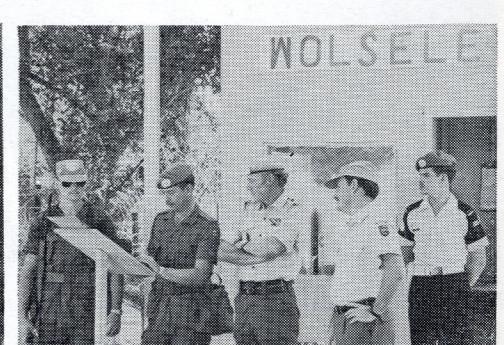
young representative regularly has to greet a fair number of official visitors who are attracted to our very narrow buffer zone and the proximity of the two cease fire lines. Then again our soldier properly briefs our guests and depicts in a very pleasant manner the situation on and around his OP. He is the image our visitor will leave with, he is the Canadian he will remember . . . he is our real ambassador.



Briefing a visitor.



Assisting the conjuror.



Awaiting the Press for the Intercommunal talks.

AUSCON-SWEDCON EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

By Åke Edwardson



It takes the different contingents to create UNFICYP, but it doesn't necessarily mean that, for instance, the Privates and Warrant Officers in the contingents get to know their colleagues from other countries. It is mostly the soldiers at the HQ Cos who do not have much chance of seeing new faces that speak different languages.

The Commander at HQ SWEDCON had this in mind when he started a discussion about it with the preceding Camp Commander. "Why don't we create some kind of exchange programme?" said Maj Harold Deuschl, who is now Camp Commander at Camp Victoria, "let's have a chat with AUSCON about it."

So there was a discussion with Capt Deu, Camp Commander at Camp Duke Leopold V in Famagusta, and it was mutual understanding at first sight! Not only are the names of the two commanders alike, Capt Deu—and a surprisingly large number of Austrians—also speak Swedish!

Anyway, they came to a decision, which goes like this: "let's ask around the HQ Coy to see if there is any interest in this. If there is, we shall start an exchange programme of soldiers between AUSCON and SWEDCON."

There was great interest. 75 soldiers at HQ Coy SWEDCON said immediately that they wanted to go and see their colleagues at AUSCON, and there was a similar response in the Austrian quarter. So, the thing started.



LCpl Hans Liebl (AUSCON) at morning parade in Camp Victoria (SWEDCON)



Sgt Lisbeth Jansson (SWEDCON) explaining SWEDCON office routine to LCpl Horst RAUB (AUSCON)



Just to prove that they were at the Austrian camp in Famagusta, Cook Andersson and Driver Larsson by the sign

Cook Andersson throws his arms up: "What, no wiener schnitzel in an Austrian kitchen!"



Time for a nice meal at Camp Duke Leopold V. (left to right) Johan (AUSCON) Lars (SWEDCON) Franz and Karl (AUSCON).

In late November, six soldiers from SWEDCON went to Famagusta for two days, and at Camp Victoria we welcomed six new friends from AUSCON. There were cooks, drivers, pioneers, waiters and soldiers working more with typewriters than rifles. During this week we could also impress our new Austrian friends, maybe more than we had intended; one of the evenings there was a special dinner—shrimp cocktail, a nice steak and a great dessert. All because we wanted to test the wines that were going to be consumed during the Christmas celebrations. The dinner was actually a surprise for most of us at Camp Victoria. On the menu that day was boiled sausages and mashed swedes(!). We kept it a secret to the Austrians that this was not an everyday meal at SWEDCON. In writing this, the secret is no longer secret...

"We hope this will lead to a greater understanding of how we work in the different contingents", says Maj Deuschl. Pioneers will get a close look at plumbing à la SWEDCON, cooks from Sweden will learn how to make a real wiener schnitzel or a Zachtortte for the benefit of every stomach. There was even talk of a change of Commanders—Camp Commanders that is—but for practical reasons it never got off the ground.

"It has been a real pleasure to be at Camp Victoria", say Gunter Stubenvoll and Horst Raub. "A lot of new friends have been made, and we have learnt something about how it is to work in another contingent. It has also been very nice to see the Swedish girls in their uniforms—we've never seen girls in uniform before!" "It would be a good idea to have Austrian girls at Camp Duke Leopold V as well", says Gunter with a smile.

"It is also interesting to see the difference between the two camps and the surroundings," says LCpl Raub. "Camp Duke Leopold V is placed in a rather quiet area, but at Camp Victoria there is more 'action' with the town at close range and the big aeroplanes thundering down at Larnaca Airport two miles away."

Meanwhile, back at the Austrian camp the Swedish soldiers were getting used to Austrian cuisine and Austrian friends.

There's one thing, among all the other nice ones that the Swedish soldiers appreciate about the visit to AUSCON: for some it is an opportunity to see Famagusta. They can spend a day and a night at an Austrian OP. Something to talk about when they get back to their familiar camp again.



