

THE BLUE BERET



SEPTEMBER 1979

Editorial

Editorial Column

Editorial Department



Editorial Column
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AUGUST IN RETROSPECT

Rotations

None

Medal Parades

14 Austrian Contingent
24 Danish Contingent

Visits

2 Maj Gen R B Trant, CB, Director of Army Staff Duties MOD UK, to HQ UNFICYP and British Contingent.
6 — 7 Gp Capt P L Gray, Station Comander RAF Akrotiri, to the British Contingent to visit 84 Sqn Det (RAF).
6 — 9 Mr. Andreas Gummesson, Editor, and Mr. Bertil Adolfsson, Photographer, of Swedish newspaper "Folkbladet Ostgöten" to Swedish Contingent to research material for an article.
7 Mr. Lasse Budtz, Member of the Danish Parliament, to visit Danish Contingent.
9 — 15 Mr J M Davis, CVO, OBE, QPM, Commissioner of Commonwealth Police Force, accompanied by Mrs Davis, to visit the Australian Civilian Police.
16 Lt S Heath, Royal Signals, accompanied by a party of six officer cadets to the British Contingent to visit 254 (UNFICYP) Signal Squadron.
16 Lt Col P H Courtenay, GSO1, SD/Trg HQ Director Army Air Corps, and Lt Col J Marsden, SO1 Ord (Air), to the British Contingent to visit UNFICYP Flt AAC.
20 — 27 Lt Col B Pennicott, Commanding Officer 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery, to the British Contingent to visit 79 Commando, Battery Royal Artillery serving with 41 Commando Royal Marines in Sector 2.

20 Aug — 7 Sep

Ms Ingela Karlsson, Assistant, to visit the Swedish Contingent to assess the training necessary for the female members of the next battalion being employed on office duty.

21 — 23

Nordic Working Group on UN military matters, including members from Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark, to visit UNFICYP and the three Nordic Contingents in Cyprus.

22 — 30

WO G Shadbolt and Mr. Michaud, to the Canadian Contingent, to conduct calibration of communications and equipment.

23 — 25

Mr J G Schumacher, Deputy Director Field Operations Division, UN HQ New York, to the Force.

26 — 29

Mr M Valpy, correspondent with "Vancouver Sun" newspaper, to the Canadian Contingent.

29 — 30

Maj D Ellison and WO P Phillips to the Canadian Contingent, to assist in resolving current problems with provision of supplies.

27 — 30

Maj R Cordy-Simpson, Officer Commanding B Squadron 13/18H, accompanied by a warrant officer to the British Contingent as the recce party for the Force Reserve Squadron designate.

31 Aug — 2 Sep

Lt Col G Stephens, Commanding Officer 13/18H, accompanied by one officer, to the British Contingent to study the role of Force Reserve to be undertaken by a squadron of his regiment.

31

UK Naval Radiological Protection Service to the British Contingent to visit UNFICYP Medical Centre and UNFICYP Ordnance Detachment.

Military and Recreational Competitions

17 UNFICYP Shooting Competition.

FUTURE EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Wine Festival at Stroumbi village Paphos

Organised by the village Committee in early September, and it includes free wine tasting, exhibition of grapes and Folk dances.

Wine Festival, Limassol

12—23 September

Organised by the Limassol Municipality. It will be held in the Public Gardens of Limassol. Free distribution of wine, open air restaurants serving local and foreign dishes, performances of

folk dancing and singing and Cypriot theatrical sketches.

Cyprus Autumn Open Tennis Tournament to be held at the Larnaca Tennis Club courts during the first fortnight of September. Open to all without restrictions including foreigners

OCTOBER

International Clay Court Tennis Championships to be held in Nicosia at the Field Club Courts during the first fortnight of October.

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1979

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

Printed in Cyprus by Zavallis Press Limited, Tel. 65124, P.O.Box 1142 Nicosia, Cyprus

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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.

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On the cover

An M 113 Armoured Personnel Carrier of the Canadian Contingent meets up with a foot patrol near the Green Line in central Nicosia.



