

THE BLUE BERET



JUNE 1982



MAY IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

2—5 The Swedish Contingent

6— Half The Austrian Contingent

11— The Danish Contingent

24—27 The British Contingent

MEDAL PARADES

Nil

VISITS

3—5 Maj Krogh and Capt Mathieson of Denmark, Capt Sjoberg of Sweden and Capt Niinimaeki of Finland visited HQ UNFICYP and the Danish Contingent.

4—5 Maj Gen B M Lane, Director of Army Quartering, visited the British Contingent.

4—12 Maj G Gagnon visited the Canadian Contingent.

MILITARY AND RECREATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Nil

FUTURE EVENTS

17, 18 and 19 June.

Antony and Cleopatra at the Curium Theatre.

Tickets are still on sale at the British Council, Nicosia.

25—3 July

Beer Festival at the Carlsberg Brewery on the old Nicosia-Limassol road. Entrance: 750 mils includes one free bottle of Carlsberg beer. Dancing, bouzouki music, food available.

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Editorial Office: MPIO, HQ UNFICYP P.O.Box 1642, Nicosia, Cyprus. Telephone: Nicosia 64000, Ext. 2235.

editorial staff

Managing Editor

Maj D C J Emmett

Assistant Editor

Mrs P Johansson

Editorial Assistant

Mrs A Singh

Photography

Force Photographer — Sgt F Voice
Contingent photographers.

Unit Press Officers

Auscon	— Maj AC Lugert
Sector 2	— Capt R Hall
Cancon	— Lt DT Cook
Dancon	— Maj J Schultz-Lorentzen
Swedcon	— Capt L Lundblad
Sp Regt	— Maj C G Morris
FSC Sqn	— Maj P B Rogers
Austcivpol	— Ch Insp P Wise

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.

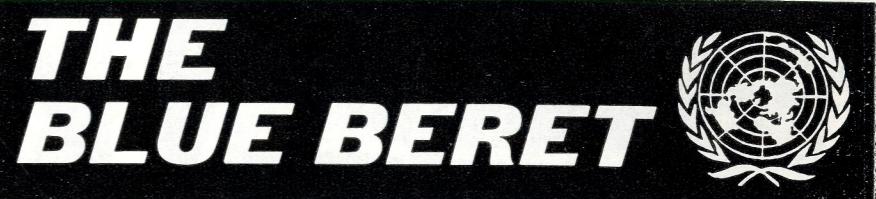
Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Descriptions of recent local events or of visits to places of interest are welcome. Illustrations are most welcome. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper. This is an official publication prepared under the direction 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 Wessex Helicopter of 84 Sqn RAF carrying out Task 'C' resupply in Sector 1.

Photo Frank Voice.



Editorial

Firstly may I say how pleased I am to be back in Cyprus after a long absence of over 20 years, and to have the honour of being the new Managing Editor of Blue Beret. I am sure that you will join me in wishing Major Tim Whitehead and his family 'Bon Voyage' and thank him for all he did for the Blue Beret.

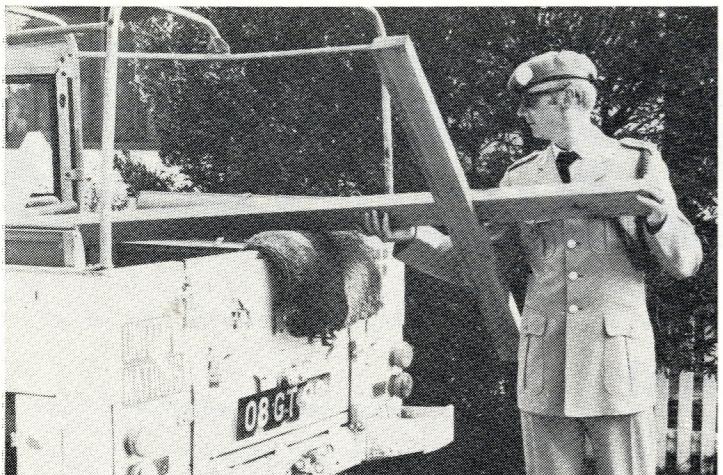
Articles/contributions for the Blue Beret Magazine.

May I, as your new Managing Editor, remind you that I need articles/contributions for the magazine, by the end of the second week of the month preceding publication (normally published a month later).

I look forward to your support.

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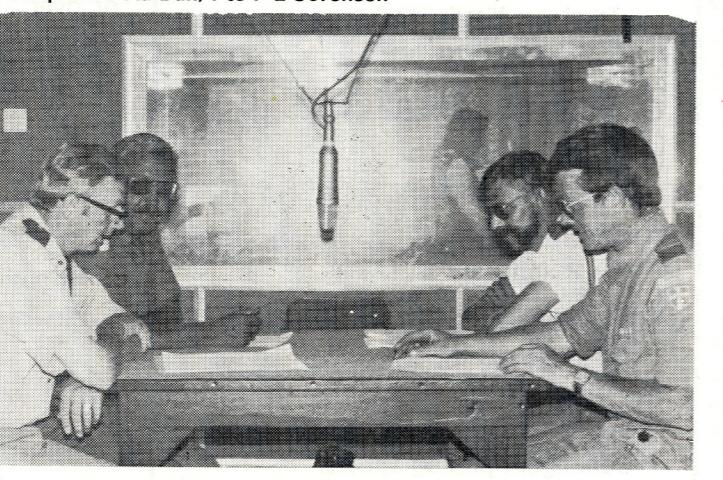
The Feltpaest equips the Land-Rover



Coffee-drinking at an OP. Cpl A Aller, Cpl T C Kristensen, Army Chaplain P Aa Bak, Pte P E Sorensen



From a sick call there is a letter for Pte S A Eriksen



From the CBC Studio. Feltpaest P Aa Bak, 1Lt K Kiplev, LCpl N G Jensen, LCpl V Laugesen

ARMY CHAPLAIN - FELTPRAEST

By Maj N H Havner



The Danish contribution this month is about the Army Chaplain's (Feltpaest's) work in the Danish Contingent.

The Danish Feltpaest, P Aa Bak, is a very busy man. As you may see from the signpost, it is difficult to find where the Feltpaest resides, and that is like a symbol — it is always difficult to find him!