CWO Gerhard Leeb "ready for take-off".



The convoy arrives at Camp Duke Leopold V.



CWO Erik Nowak gives last minute instructions.

TODAY

"Here they come" CWO Gerhard Leeb from the Ops Economic Section in Sector 6 looks at his watch. It's Thursday 1015 hours Bravo time. Three trucks from the Royal Corps of Transport and from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees driven by BRITCON soldiers, all the way from Nicosia just arrive at Camp Duke Leopold V, AUSCON's Headquarters in Famagusta. The fourth truck, coming from Larnaca still has to come. CWO Leeb takes out his checklist; AUSCON's ambulance and one VW Minibus are already lined up and the convoy leaving Famagusta for the Karpas area in the north-eastern 'panhandle' of Cyprus is almost "ready for take-off".

Major Georg Grondinger, the Operations Economics Officer has tasked the convoy leader CWO Leeb to conduct the convoy in order to re-supply the Greek Cypriot population in the Karpas area in rent problems the inhabitants bring to the villages of Trikomo, Ayios Theodoros, Leonariso, Ayios Andronikos, Yialousa and Ayia Trias. The convoy cargo includes food, Red Cross items such as medical supplies and clothes, fuel, gasoil and butane gas. Furthermore a MEDEVAC (medical evacuation) and one emigration have to be completed. Major Grondinger himself has already left the camp and meets his friends from SWEDCIVPOL in the village of Rizokarpasso, who have just finished their task for the day, paying pensions and welfare benefits to members of the Greek Cypriot population. Georg enjoys a coffee break and checks his watch again; it's 1810 hrs

and goes on to the other villages to talk to the local people, sort out all the different problems the inhabitants bring to his attention. Georg is well known all over the place and is often called "Mr UN".

In the meantime the convoy has reached Ayia Trias after almost four hours of driving. Here the convoy splits up and CWO Erik Nowak takes over to lead the second half of the convoy. Contact with the local population is friendly and efficient and it doesn't take long to fulfil all the tasks given. The convoy unites again and heads back to Famagusta. The Austrian UN soldier at the gate of Camp Duke Leopold V salutes. CWO Leeb

checks his watch again; it's 1810 hrs

THURSDAY

precisely and by all means time for a very late lunch for the whole crew. Twenty minutes later the last phase of today's convoy task starts and the transport to Nicosia is under way.

But Thursday is not an easy day for Major Grondinger and CWO Nowak who start their car again to switch from humanitarian action to economic activities. This time it's not farming in the UN Buffer Zone, but the control of supply lines that cross the Buffer Zone. Georg drives carefully through the ESBA to Phrenaros to meet Mr Floris Latrides from the Water Board. Coffee, a hearty welcome and the topic is water. Water supply, one of the most important things especially in Cyprus, comes from the Troodos mountains to pump stations in Khirokitia, and from there to water tanks in Phrenaros and then across the UN Buffer Zone to Famagusta. Technical problems may arise in the Buffer Zone and have to be solved, the water output in Phrenaros has to be checked and, correspondingly, the water input in Famagusta has to be monitored. Georg and Erik are heading back from Larnaca to meet the water authorities in Famagusta. Here Mr Arif Gürbüz welcomes the UN Operations Economic soldiers for solving any problems and fact finding—and of course yet another cup of coffee.

Georg and his crew are ready to help wherever they can. It's Thursday, and it's been a hard day's work.



Maj Georg Grondinger discusses water supply problems with Mr Floris Latrides



A 'deep' look into water problems by Maj Grondinger and Mr Arif Gürbüz in Famagusta



By MALM Tony Casey

On 1 March 1982, 84 Sqn 'B' Flt -disbands and the ageing "Queen" of the skies, the Whirlwind MK 10, retires from both Royal Air Force and United Nations service. Support helicopters for the Force will in future be provided by 84 Sqn based at RAF AKROTIRI using the Westland Wessex MK II.

HISTORY

84 Squadron was formed at Beaulieu in January 1917, equipped with S.E.5 and S.E.5a aircraft. The Squadron was based in France until the end of the 1914-18 war. On 30 November 1918 one of the Squadron's pilots, Capt A W Beauchamp-Proctor was awarded the Victoria Cross.

By 1928 the Squadron had moved to the Middle East, flying D.H.9a aircraft, later replaced by Wapitis, Vincents and Blenheim aircraft. Shairrah in Iraq was the Squadron's base for the next twelve years.

The Second World War saw the Squadron equipped with Blenheims in the Western Desert campaign. After further campaigns in Greece, Iraq and Persia they returned to North Africa for "the second push" which started with the Battle of Alan Halfa. On 3 January 1942 the Squadron was withdrawn from active service for re-equipment and transfer to the Far East theatre.