THE BLUE BERET

Editorial

Readers' Articles

Now that the journal is getting up to date we feel it time once more to raise the subject or articles written by you.

In this issue, not for the first time, are several articles that, among other things, tell of the travel facilities available to Contingents. However, despite the large number that have taken advantage of these facilities, both on and off the island, we have only received one travel article as well as a few photographs. This small sample has simply whetted the editorial appetite for more and presumably has done the same to our readers.

Now that the summer is past the nights will draw in quickly and many of you will have ample opportunity during the long winter evenings to look at your photographs and remember the trips and holidays you had during the summer. Don't just think about them, write about them and let us all share in the fun and excitement that you must have had.

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Sight-seeing in the Kyrenia area.

THE DANCON



WELFARE OFFICE

The guide on most sight tours is Sgt N G Q Christensen from the Welfare Office, here seen at St. Hilarion....



The bus used by Dancon for sight-seeing, here seen at St. Hilarion.

The Welfare Office is a part of the Personnel Branch and consists of an officer, a sergeant and a photographer. The duties and assignments are very different from those usually dealt with by a Welfare Office in Denmark.

The office provides all kinds of service for members of the contingent. It arranges travel and trips to countries in the Middle East, around Cyprus, and, of course, to Denmark. It arranges one-day sight-seeing tours to the many different places of interest on the island, such as Paphos, Famagusta, Kyrenia, Kykko monastery and Limassol. Off duty soldiers can join these tours and see a country that appears completely different from the one they are used to in the Buffer Zone.

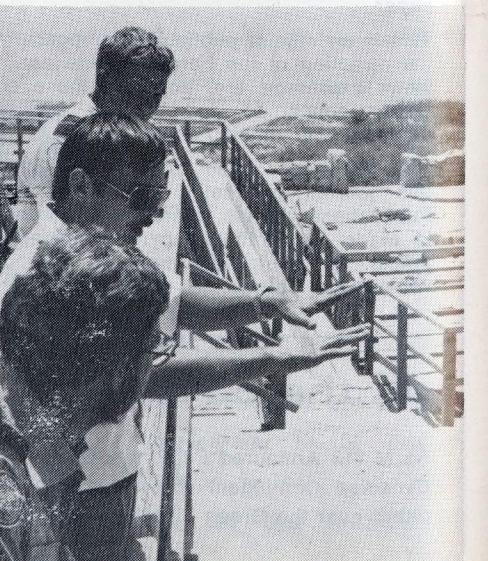
As the Danish camps are a little primitive, the Welfare Officer has rented refrigerators, which he re-rents to the contingent members for private use. In the same way TV-sets and cars for use during leave on the island can be rented.

Off duty hours in the camps can be spent in many different ways — watching a film, reading a good book, or even studying through a correspondence school; the Welfare Officer provides it all! If there is a birthday or another family occasion in Denmark, the Welfare Officer can arrange flower-greetings for it.

Once a week, the Padre records "The Dancon Tape", a one-hour cassette programme of greetings from relatives in Denmark or friends in Dancon, with music requests. This tape is copied and distributed to the messes and OPs. The tape is played everywhere on Saturday nights, so that everyone in Dancon hears it at the same time. This item is very popular, and gives the sense of being a little closer to Denmark.

As you can see, therefore, the Welfare Office tries to help in all possible ways to make life a little easier and more pleasant for the Dancon warriors.

...and at Curium.



Milkurat Grindl and Sgt Schneemann in the office.

Karl Gindl, Milkurat
Auscon, Famagusta

I've been invited to write something about our work in the Welfare Office, but first of all I have to apologise for my rather poor knowledge of writing English. Speaking is easier, because I can help my meaning by using my hands and feet!! So I hope that the Editor will use all the photographs we took to help my narration along.