The worst time for the Feltpaest is the morning — because he has to get up very early so he can join the morning briefing at 07.00 hrs—and it is extremely early for a chaplain!

If it is a Monday morning, he has to equip his Landrover for a tour of the UN patroltrack. Radio, sleeping-bag, sponge bag, hymn books, holy cross, altar candle

— Does he have everything? No, where is the sermon?

Fully equipped he drives up and down, in and out, following narrow roads, steep tracks, winding, stoned and pot-holed. A shocking experience.

But also a glorious tour of the beautiful DANCON countryside. The Feltpaest makes OP-visits. Each OP is visited every second week.

It is the best thing if the Feltpaest has a stomach like an ostrich, because he has to join the soldiers for coffee and home-made cakes all day long.

On Monday evening there will be a service in the Kokkina-Camp — hymns, text, confession, sermon and blessing.

Then it is time for the Feltpaest to go to sleep in the guest-hut. He shakes the blankets for scorpions and spiders and arranges the sleeping-bag.

The next morning the OP visits continue. On Tuesday evening the Feltpaest returns to Viking Camp, tired and dusty. The first thing he wants is a bath.

On Wednesday morning there is always an editorial meeting — the programme for the week's DANCON-RADIO has to be made. Thrilling and with good music (what is that?), with greetings from home and from friends, mixed with jokes. A complete script has to be finished.

By Wednesday evening a new service has been planned, now in C-COY — in the new bar built by the privates.

On Thursday morning the last preparations are made for the radio programme. Do we have all the records? Or do we have to ask CBC for help?

No lunch that day, because the Feltpaest has to head for CBC in Nicosia and it is already half past eleven. Various helpers will join him. The rest of the day he spends in CBC.

Thursday evening gives the Feltpaest the first free time to follow his hobby, which is reading about new cars.

Friday can be used for many things — maybe a sick call in Akrotiri (a five-hour journey). Maybe time for work in the office. Maybe he has to write a letter to a sick person in his parish back in Denmark.

Saturday (does everyone still follow this?) is the day to make the sermon; a sermon to be understood and enjoyed by both the youngest private and the most senior officer; a sermon not only about Jesus Christ but also about problems of everyday life. An impossible task? YES!

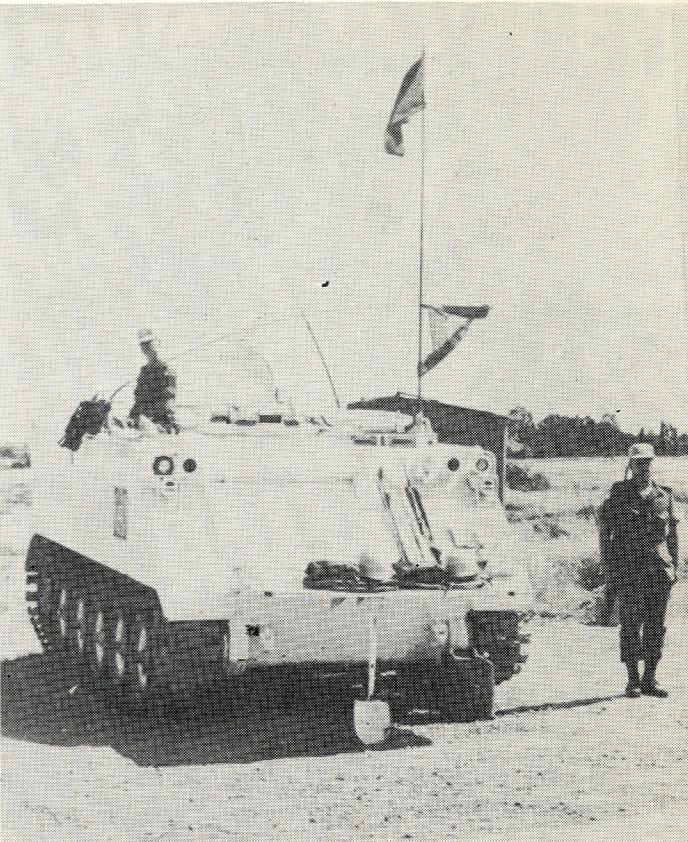
On Saturday evening you will find the Feltpaest in front of a radio. He has to listen to DANCON-RADIO — will it be possible to make the programme better next week? It happens very often that someone telephones him to tell him what is wrong.

Sunday is free and — if possible — used for sightseeing — Troodos, Salamis and so on. But on Sunday evening — service in Viking Camp.

On Sunday night — early to bed again — for the next day is Monday ...



OP VINEYARD (CML Battery OP)



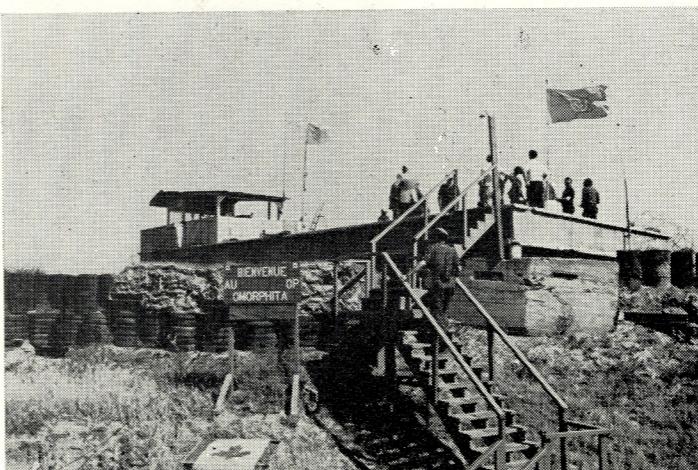
OPT LIZARD and M113 APC (CML Battery)