Based in Sumatra and later Java, raids against the advancing Japanese were carried out, but at Tibatjap the Squadron was overrun. All were taken prisoner except for the Squadron Commander and eleven aircrew, who escaped in a lifeboat named HM RAF Scorpion. The crew stayed alive during the 44 day trip from Java to Australia on 960 cans of American beer found in the boat.

Meanwhile 84 Squadron was being re-formed in India with Vultee Vengeance aircraft. Remaining in India for the rest of the war, 84 Squadron then went to serve in Malaya and Singapore, flying Vengeance, Mosquito and Brigand aircraft.

UP UP AND AWAY!

UNIT FEATURE



Flight operate in support of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

WHIRLWINDS

The Westland Whirlwind has been in the Royal Air Force service for nearly 30 years. Based on the Sikorsky S55 and built under licence in England by Westland Helicopters, it became renowned for its very good handling characteristics and its reliability. It served for many years as the RAF's basic helicopter trainer. It has also been used extensively in the Support and Search and Rescue roles. Its performance in the Search and Rescue role has become legendary. 84 Squadron is the last Unit in the RAF to operate this type of helicopter.

THE TASK

The majority of the flying task in UNFICYP has been centred around the 'C' Coy area in Sector 1, where the mountainous terrain makes re-supply of the OPs extremely difficult by any other means. The Flight also provided an aircraft on 24 hour standby. Callouts aver-

aged about one per week. The record of callouts during 1981 makes very interesting reading; the flight answered forty-eight medical evacuation callouts. These were mainly for Force personnel and their families. On the humanitarian side the Flight responded six times to calls from the local communities for helicopter evacuation of seriously ill persons, three times for each of the communities. For instance on 28 September a Turkish soldier was evacuated from Kokkina with serious head injuries, and on 13 December a Greek lady with coronary problems was evacuated from Kato Pyrgos. Our crowning glory for 1981 however was the birth of a baby in one of our aircraft in the air 1000 feet above Limassol. (see The Blue Beret January 1982)

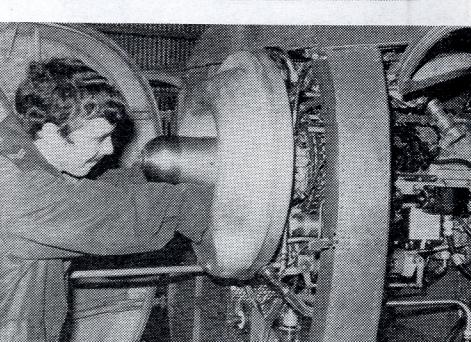
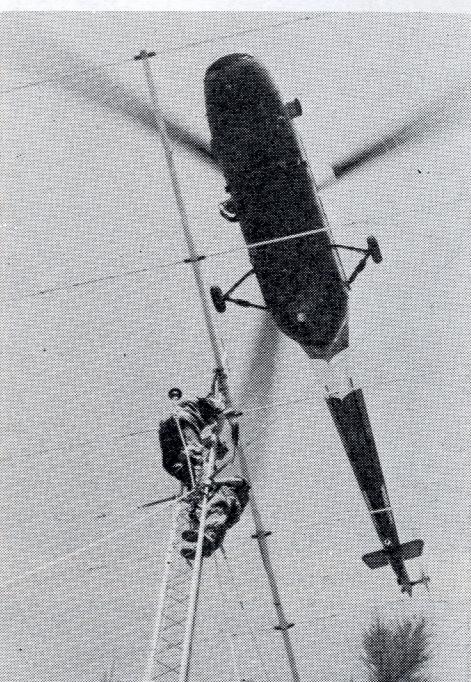
WESSEX

The introduction of the Wessex helicopter will offer increased lift capability to the Force. The Wessex can lift up to fifteen troops at a time as opposed to the Whirlwind's maximum of six. Its underslung load capability is also greatly increased. Being a twin engined aircraft it will offer added flight safety, this together with its vastly improved avionics will allow the Wessex to operate in conditions where the Whirlwind would have to tread very carefully.

The Flight was commanded by Sqn Ldr R E Wedge, until mid January 1982, when he departed to the Royal Air Force Staff College. Since then Flt Lt M R Wargent has been in command.

The Squadron's badge, an Arabian Scorpion and its motto "Scorpions Sting" commemorates 84's long association with the Middle East.

On behalf of the Flight Commander and all the members of the Flight, I would like to pass on our Best Wishes to all members of the Force, and in particular to our very good friends in 'C' Coy Sector 1 who have looked after us so well. Thank you all for all that you have done for 84 Sqn 'B' Flight, it's been both an honour and a privilege to have served with you.