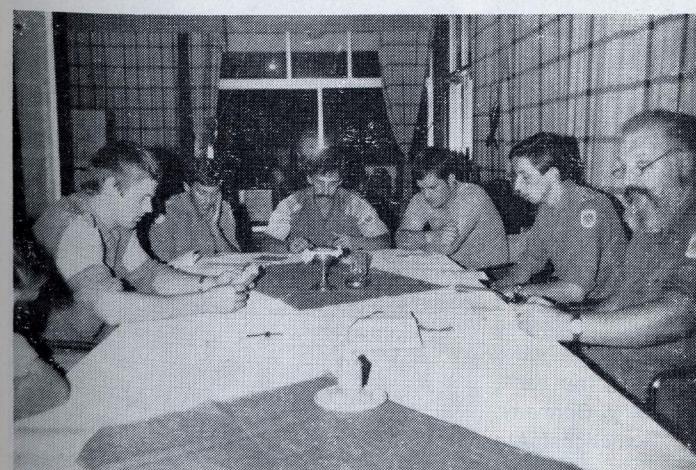
The Auscon Welfare team is a two man affair, consisting of 2nd Sergeant Karl Schneeman, who started his career as a reserve potential officer two months ago as a clerk, driver, librarian and travel agent, and me: Padre Karl Gindl and I end my tour in the rotation of January 1980.

Sgt Schneeman (— an unusual name for the Cyprus climate!) joined the Austrian army after finishing his studies in High School a year ago, and came to Auscon in October. He intends to stay here until next July, because — as he told me — he likes his duties, and finds it very interesting to have contact with so many military and civilian personnel.

My duties as Welfare Officer are combined with that of Chaplain. I don't know exactly, but I suspect that the original planners of Auscon thought that two separate posts would overlap in work and so decided on the present system. I think it works well, as taking care of men is, after all, the basic function of a priest. In my civilian role, I am the parish priest in Bruck-an-der-Leitha, a small country town east of Vienna, near both the Czechoslovakian and Hungarian frontiers. So I am used to living near carefully controlled checkpoints.

More than three-quarters of the Austrian population is Roman Catholic so the Austrian padre is also RC. According to an agreement between the Austrian Ministry of Defence and our Bishops, each Austrian contingent is to be provided with an RC padre, and if they can't find volunteers, they try to motivate one to go. So I was "motivated", but I don't regret it. After three months with Auscon, I can say without any doubt that the role of Welfare Officer/Padre is a very necessary one.

Celebration of Mass in an Auscon OP.



THE AUSCON WELFARE OFFICE



This is not to say that Austrian soldiers are a crowd of cry babies, who need daily consolation against homesickness, and bed-time stories to help them sleep! But they need to know that there is someone to whom they can turn if they have any problems.

And there are many situations which can cause problems. It is a rather unnatural sort of existence for the soldiers, who are nearly all married, or involved in a stable relationship, have children and well ordered home lives. Now they live and work under 'field conditions' either in the camp or in the OPs in an all male society, with few civilian contacts. They also experience some restriction of movement, which at times makes them feel less like friends of the Cypriot peoples and more like an occupying power.

In summary, I see my main task as being to provide our soldiers with a constant reminder of home and the idealism of their youth, as well as testifying to the immortality of man to those who believe in Christ.

Finally, I would like to ask you to work and to pray with me for real peace and brotherhood, not only for Cyprus but for all mankind throughout the world.

Karl Gindl

Milkurat Grindl visiting an OP.





The Advance Party clearing luggage through customs. Pte J Doucet look on — "I can't believe it, I'm actually going home".



The Advance Party helps load up the luggage in a sudden burst of enthusiasm.

FAREWELL TO THE VANDOOS



Every six months a UN tour is highlighted Horse Artillery Regiment came to the island by certain major events, milestones by which and inspected their future home. However, follow our return, when the Battalion will re-to being reunited with our families. Besides the next best thing to their actual arrival was Canada".

Well deserved holidays until 29 October will to the arrival of the Canadian Customs Agents. These fellows, headed by Mr Lamoureux, set foot on the island on 19 September and embarked on a very busy schedule. Their job was to ensure that our return to Canada would proceed as smoothly as possible according to customs and excise law.