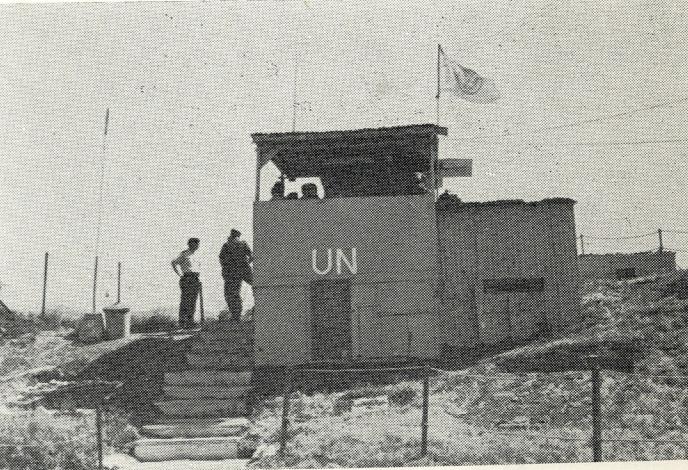
MEDIA TOUR – 3RCHA

By Lt Dan Cook

Recently the Canadians hosted a Nations operations. A tour of the Sector the important role that the United Nations plays in Cyprus. They also learned group of reporters who represented small Four observation posts and the Green-town weekly newspapers in Western line was next on the agenda. The group of the delicate role of the UN soldier as a Canada. The purpose of their visit was was actually taken on some of the Green-line night foot-patrols. Last but not pected by all concerned in fulfilling to show hometown folks what their sons are up to 8,000 miles away from home. least the group was taken on a tour of 3 RCHA along with UNFICYP Headquarters met the challenge with a very north. The result of this comprehensive informative series of briefings on the visit was that these members of the press, political history of the Island and United be able to write about Canadian soldiers for the Canadian public with an accurate realization by looking at the whole picture, realized appreciation of the situation.



OP OMORPHITA (LEDRA Battery OP)



OP BASTION (LEDRA Battery OP)

TEN YEARS WITH UNITED NATIONS AUSCON



By Maj Freddie Lugert

Photos by HBF, Austrian Ministry of Defence



On 3 May, 1972, ten years ago, the Austrian UN battalion took over its responsibility for the Paphos district in Cyprus. However, even before then Austrian soldiers were serving on the island. Since 1964 the AFH (Austrian Field Hospital) operated in Cyprus, followed by a medical centre until 1976. The first battalion commander was LtCol Alfons Kloss (Comd UNAB 1), succeeded by seven other commanders who served later in the Larnaca area in Sector 5 and since 1977 in Famagusta. In its tenth year the UNAB 20/21 is commanded by LtCol Helmut Weber who in addition

has had previous experience as a signal officer with UNFICYP.

AUSCON is also especially proud to serve under an Austrian General in his capacity as Force Commander Maj-Gen Guenther Greindl.

Austria's participation in peace-keeping operations has included The Congo, where Austria established a field hospital from 1960 until 1963, and from 1967 the United Nations Truce Supervision (UNTSO). Today ten Austrian Officers and three NCO's serve with that unit.

Shortly after the Yom-Kippur war in 1973 the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) was created mainly by Austrian volunteers who were about to return home after their service with UNFICYP. After UNEF was disbanded the battalion (AUSBATT) was transferred from MM Sinai to the Golan Heights to serve between the Israeli and the Syrian lines. Today more than 530 Austrian troops operate from its HQ and 18 positions and 7 outposts.

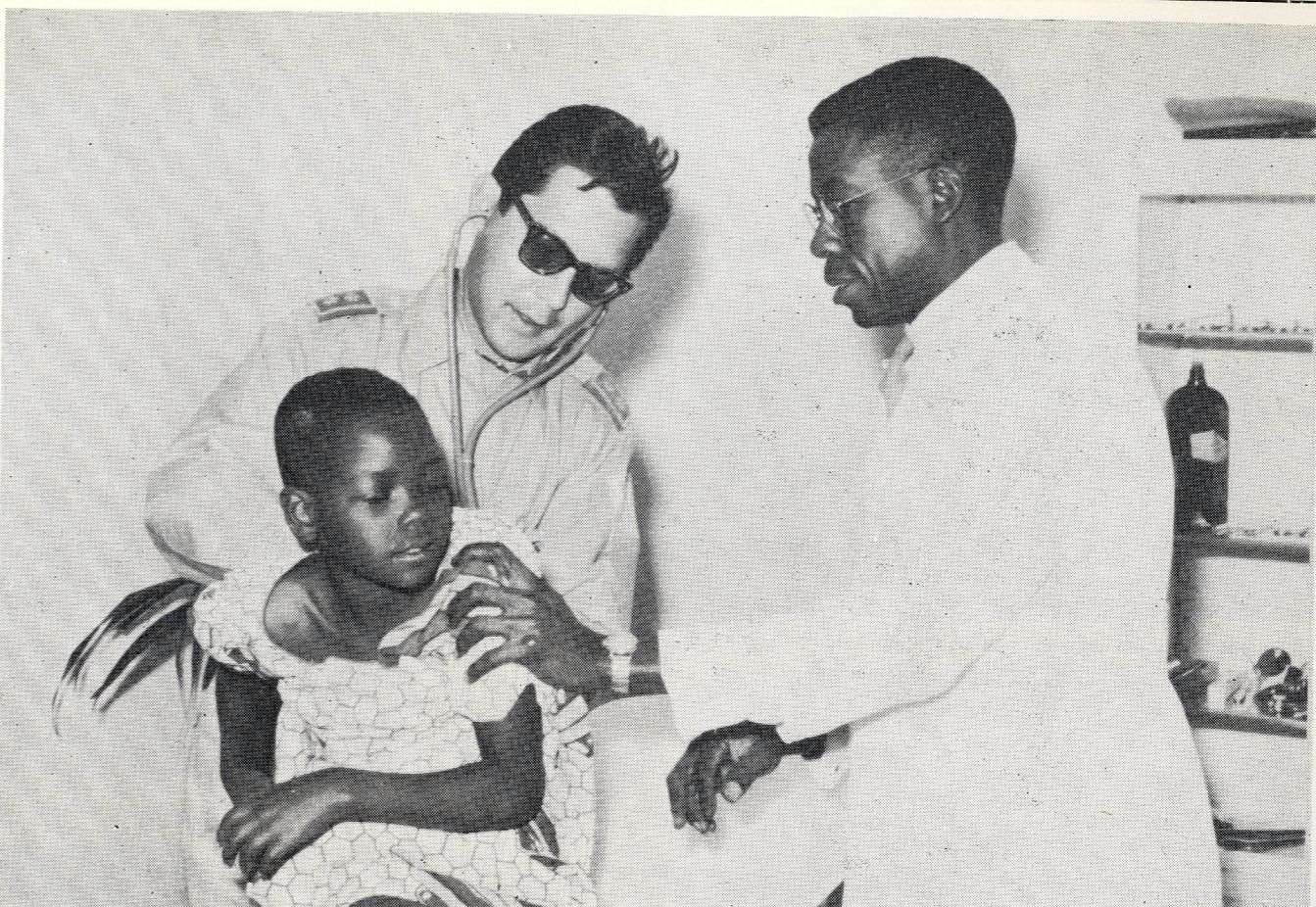
Finally, 16,000 Austrian soldiers have now served with the United Nations peacekeeping force voluntarily.