Blue Beret SPORT



CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

On 21 Jan 82 DANCON hosted this year's cross country competition in the foothills of the Troodos mountains around Skouriotissa. The results were as follows:

Individual

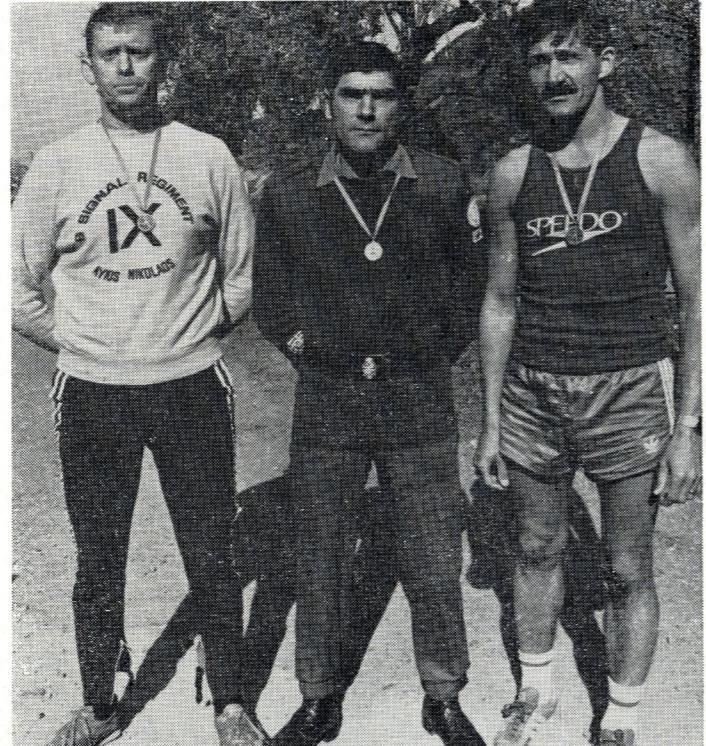
1. Pte H J Lemoine (SWEDCON) 51.49
2. LCpl J K Larsen (DANCON) 52.55
3. Capt C Wernbult (SWEDCON) 53.13

Team Competition:

Old Boys:

1. SWEDCON (1-3-6-8-13)	1. WO2 T Tombling (2 QUEENS) 60.52
2. SP REGT (4-9-10-18-23)	2. WO2 Kennington (SP REGT) 62.15
3. CANCON (7-17-21-25-30)	3. CSM Vaillancourt (MP COY) 62.17

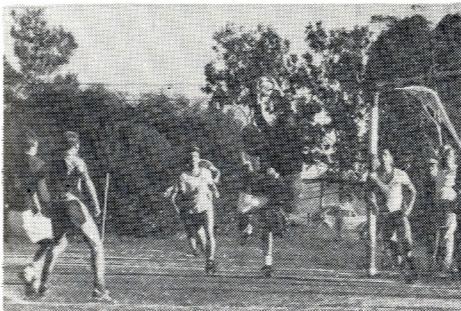
The winner in action.



The first three home (from the left): LCpl J K Larsen DANCON (No. 2), Pte H J Lemoine SWEDCON (No. 1), Capt C Wernbult SWEDCON (No. 3)

The Old Boys (from the left): WO2 Kennington Sp Regt (No. 2), WO2 T Tombling BRITCON (No. 1) CSM Vaillancourt UN MP Coy (No. 3)

Blue Beret SPORT



Saved again!



LCpl H B Jensen (DANCON) being congratulated by DCOS Col C W Hewson.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION

On 19 January 82 the final of the UNFICYP Football Competition was held at the BBC Camp pitch between DANCON and SWEDCON. It was a hard fought match which had to be decided on penalties after a 2-2 draw at full-time. The result was a win for DANCON.



THE WINNING DANCON TEAM

Behind from the left: Sgt K Fisker, LCpl, Front from left: Pte F Ringgaard, 2Lt K M Andresen, Lt A Steen, LCpl H Jensen Konradsen, LCpl J Larsen, Pte F Rantov, Pte A Rosenquist, Pte H Schmidt, LCpl LCpl J Andersen, 1Lt J Kuhnel and Pte K I Sorensen, Pte F Andersen, Kristensen.

ROAD SAFETY YEAR 1982

JANUARY REPORT

Projection for 1982

Reach the 50% Target

UNFICYP's first month of Road Safety Year 1982 has resulted in encouraging but mixed accident figures. **The following units earned a Monthly Certificate** showing that they stayed within monthly accident ceilings set by the Force Commander:

SECTOR 1

SECTOR 2

SECTOR 6

SP REGT

AUSTCIVPOL

SWEDCIVPOL

CIVILIAN STAFF

Stop The Simple Accident

A close look at the causes, times and locations of the 20 accidents reveals that most were avoidable:

11 happened between Friday evening and Monday morning.

3 involved UNFICYP vehicles only inside UNFICYP camps.