Finally, departure time. MCpl J Savoie boards the plane. "One way- non-stop to Quebec, please".



It's not always an easy or pleasant task to sift through a battalion's equipment and luggage, but on the other hand everyone seemed to offer them as much co-operation as possible the moment the return to Canada was imminent.

The whole of 3rd Battalion R22R returned to Canada on three consecutive Canadian Armed Forces Boeing 707 flights which arrived at Akrotiri on 25th September, the 3rd and 5th of October. As soon as each plane arrived and the gunners and tankers were disembarked, the Van Doos then replaced them. Each aircraft stayed approximately two hours on the ground. On the long trip back, there was a scheduled stop in Lahr, Germany, before flying on to Mirabel International Airport near Montreal.



The CO and DCO, LCol McNabb and Maj Lawrence, of the incoming contingent arrive. "Look at that, will you, they even put out a red carpet!"



General Robert Lugg inspecting Swedcon's 2nd Company at Athienou.

SWEDISH ELECTIONS IN CYPRUS

The Swedish Parliamentary election at the beginning of September became somewhat confusing for Swedes in Cyprus who had to follow it in 2-3 day-old newspapers! It was to decide which party would be given the

mandate to govern Sweden for the next three years and it took three days before it was clear that the Socialists had failed again.

At Swedcon, the Legal Adviser and the Provost Marshal arranged for voting to take place during one week. All companies could vote at their own camps but only about 300 out of 427 made use of the opportunity.

Legal Adviser Gunner Dejenfelt and Provost Marshal Christer Jagerhem register votes in the church at Camp Victoria.



Visit by GENERAL LUGN

General Robert Lugg, Chief of Staff, Swedish Army, paid a three-day visit to Sector 5 in September. He spent one day with each company and a night with the soldiers at OP S56.

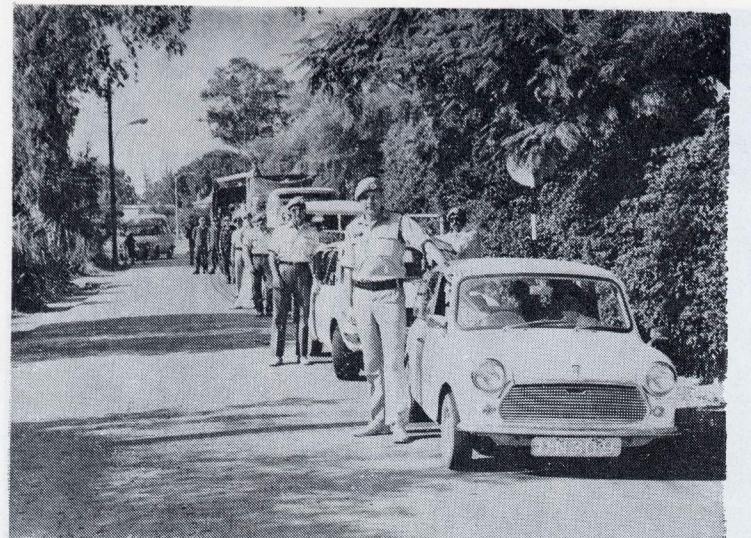
Two of his conclusions were that the battalion needs more vehicles and that the OP soldiers need night-vision binoculars for night observation work.

Three days is a short time to get a clear picture of the situation but the General had had earlier experience of Cyprus when he served here with Swedcon in 1965.

"It was very pleasant, interesting and useful to meet all those people on different duties and my impression is that they are doing a good job", the General said. He stressed one thing. "The co-operation and exchange of soldiers between contingents are good things which should be extended".

SWEDCON





The Sector 2 Northwind Convoy drawn up at the Ledra Palace Checkpoint. Behind Lt Alex Manning RN, the SEO Sector 2, are the Australian Civilian Police and the landrover and lorry crews.