Since 1964 the Austrian Field Hospital and later the UNFICYP Medical Centre treated almost 80,000 patients until 1976.



The Austrian Steyr-Pinzgauer vehicle proved to be effective not only in the desert but also in the snow of Mount Hermon in Syria.



More than 4,000 Congolese patients were treated each month by the Austrian Field Hospital in the Congo from 1960 until 1963.



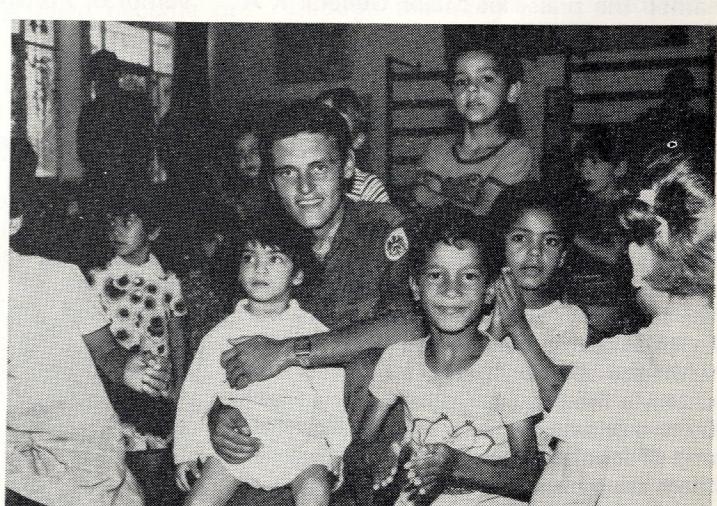
AUSCON's Commanding Officer LtCol Helmut Weber has taken part in many UN peace-keeping operations.



Operation 'CONCORD' in 1974, when the whole Austrian Battalion was transferred from the Sinai peninsula to the Golan Heights.



Heavy winter on the Golan Heights. This is where the Alpine winter training of Austrian soldiers pays off.



Soldiers of the Austrian Battalion of UNDOF take active part in the aid for local children.



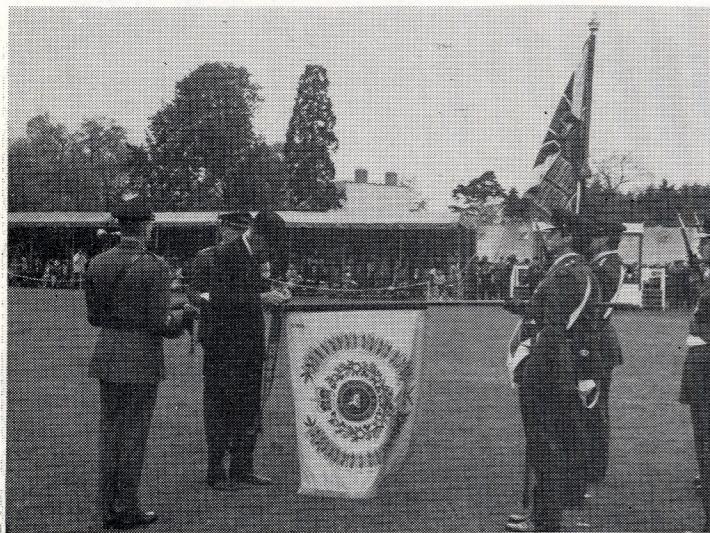
One of the colder aspects of the Battalion march and shoot competition.



The band of the 1st Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment marching past.



Back to back at the 200th anniversary parade.



Col Fred Carne VC attaching Solma-Ri streamer to the regimental colour at the 200th anniversary parade.

After an absence of nearly twenty years the 1st Battalion the Gloucestershire Regiment (28th/61st) has returned to Cyprus. The Battalion has enjoyed two previous tours on the island. The first occasion was in 1956 at Nicosia during troubled times and where, for their part in controlling the riots, they earned the praise of Major General K A Kendrew CB CBE DSO who wrote "there is nothing that any general would want than the Glosters to be in his particular command. I do not think that in all my service I have met a battalion which has carried out its duties so quickly and so efficiently as you have done out here..." The Battalion returned again in 1962 and on moving to Episkopi named the barracks 'Salamanca' after the famous battle in the Peninsular war. In this action all officers and soldiers with the Colour party fell under the enemy's fire but the Colours were seized by two private soldiers, William Crawford and Nicholas Coulson who carried them triumphantly up to the summit of the Greater Arapile.

During the 1964 troubles in Cyprus the Battalion had a small detach-

ment working with the UN, so this is not the first time the Gloucestershire Regiment has worked with the UN.

Indeed the Gloucestershire Regiment has a long and glorious past stretching back over 280 years when in 1694 Col John Gibson, Lieutenant Governor of Portsmouth raised a new regiment, entitled the 28th Regiment of Foot. The 61st Regiment of Foot was formed in 1758 when it became necessary to increase the size of the army. The liaison with the county of Gloucestershire began in 1782 when a general order was issued to provide ties between countries and the army for recruiting purposes. As a result the 28th and 61st Regiments of Foot were linked with north and south Gloucestershire respectively. The situation remained unchanged until 1882 when they became the 1st and 2nd Battalions the Gloucestershire Regiment. Amalgamation between the two battalions took place in 1948 at Kingston, Jamaica. Links with the county are still very strong with some eighty five per cent of the soldiers coming from Gloucestershire. The dulcet tones

of Captain Richard Hall

of the west country will once again be heard in Cyprus!