3 involved motorcycles ridden by UNFICYP soldiers.

3 occurred whilst UNFICYP vehicles were reversing.

TAKE EXTRA CARE AT WEEKENDS

DON'T DROP YOUR GUARD WHEN DRIVING IN CAMPS

MOTORCYCLES NEED RESPECT AND EXPERIENCE

SEEK ASSISTANCE WHEN REVERSING WHENEVER POSSIBLE

Four units exceeded their monthly ceiling - each could have achieved it but for simple, avoidable accidents. Every member of UNFICYP is participating in Road Safety Year 1982.

DON'T JOIN THE STATISTICS

Out & About in Cyprus

St. Hilarion Castle

By Bob Fousert

Situated in the Kyrenia mountain range about two miles from the main Nicosia-Kyrenia road, and at a height of 2,380 feet (732 mtrs) above sea level, lies St Hilarion Castle.

The castle was originally a monastery, founded in the 8th or 9th Century AD and was converted into a stronghold by the Byzantines for coastal defence against Arab attacks in the 11th Century.

In 1191 the castle passed into the hands of Richard the Lionheart (Coeur de Lion) when he used Cyprus as his base during the Crusades. His Queen was said to have sat at a window in the upper reaches of the castle looking out to sea, waiting for the King's return from battle.

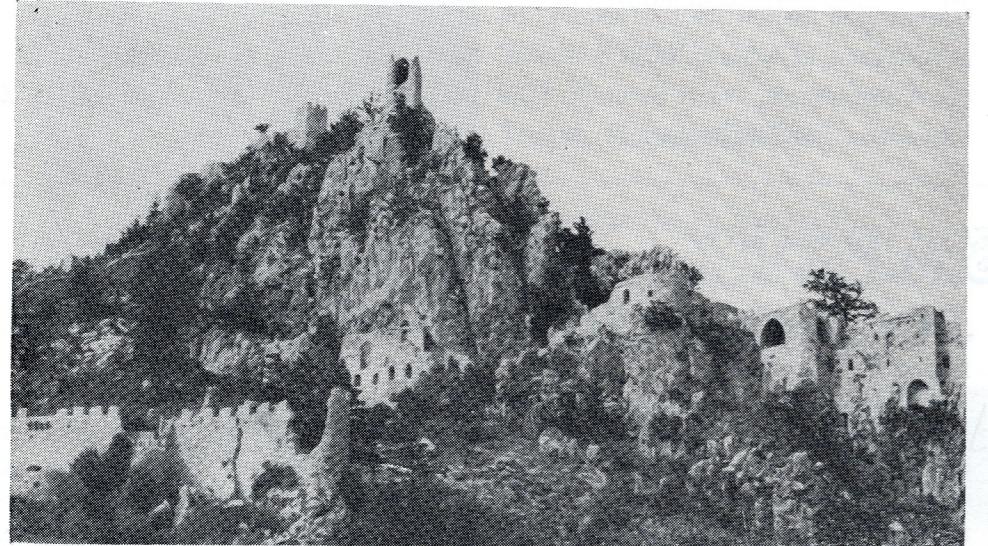
The climb from the entrance into the

lower ward and through the middle ward to the upper ward and the summit is well worth the effort, for the view is magnificent. From here one can see Kyrenia seven miles away, looking like a miniature town. On a clear day, Turkey can be seen 40 miles away across the sea. Looking east there is a spectacular view of the mountain range fading into the distance towards the Karpass and the rest of the range can be seen to the west as far as Cape Kormakiti.

A couple of hours spent at St Hilarion rewards the visitor with a walk through history and what must be one of the most breathtaking views in Cyprus.



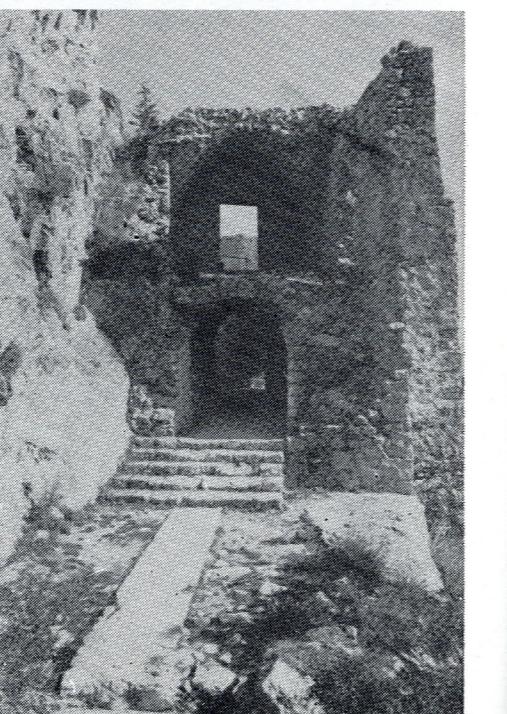
The Byzantine church with the Kyrenia mountain range in the background fading away to the Karpass.