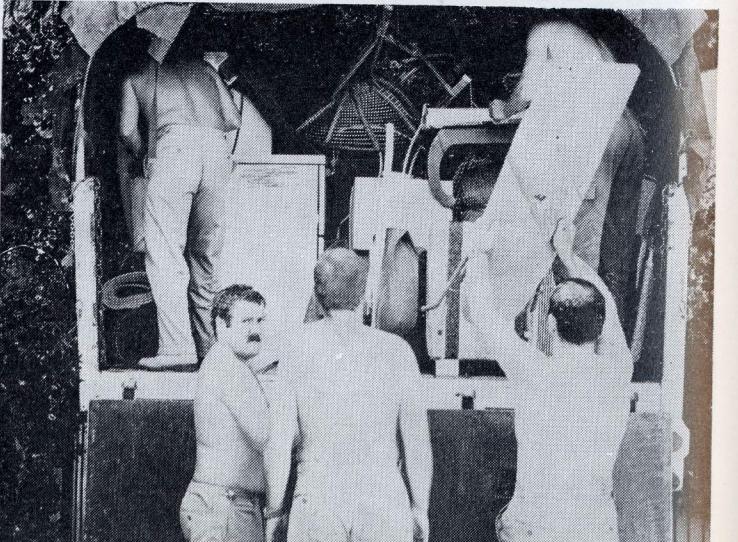
Three of the five aims of the UNFICYP mission deal with Humanitarian and Economic affairs. For Sector 2 this means visiting the Greek Cypriots and Maronites in the North, and Turkish Cypriots in the South, and assisting the return to normality of the economic life in the Buffer Zone, particularly in respect of farming.

To deal first with the humanitarian aspect: the Sector Economics Officer has specific responsibility for visiting and resupplying the remaining Greek Cypriot community in Kyrenia and the Maronites in the villages of Asomatos, Karpasha and Kormakiti at the western end of the Kyrenia mountains. Respectively the numbers involved are 11 Greek Cypriots and almost 600 Maronites. Every Tuesday, in company with AUSTCIVPOL, a visit is paid to Kyrenia very much in the context of the Welfare Officer, and every other Tuesday the journey (called the "Northwind Patrol") involves the taking up of a supply convoy of two 3/4-ton Landrovers and either

Lt Manning conducting field tests for Old Spice deodorant!



A special compassionate tasking for the Northwind Patrol — helping British expatriates to move from Kyrenia to Nicosia.



BRITCON SECTOR

four 4-ton lorries or two 10-ton Mammoth Major lorries, containing bulk food supplies and, in the case of the Kyrenia community, supplementary rations from the Red Cross. Messages, medicines and private Red Cross parcels are also carried. The large trucks which carry the food, clothing, medicines and other special items are provided by the RCT Transport Squadron of the UNFICYP Support Regiment and are loaded at the warehouse in the grounds of the old Nicosia International Fair on the previous day. The Red Cross supplies are loaded into the landrovers (belonging to 41 Commando, the current Sector 2 line unit) at the Cyprus Red Cross HQ on the morning of the convoy, and the whole team then rendezvous at the Ledra Palace check point at 0730 hours to begin its journey north. Not solely concerned with supply, the Economics Officer also has his share of involvement with medical evacuations, 'anxious for news' messages, assistance with pass clearances, and so on.

The Australian Civilian Police carry out the task, as do their Swedish counterparts, of delivering pension and social welfare monies to the Greek Cypriots who are eligible for them. The day is almost invariably a long and hot one, often not without its share of problems and complaints to be dealt with, but it is equally a quietly fulfilling one.

There is also the humanitarian involvement with the Turkish Cypriots in the Sector who live south of the UNBZ — the 'Southwind Patrol'. Most of the work centres around the Limassol area, and once every two weeks the Economics Officer liaises with the civil police there and drives down to the town to check on whether any of the 90 or so Turkish Cypriots there have any problems with which he can assist. The situation regarding the Turkish Cypriots is generally very much more straight-forward than that of the Greek Cypriots and Maronites in the North, in that they are, in the main, in work and in reasonably untroubled circumstances.