The Glosters are unique within the British Army for they wear a cap badge both at the front and back of their head dress. This distinctive honour was awarded as a battle honour for their action during the Battle of Alexandria in 1801. The British Army led by Sir Ralph Abercrombie were fighting the French who had occupied Egypt. The 28th Regiment of Foot were instructed to build a redoubt on top of a low rocky ridge. By the 20th March 1801 it was still unfinished and on the morning of the 21st March the French attacked. In the poor light of dawn the 28th Regiment of Foot found themselves in a desperate situation and were cut off from the remainder of the British Army. Time after time Napoleon's regiments attacked trying to throw the 28th from their position. Eventually some French cavalry squadrons worked their way to the rear of the position and wheeled to attack the thin British red line. Seeing this grave threat Col Chambers gave the historic order "Rear rank the 28th right about face". Although badly mauled the line

held and the French were repulsed. For their gallantry they were granted the distinction of wearing the Back Badge.

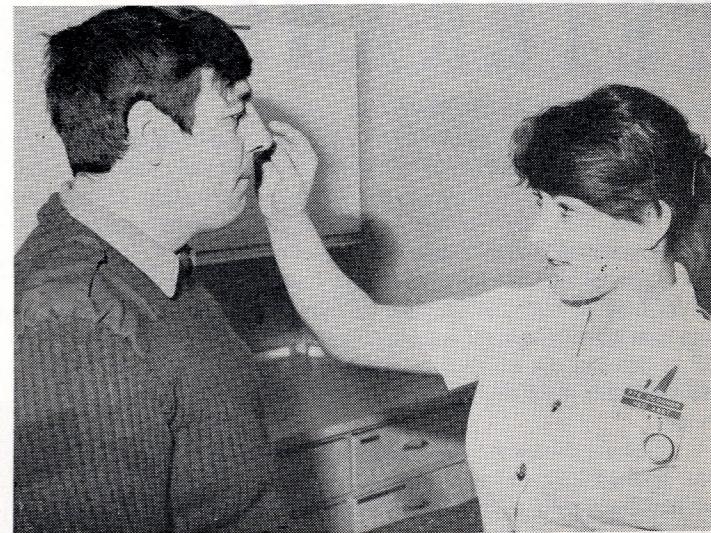
The nickname "Glorious Glosters" was earned in Korea at the Battle of Imjin river in 1951. The Battalion held a defensive position astride a route chosen by the Chinese for a divisional advance. Ordered to hold they refused to give way as the Chinese poured their hordes onto the position in an attempt to dislodge them. Completely surrounded and faced with overwhelming odds they fought for three days and thus gave the other units a chance to reorganize to meet the Chinese offensive. Their stand earned the Battalion world-wide acclaim and they were awarded the President of the United States Distinguished Unit citation for 'outstanding bravery'.

On a more recent note the Battalion has just spent a two-year tour in Munster, West Germany where they had the rather unusual role of Nuclear Convoy Escort battalion. It was also in Germany that the Battalion started the trial of Women's Royal Army Corps service-women serving with an infantry batta-

Photos by LCpl Williams



Pte O'Connor WRAC, presently employed in the Medical Centre, gives first aid to one of her many patients.



county. The Duke of Gloucester took the salute and during the parade Col Fred Carne VC, the commanding officer during the Battle of Imjin river, was invited to attach the Solma-Ri streamer to the Regimental Colour and later led the old comrades on the march past. Amid much cheering the Battalion, after the parade, exercised their right to march through the streets of Gloucester with bayonets fixed, drums beating and colours flying.

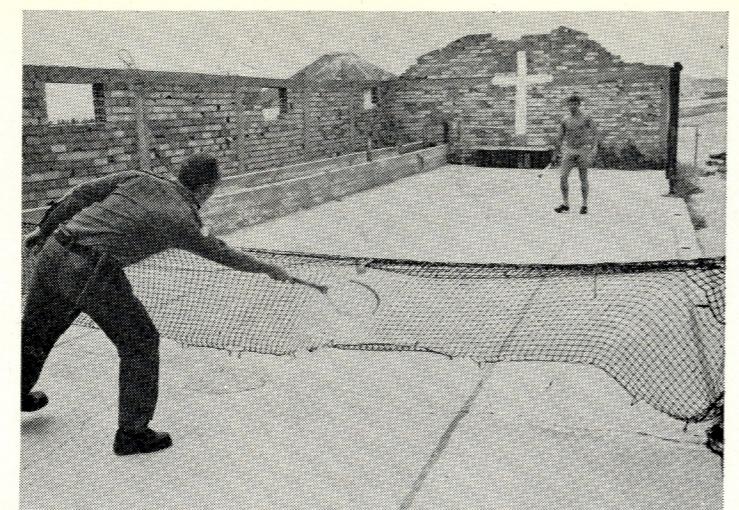
After the extreme bad weather in England, the Battalion, now under command of Lt Col Rostron, is looking forward to their six months tour. To a few of the older soldiers the delights of Cyprus are 'deja vu' but the majority of the Battalion are looking forward to exploring the opportunities offered for the first time, and already there has been much discussion on how to spend one's leave with the multitude of activities available. To the other member countries of the UN the Battalion extends a warm 'hello' and looks forward to the opportunity of working with you in the next six months.

UNIT FEATURE

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT (28th/61st)



Pte Christer Bjarheim in his radio room.



Initiative and self help make a tennis court and place for prayer.

VETERANS



By Capt Lars Lundblad

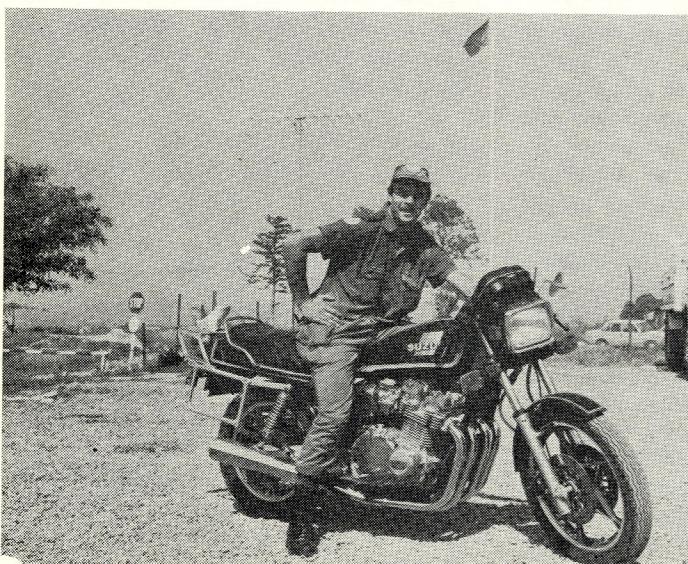
Among the SWEDCON soldiers currently serving in Cyprus are a handful of "veterans" — those soldiers who have volunteered to stay on the island for a further six-month tour. The "pinkies" in the new contingent step aside as the brown, experienced "veterans" come along.