St Hilarion Castle viewed from the south east approach.



The main hall and remains of the Royal Apartments.



The entrance to the Middle Ward.

CLIMB A

MOUNTAIN

Stavrovouni Monastery

(as published in the Monastery Guide Book)

LOCATION

One of the most ancient and famous monasteries of Orthodoxy is the Holy Monastery of Stavrovouni (the Mountain of the Holy Cross). The Monastery is located on the easternmost peak of the Troodos mountains in the Larnaca District, and can be seen from everywhere.

The height of the peak is 700 metres or 2260 feet and is separated from the rest of the mountains by three steep sides. In appearance it is very similar to Mount Tabor in Palestine where Jesus Christ was transfigured.

Tradition reckons it to be the oldest monastery in Cyprus.

ANCIENT HISTORY

Stavrovouni Monastery was built by King Constantine's mother, St Helen, who came to Cyprus on her return from Jerusalem after discovering the Holy Cross of Christ in 327-330 AD.

At the present location of the Monastery there was a heathen altar dedicated to the goddess Aphrodite. Women were not permitted to approach and legends said that devils dwelt in it. St Helen had noticed this altar while she was at sea and after she had learned what it was she said that she would change it into a church of God.

On her return from Jerusalem, where she had discovered the Holy Cross, the Queen was forced to come to Vasiliko. Being tired, she ordered her royal tent to be prepared. The servants obeyed her and took from the ship the Holy Cross of Christ and the cross of the penitent thief, as well as a holy nail. The Queen then slept in her royal tent. While she was sleeping, a shining angel of the Lord appeared and told her: "Respected Queen I am a messenger of God and I am come to tell you His will. In the same way you built to His glory a church in Jerusalem, you should build one here in this desolate Island which is suffering from famine, and which you will enrich with the Holy Cross to be worshipped by the people of the Island".

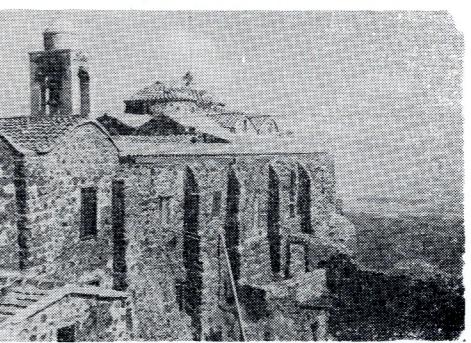
After the vision the Queen awoke fearful and asked to see the Holy Cross. But the servants discovered to their great surprise that the Cross was missing. They searched for it everywhere, in the ships and on the cliffs, but in vain. Now the Queen was terrified because of the loss and she gave orders to the servants with gestures of her hands, for her tongue and lips had become cold and motionless.

Suddenly a servant appeared bringing a comforting message: "Lady Queen, on top of the eastern mountain there is a bright flame of fire, which grows brighter and brighter all the time. There must be a hidden mystery there". The Queen came out of her tent and stared at the strange flame shining in the eastern sky.

She immediately sent two servants to investigate the unusual fire on the distant mountain. The servants walked all night and when they returned they brought happy news. They had found the Holy Wood enveloped in flames which rose 50 metres and which burned without any means, without wood or charcoal. The Queen, St Helen, knelt down on the Cyp-



Stavrovouni Monastery viewed from below.



Cyprus's most ancient monastery commands an exhilarating view of the surrounding countryside.



One of the monks explains the history to a visitor.

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riot seashore and prayed. She decided to build a church of the Holy Cross on the mountain peak to remind the islanders of the miracle of the Crucified. She first built a church by a bridge which still exists in Tohni village in the Larnaca district, in which she enshrined part of the Holy Cross. She then decided to begin her long journey to the high Troodos mountain, a journey which led her through a tragic land. Legend records that it was a time of famine and that countless poisonous snakes infested the way. At last the Queen and her retinue reached the deserted altar on the mountain top. The next day she sent her servants to seek builders and carpenters from neighbouring villages to construct a Church and Monastery. The Island was not completely deserted and willing villagers were soon bringing stones and mortar to the site. They laboured day and night, the Queen working with them, until the Church and Monastery were finally completed. The Queen then dedicated the buildings and before the altar placed a piece of the Holy Wood in the form of a cross, shaped from the True Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Beside it she laid a holy nail used at the Crucifixion and, at the right of the altar, the cross of the good thief.

She then knelt down and devoutly thanked God and praised Him. After bidding farewell to the Monastery, she embarked and sailed for the city of the Bosphorus, from which, according to historical record, she sent a shipful of cats to devour the snakes. When at last the Queen reached Constantinople, she persuaded the Cypriot refugees living there to return to Cyprus. The Island flourished once more and the Monastery became its most important place of worship.