That summarises the nature of the Sector 2 Economics Officer's humanitarian task. It is a job which it is impossible not to become involved in (as anyone who has read the "Northwind" reports will bear out!). The hours are long but are compensated for by the enormous job satisfaction. Like Monty Python's Flying Circus in the UK — 'Something Completely Different'! and for a Naval Officer it must surely be unique.

ECONCON 2



The other important part of the Economics Section's work in Sector 2 involves dealing with the farming community in the Sector area.

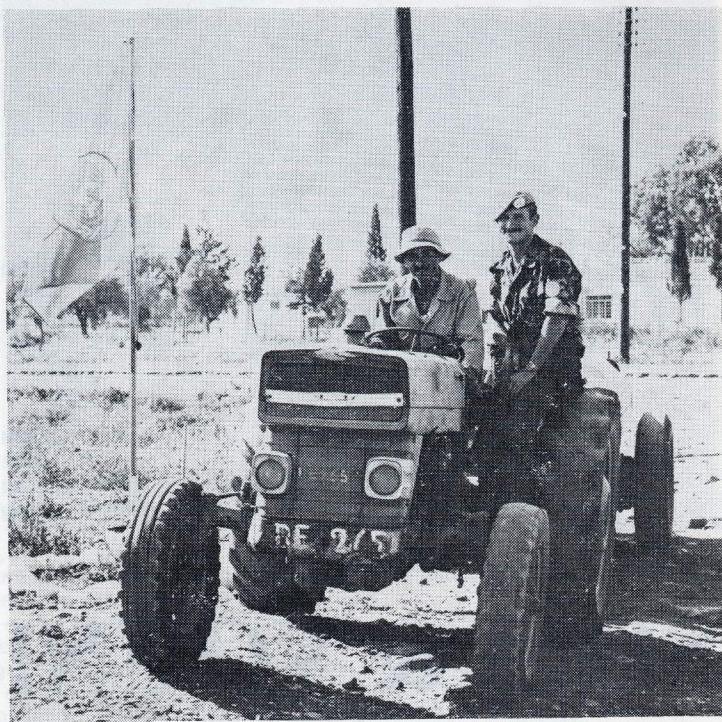
Farming in Sector 2 has two very different aspects. The western part of the Sector is a rich farming area and forms part of the Morphou citrus growing district; the east is drier and less fertile and farming is consequently restricted mainly to cereals and grazing.

The Western Company have an on-going task to help the farmers in their area. Every day, escorts are provided for farmers who wish to farm close to the TFCFL. The organisation of this task revolves around Sgt Pitcher and his staff at B36 and Sgt Fennles at B22. Farmers wishing to farm in areas requiring an escort book in with them twenty-four hours in advance and the escorts are arranged. The farming of the area is carried out primarily around citrus groves, though subsidiary crops of vegetables and melons are not unimportant.

The Eastern Company are not involved in farming to such an extent. Farming in this area is restricted to clearly delineated areas and no escorts or passes are required. However, one constant problem does exist; that of ensuring that goats and their herders do not stray over the barrel line. This is a line of blue and white barrels set up by Fincon in 1975, and farmers and shepherds are not allowed north of this line. Anyone straying north is escorted back by members of the UN.

One serious threat to the farming in both areas is fire. This can devastate large areas and has done so this summer in the UNBZ. Luckily the largest fire so far was, by and large, confined to the north of the UN Patrol Track (farming generally speaking takes place in the south) and damage to agriculture has not been very great.