One of the soldiers who has just signed on for a further six months is Sqd Ldr Sergeant Claes Andersson. Sgt Andersson has spent most of his time on duty at OP56, 1 coy. This OP is the largest of all the SWEDCON OPs and is situated at the beginning of the Lourojina salient, west of the village of Pyroi.

Sgt Andersson, who has been in Cyprus for one year, has spent eight months serving at OP56 and considers it to be the best part of his tour. A busy time at the OP is when SWEDCON's visitors arrive. This, of course, means extra work for SWEDCON cook, Lars Sjoberg, whose "vanilla dreams" are one of the temptations of OP56 and are always popular with the visitors.

An important duty at OP 56 is to check that the water-supply system is working efficiently. Once in a while the soldiers use motorcycles for inspection tours of the system, checking that everything is working all right and, at the same time, chatting with any Cypriots they might meet in the course of their duty.

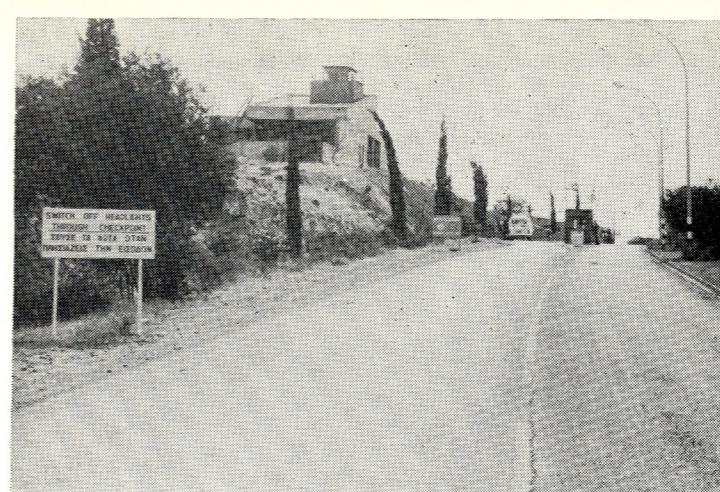
Sgt Andersson has now left OP56 and returned to Sweden by motorcycle. He left Cyprus with happy memories



Sgt Ldr Claes Andersson on his "bike" before riding it back to Sweden



Pte Lars Sjoberg sampling one of his home made "vanilla dreams"



Inside UN Camps



On the Nicosia By-Pass

ROAD SAFETY YEAR

! 1982 !

Photos by Sgt Frank Voice

UNFICYP continues to maintain a projected annual saving in road accidents for 1982 of 30% when compared with 1981 figures. These units earned a Monthly Certificate for May showing that they stayed within monthly accident ceilings set by the Force Commander:

SECTOR 1

SECTOR 4

SECTOR 5

SECTOR 6

FSC SQN

AUSTCIVPOL

UN CIVILIAN STAFF



On the Patrol Track

AUSTCIVPOL are now the only element in the Force with a 100% accident free record; congratulations to the outgoing Contingent. With summer now with us the advantages of guaranteed fine weather, perfect visibility and dry roads are counter-balanced by the problem of driving in extreme hot weather:

— Errors due to heat

— Fatigue

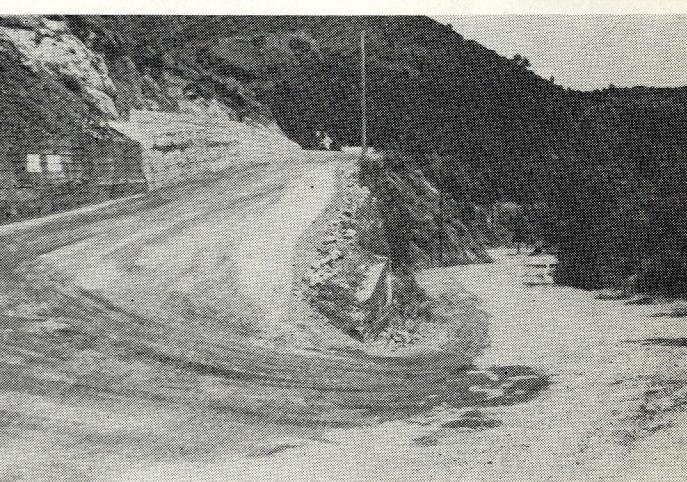
— Lack of ventilation in vehicles

— Insect stings

— Increased tourist traffic



While parked on Sea Fronts



In the Troodos Mountains

ANCIENT SALAMIS

PART I

Article by Editorial Staff

Photos by 1/Cpl Guenther Stubenvoll and Pte Otto Konwalin

SHORT STORY

The foundation of Salamis occurred during the migrations at the close of the Bronze Age, by settlers from Anatolia together with the Achaeans from Greece who had joined them in Cilicia. The traditional founder was Teucer son of the king of the Greek island of Salamis and one of the heroes of the Trojan war.

The king of Salamis is among those recorded as submitting to the Assyrians in 707 B.C. Euelthon, whose reign began ca. 560 B.C., claimed on some of his coins (the earliest known from Cyprus) to be ruler of the whole island, which proves the early pre-eminence of Salamis among the cities of the island. During the fifth century B.C. the Teucrid dynasty was replaced by Phoenician rulers loyal to Persia. A period of repression followed, commerce suffered and the harbour was neglected.