Details of early monastic life were lost during the troubled years that Cyprus subsequently endured; however an earthenware plate has survived, bearing the date 1000 (?) AD and the names of the Overseer of the Monastery and the Fathers.

Miscellaneous Information

When in former times pirates were in the habit of attacking monasteries, the outer door was always closed at night. This, together with a five-metre deep well, prevented any marauders from entering the Monastery.

To ensure adequate water supplies there are four cisterns in the Monastery which fill during the winter and supply the needs of the monks for the rest of the year.

Three years after their death, the remains of the monks are transferred to a crypt under the church; requiem masses are offered daily for their souls.

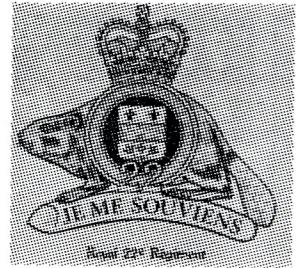
In former times there was a secret crypt in the Monastery into which the monks withdrew to escape periodic attacks. The treasures of the Church were also kept there.

Today the Monastery of Stavrovouni has 15 monks under the Abbot Germanos.

Pictorial news



Brig J. D. Bastick pins on a UN Medal whilst the ADC Capt L. G. Ohlsson picks up another one off the tray. The Commanding Officer, Lt Col J.M.G. Baril is to the right.



CANCON MEDAL PARADE

On 22 January the 2nd Battalion of the Royal 22nd Regiment, "the Vandoos", held their medal parade in Wolseley Barracks.

The occasion was given some added "colour" as "the Vandoos" also had their regimental band providing the music. They looked splendid in their red tunics and bearskins. Also at the parade was General J Allard (retired), representing the Colonel of the Regiment. The Acting Force Commander, Brigadier JD Bastick inspected the troops and presented some of the UN medals. The remaining medals were presented by General Allard and the DCO of the Battalion, Major J H G Brassard.



The Regimental Band of "the Vandoos".

VISIT OF MR URQUHART



Mr Brian Urquhart, Under Secretary General for Special Political Affairs visited UNFICYP from 30 January to 2 February 1982.

During the visit he received an operational briefing before visiting each one of the five Sectors. He also visited other units of the force.

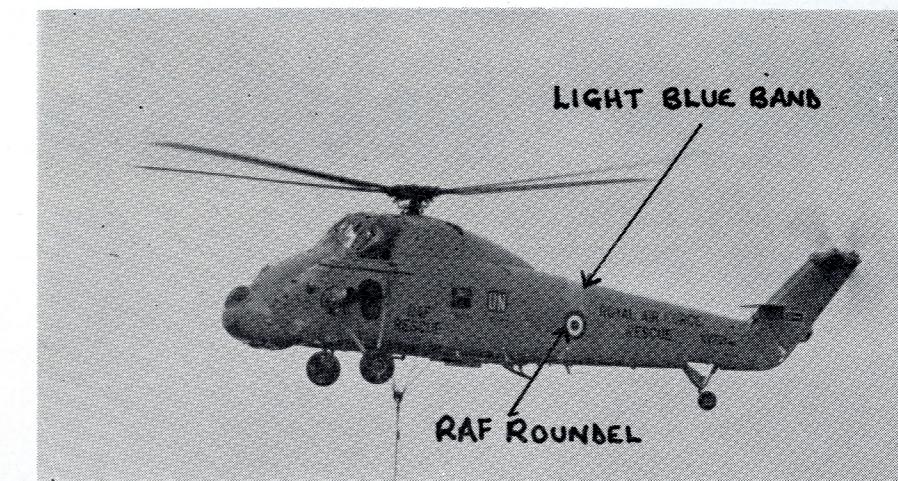
Whilst on the island he saw the Greek Cypriot President, Mr Kypriano, the Greek Cypriot Foreign Minister, Mr Rolandis and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Denktash.

The picture shows Mr Brian Urquhart with the SRSG, Mr Hugo Gobbi.

WESSEX HELICOPTERS FOR UNFICYP

On 28 February 1982 the WHIRLWIND helicopter, at present supporting UNFICYP, is to be replaced by the WESSEX helicopter. In the meantime the aircrew of the WESSEX will be carrying out familiarization sorties in the UN Buffer Zone.

The Wessex helicopter is painted bright yellow with the words "ROYAL AIR FORCE RESCUE" on both sides of the tail section, and "RAF RESCUE" painted on the nose of the aircraft. There will be a vertical light blue band around the rear fuselage with the RAF Roundel in the centre. In addition there will be the letters "UN" on the rear windows on each side on the aircraft.