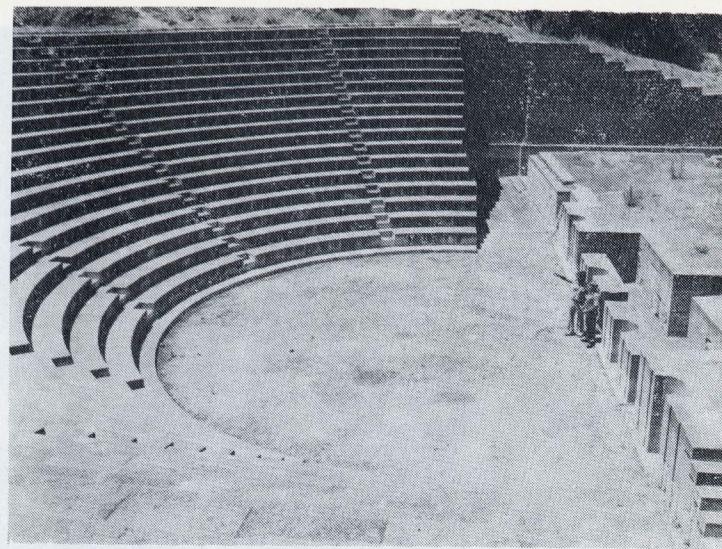
Sgt Pitcher booking in a farmer at B36.



A Peristerona farmer and his escort, Mne Massey.

Oranges are still being picked this late in the year. Farming escort Mne North and the family he is escorting.





Soli theatre.

SOLI & VOUNI

Article: Maggie Lyon Dean
Pictures: Pete Statham

Approximately 40 miles to the west of Nicosia lie the two ancient sites of Soli and Vouni, which cover the period from the 6th Century B.C. till the 7th Century A.D., and which therefore, bear evidence of the chequered history of Cyprus and of the variety of races who have ruled in the island — Greeks, Persians, Romans.

Today, these sites lie within Sector I and to visit them, one has to ring Sector I Ops Room at least one day before-hand to arrange clearance.

Soli was built some time at the beginning of the sixth century B.C. Its foundation is attributed to the famous Athenian statesman Solon who visited King Philokyplos (b. 638 B.C.) at Aepia, and advised him for economic reasons to build a new town in the plains near the Xeros river. Philokyplos did so and called the new settlement Soli.

Soli rapidly became a prosperous city, but was not allowed to retain its independence for long. Early in the sixth century B.C. it was conquered by the Persians after a long siege. Soli joined Oniseros, King of Salamis, in the anti-Persian revolt, but later switched allegiance to Persia.

The city flourished up till A.D. 648 when it suffered in the first of the Arab raids which subsequently destroyed it.

As in the case of many of the ruined cities of ancient Cyprus, the stones were later removed for building elsewhere. Those of Soli were destined for the construction of Port Said in Egypt in the latter half of the 19th Century.

The visible remains of Soli to-day are the theatre, the basilica and the agora. The marble statue of Aphrodite, now in the Cyprus Museum was found at Soli.

The Theatre of Soli, which is a typical theatre of the Roman period (2nd century A.D.) was built on the northern slope of a hill overlooking the sea below. The theatre consists of the auditorium which was cut into the rock, a semi circular orchestra and the stage building and was possibly built on the site of an earlier Greek theatre. The auditorium had a diameter of 52 m. The rows of seats cut in the rock were revetted with hard limestone. The semi-circular orchestra had a diameter of 17 m. A low parapet of limestone slabs must have separated the orchestra from the first row of seats. The floor of the orchestra was of lime cement resting on a substructure of pebbles. The stage building was rectangular, measuring 35.5 m by 13.20 m. Only the platform on which it was built survives today. Access to the auditorium was effected through two passages which lead also to the orchestra. The seats were reached by five flights of steps which divided the auditorium into six sections. The capacity of this theatre was 3500 people.

It was first excavated in 1929 by the Swedish Cyprus Expedition. Second excavations were undertaken in 1965 by a Canadian expedition from Laval University, Quebec, until 1974, and during that time the basilica and agora were found.

Out & About in Cyprus

The erection of Vouni palace began, according to archaeological evidence, in the early part of the fifth century B.C.. This date coincides approximately with the revolt of the Cypriot cities against the Persians and the reduction of Soli by the latter, after a five month's siege. It is known that the city of Marium (the modern Poli Khrisokhous) was ruled about the time 498 B.C. by a pro Persian dynasty, and it is suggested that a ruler from the dynasty of Marium built this palace to overawe the inhabitants of the city, which was one of the most serious enemies of the Persians in the island. This suggestion is borne out by the very oriental character of the palace in its first state.