In 411 B.C. Evagoras, a young member of the Teucrid family, seized the throne of his ancestors. He strengthened the fortifications, built a fleet, restored the city's prosperity and established close relations with Athens. By 391 he had become master of practically the whole Island. In 387, with the help of an Athenian fleet, pro-Persian Kition was subdued. Then at the height of his power, Evagoras obtained possession of Tyre and other Phoenician cities and detached Cilicia from allegiance to Persia. The inevitable



A view of the ruins of Salamis giving us a glimpse of ancient history.

Out & About in Cyprus



A UN soldier silhouetted in the ancient ruins of Salamis.

The city benefited from Diocletian's reorganisation of the empire which placed the island under the Prefect of Antioch, since Salamis was the first

port of call for vessels from Syria. The city was badly hit by an earthquake in A.D. 332 and by another ten years later, which was accompanied by tidal waves. The survivors had their taxes remitted for four years by the Emperor Constantius II who rebuilt the city, though on a smaller scale, and renamed it Constantia. By the time of St. Epiphanius, bishop of Salamis-Constantia (A.D. 368-403), the city had superseded Paphos as Metropolis of the island.

Salamis was exposed to the full brunt of the Arab raids which were launched against the island intermittently from about A.D. 647. In the first expedition under Muawiya Salamis was besieged, captured and ransacked, and the population massacred. The city was rebuilt and its central part refortified though this did not prevent further sufferings at the hands of later Arab raiders. These, and natural catastrophes, such as earthquakes and the silting-up of the harbour, led to the final abandonment of the site and the emergence of Famagusta as the major town of eastern Cyprus.

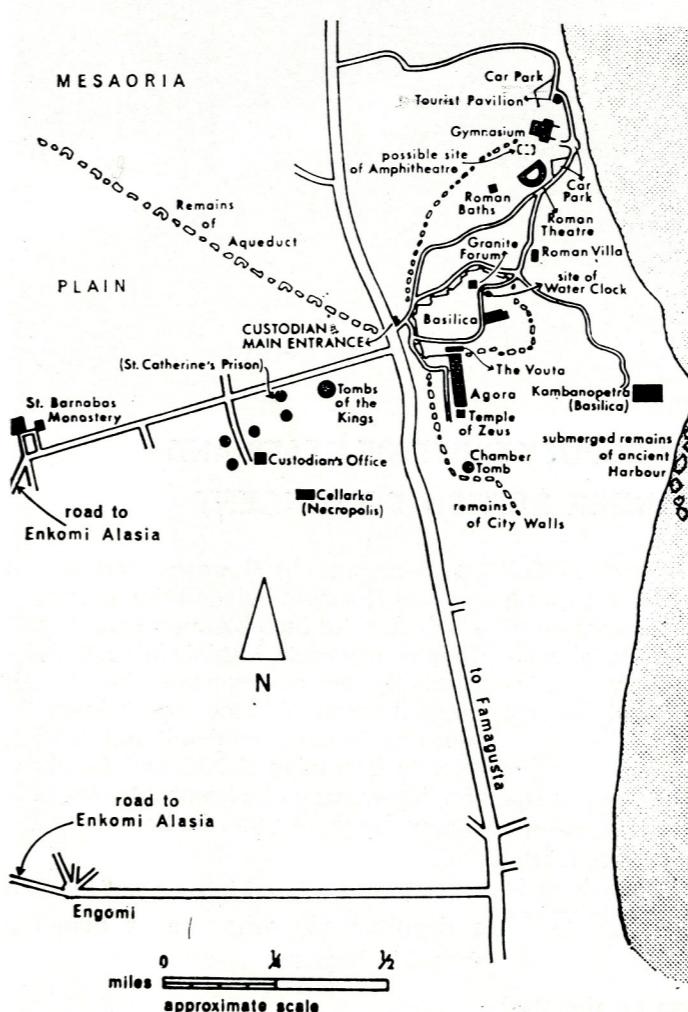
DESCRIPTION OF SITE

Because the remains of the city are scattered, it is inadvisable for any attempt to be made to look at them in chronological order, since this would involve a great deal of retracing steps. All features of interest in the area are accessible to motorists, though the distances are quite manageable for average walkers unless the weather is excessively hot. Incidentally, a long beach of shallow water stretches in both directions. Fragments of ancient pottery and marble discarded by the excavators litter the shore. The remains of the ancient harbour will be of interest to underwater swimmers with an eye for treasure seeking, though collecting is not permitted.

After passing through the main entrance, it will be possible to recognise the Walls and Fortifications of the city to the left and right. These are of a late period in its history. They continue roughly north-east to the left of the present track.

Remains of Roman Baths are to the left, a short distance off the tarred motor road after it passes through trees, diverging from the line of the walls, and before a similar road comes in on the right. This site has not as yet been excavated.

Further on, immediately after the road junction, and plainly identifiable on the left, is the Roman Theatre. Excavations which began in 1960 revealed this to be one of the largest in the Middle East. It dates back to the early imperial period, probably to the reign of Augustus Caesar. Earthquakes in the fourth century A.D. destroyed the Roman Theatre, at a time when great damage was done to the city.