TROOPS

ENTERTAINED

At the beginning of January the Canadian Forces Entertainment Troupe visited "The Vandoos". The show was put on for several evenings and apart from the CANCON members, guests were invited from all the other contingents. The show lasted for more than two hours each evening and was enjoyed by all. The picture shows the dancers doing one of their numbers.





UN NEWS



Established by the General Assembly of the United Nations as of 1 January 1951 by General Assembly resolution 319 (IV) adopted on 3 December 1949, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has two main functions: international protection, and the promotion of permanent solutions to the problems of refugees.

A refugee is defined as a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country. Pursuant to relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the High Commissioner also undertakes special humanitarian tasks for which the Office has particular expertise. Many of those assisted by these "Special Programmes" are uprooted persons who have been displaced within their own countries.

The High Commissioner is elected by the General Assembly of the United Nations on the nomination of the Secretary-General. The present High Commissioner is Mr Poul Hartling (Denmark), elected for a five-year term on 8 December 1977. Mr Hartling was Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark from 1968 to 1971 and Prime Minister from 1973 to 1975.

UNHCR's mandate comes up for renewal by the General Assembly every five years. The most recent renewal extended the Office to the end of 1983.

There are over 1500 on UNHCR's staff, at Headquarters in Geneva and in some 60 field offices all over the world.

The High Commissioner is Chairman of a Committee which awards the Nansen Medal, named after Fridjof Nansen who was the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees over half a century ago. The Medal is awarded, usually annually, for outstanding services to the cause of refugees. Recipients have included individuals, humanitarian organisations and Heads of State.

The Office has twice been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, first in 1954 and the second time in 1981.

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

The basic function of the Office as defined by the Statute is to extend international protection to refugees, who by definition do not enjoy the protection of their former home country.

In the exercise of its international protection function, UNHCR seeks to ensure that refugees receive asylum and are granted a favourable legal status in their asylum country. An essential element of this legal status is the safeguard provided by the generally accepted principle of **non-refoulement**, which prohibits expulsion or forcible return of a per-

UNHCR



Mr Said Halim (seated) discussing a project with his Deputy, Mr Jan Johansson.

son to a country where he may have reason to fear persecution. UNHCR also seeks to ensure that refugees are identified as such, so as to enable them to take advantage of the standards established for their treatment in international instruments or under national law.

The legal status of refugees has been defined more particularly in two international instruments adopted on the universal level, namely the United Nations 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE

International protection is essential, but alone it is often not enough to enable a refugee or displaced person to achieve a permanent solution to his prob-



lems, whether it be through voluntary repatriation, local settlement in the country of first asylum, or migration to another country. Neither the country of first asylum, which has primary responsibility for assistance, nor the voluntary agencies may be in a position to provide the funds needed to finance all such measures. In these cases, upon a request from a government, UNHCR applies its limited funds to projects that are designed to supplement the assistance being given by the government and other sources. Thus, UNHCR normally provides only part of the financing for a given project, but often this contribution has a catalytic effect, serving to mobilize support on a much larger scale.

In 1980, UNHCR obligated a total of US\$500 million for General and Special Programmes of assistance, which were mainly implemented by governmental bodies or other organisations. During the first twenty-nine years of its existence, it is estimated that some 25 million persons have been assisted by UNHCR.

UNHCR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN CYPRUS

In August 1974, the High Commissioner for Refugees was requested by the Secretary-General to act as a co-ordinator of United Nations Humanitarian Assistance to displaced persons in Cyprus.

During the emergency relief phase in 1974-1975, cash contributions were utilised to procure food, tents, medical supplies, vehicles and other equipment.

Programme assistance for projects of a more permanent nature in various sectors were undertaken, involving *inter alia* the construction of public housing, schools, community centres, hospitals, health clinics, old peoples' homes, vocational training centres and rehabilitation homes for socially disadvantaged groups.

THE NEW CHIEF OF MISSION

Mr Said Halim, the new Chief of Mission of the UNHCR Special Mission in Cyprus, was born in Cairo, Egypt. He arrived in Cyprus to take up his appointment on 4 January 1982.

Mr Halim is married with two children, both of whom are in their final academic year at University in Cairo. Mrs Nashida Halim is a graduate in law from Cairo University. She worked for many years as a teacher in Port Said English School, where her two children were enrolled for their primary and secondary education. Mrs Halim will be joining her husband in Cyprus in the very near future.

In January 1950 Mr Halim graduated from the Military Academy with the rank of lieutenant. In January 1955, after graduation from Cairo University where he studied journalism at the Faculty of Arts, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During his diplomatic career he was appointed to the following posts overseas: First Secretary at the Egyptian Embassy in the Vatican, Consul General in Barcelona and Consul at the Egyptian Embassy in Vienna.

Mr Halim joined the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in January 1966. Over the past sixteen years he worked in the African Continent as the UNHCR Representative in Egypt, Uganda and the Sudan.