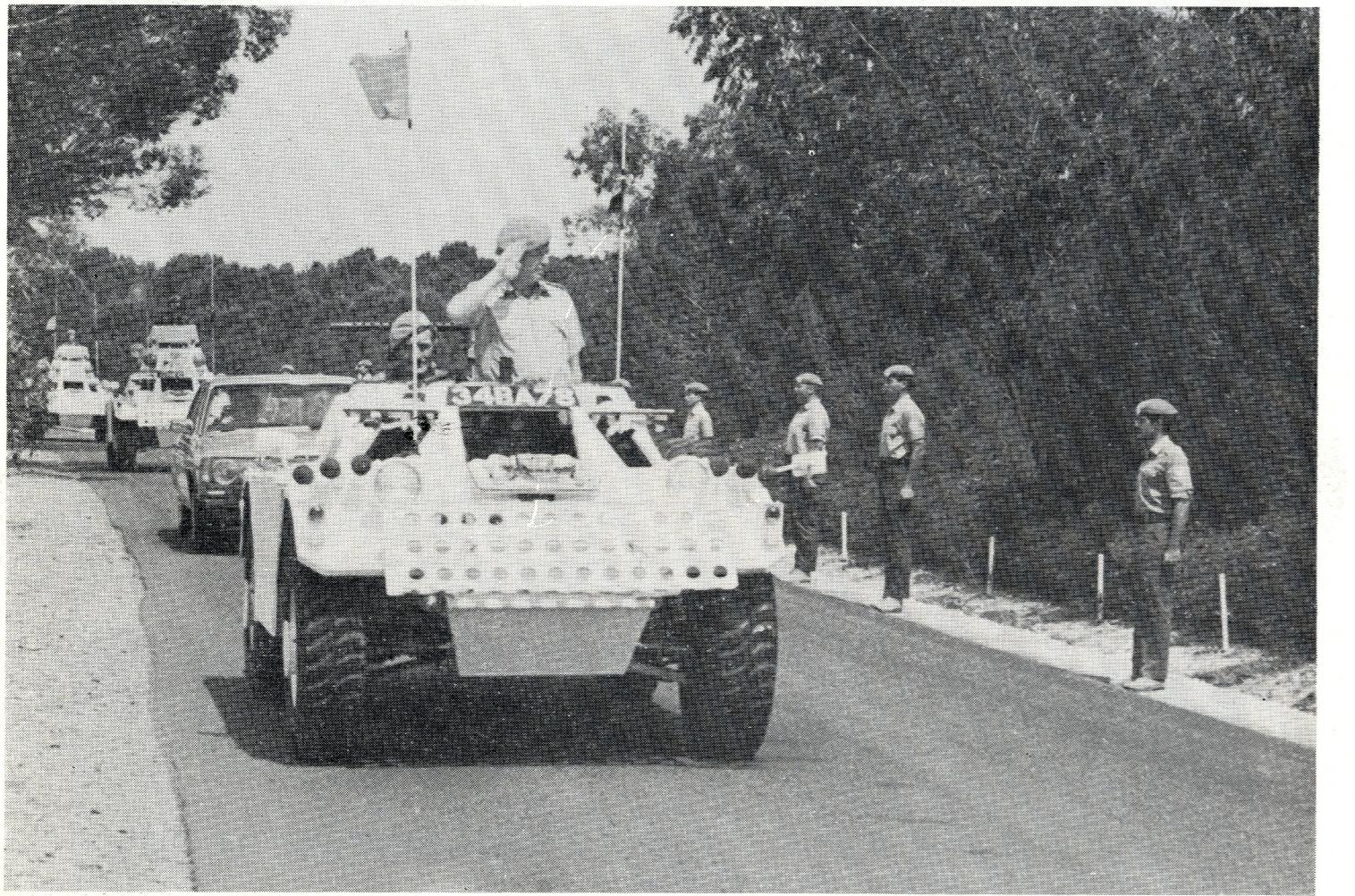


Salamis and Neighbouring Sites

To be continued . . .

Pictorial news

A FINAL SALUTE TO THE DEPARTING CHIEF OF STAFF BRIGADIER BASTICK



COLONEL H W K PYE



THE NEW DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF AND COMMANDER BRITISH CONTINGENT

Colonel Hugh Pye was born in England on 23 May 1938. He is a fourth-generation officer who was educated at Wellington College and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He was commissioned into the 12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's) in 1958.

Prior to attending the Staff College at Camberley he served in Cyprus, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom, Aden, Trucial Oman, BAOR and Berlin where in 1969/70 he commanded The Independent Armoured Squadron.

After Camberley he was on the staff of the Joint Service Intelligence Staff, Hong Kong, then commanded a Chief-

Squadron in Germany and served again in Northern Ireland prior to attending the United States Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia in 1976. Subsequently he commanded the 9/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's) in Northern Ireland, England and BAOR. Prior to becoming DCOS and Combrig he was an Assistant Military Secretary for three years in London.

He is married and has a son (11) and a daughter (8) who are at boarding school in England.

He is a keen field sportsman, plays polo and jogs!

On 24th May, Force Commander's Commendations were presented to three members of the departing 2 Queens Battalion by Major General Greindl. They were awarded to Sergeant Peter Bradley, Lance Corporal Michael Veaney and Private Stephen Attwood for their personal bravery, initiative and quick thinking in preventing the spread of a fire in DHENIA School caused by a burning gas cylinder in the school kitchen. Their action avoided serious damage and potential tragedy.



MEDICAL CENTRE 'OWLT'—PATIENT

Sgt Chris Edgar of the UNFICYP Medical Centre with Rover, who was found injured on the UN road between Larnaca and Nicosia on the 23rd April.



Maj S N Marcotte, the Commander of UNFICYP Military Police Company, welcomes Sgt Butler, the first military policeman from the Irish Contingent to join the MP Company since 1973.

MEMBERS OF THE STYRIAN STATE LEGISLATURE VISIT AUSCON



By Major Freddie Lugert

Led by the former Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Styria, Austria, A Sebastian and the State Councillors J Gruber and G Heidinger, members of the Styrian state legislature visited AUSCON at the end of May. The politicians and their families were briefed by Maj J Lechner, SOO AUSCON about the tasks and operations of the UN Force in general and especially in Sector Six. The large delegation of more than sixty visitors showed great interest in the activities of the Austrian soldiers far from their home country. Military security policy and peace-keeping operations are widely discussed in Austria. Austria's participation in international peace-keeping roles proved to be an important issue.



Maj J Lechner SOO AUSCON, briefs members of the state legislature from the Austrian state of Styria.





UN NEWS



OBITUARY

It was a sad occasion when we heard that Major General James J Quinn, former Force Commander of UNFICYP (1976-1981) died suddenly in Ireland on 25 May 1982.

Born in Roscrea, Tipperary in 1918, General Quinn had a distinguished career in the Irish Army after joining in 1938.

Our condolences are extended to Mrs Mary Quinn.



BBC NEWSWEEK TEAM VISIT UNFICYP

Hugo Gobbi being interviewed in the grounds of Ledra Palace Hotel for BBC's current affairs programme Newsweek. The interview, telecast, Friday 28th May, was part of a programme on United Nations peacekeeping with an interview from New York by United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar also featured. UNFICYP was selected to illustrate all United Nations peacekeeping operations because of its unique aspects, having both a United Nations force and a peacemaking function in the person of the Special Representative and the intercommunal talks. It is expected that a videotape of the programme will be available soon and arrangements will then be made for members of the Force to view it.