In 449 B.C. the Athenian general Kimon captured Marium, dethroned its king and established a new pro-Greek dynasty. Presumably a member of this dynasty automatically superseded the ruler of Vouni. Such a change is suggested by modifications in the architectural scheme of the palace including the formation of a megaron-shaped main room in the state apartments.

After about seventy years under its new dynasty the palace was ravaged by fire in 380 B.C. Shortly afterwards it was attacked and destroyed to its foundations by the inhabitants of Soli, who had turned their allegiance to the Persians.

The palace was excavated in 1928—1929 by the Swedish Cyprus Expedition. It, and its accessory buildings, were surrounded by a rampart wall, which can be traced more or less all round the edge of the plateau. The area inside the walls is divided into several terraces, the topmost terrace, to the south, which is occupied by a small temple to Athena; the second and largest, which is occupied by the palace and its surrounding sanctuaries and chapels; and the third, below the palace, a residential area extending towards the sea. Narrow roads and steps linked the three levels.

The palace is a very luxurious building with Hellenic and Oriental features and consists of 137 rooms, which include a central court, royal apartments, store rooms, kitchens, bathrooms and shrines. Excavators found a number of statues, vases and bronze objects but the outstanding find was a treasure composed of gold and silver bracelets, silver bowls, pendants and coins of gold and silver.



Vouni palace

AYIA NAPA MONASTERY

This beautiful monastery has none of the dilapidation characteristic of other religious houses which have departed from their primary use. Architecturally, too, this is different from other monasteries on the island.

The monastic enclosure is entered through a "Gateway" surmounted by a sculptured coat of arms, so worn as to be undecipherable, with stone sockets for standards on either side. The large rectangular "Gatehouse" of two storeys on the right is Venetian in origin. Each panel of the beautiful octagonal "Fountain" has a heavy floral motif in relief. Animal heads and coats of

contains seats, and there is a Latin chapel to the east. The church is partially below ground, having been cut out of the rock. It may well be of greater age than is suggested by the Venetian techniques used in its visible construction.

The monastery is currently being administered by the World Council of Churches in conjunction with the Churches of Cyprus, who are making it into an ecumenical conference centre.

The site is the property of the Greek Orthodox Church, but the Centre itself is to be administered with all the Churches on Cyprus represented on the Board of Management. There are four official minorities on the island, the Latin Catholics, the Anglicans, the Armenian Orthodox and the Maronites.

The Ayia Napa Conference Centre, as the project is called, is to provide a meeting place for Middle Eastern churches and a place of contemplation for interested Christians. The primary function of the Centre is to provide accommodation and a correct atmosphere, for the Churches in this area of the world whilst its secondary function is to serve as a place where Christians can come, in particular from America and Europe, to learn about Middle Eastern religious traditions.

Recently the Board of Directors of the World Council of Churches, now in charge of the work, did some renovations in three old rooms on the southern side of the monastery and built new sleeping quarters. The new building has sixteen double rooms and can accommodate thirty two people. There are plans to expand it if the project is successful.



the enclosure have been ascribed to 1530. arms above these have been defaced. A domed structure supported by four pillars is All travellers before and after him have been interested in the monastery's water supply, which flows through an aqueduct built on Roman principles, though the discovery of air-shafts has suggested that the water was at one time brought in by the classic Greek method of tunnelling. It feeds two reservoirs, and the most obvious and beautiful

features are a Roman carving in the form of a boar's head spewing out the water, and an ornamental fountain in the centre of the courtyard.

The "Church" is entered by its south door, above which there is another mutilated coat of arms. A wide entrance passage inside

IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

A human skeleton more than 3,000 years old has been found in a Late Bronze Age town in southeast Cyprus. An exquisite necklace and gold earrings were among the articles found on the skeleton, a report by the Antiquities Department says.

The skeleton was uncovered during excavations carried out by a Swedish archaeological expedition under the direction of Professor Paul Astrom of the Gothenburg University at Hala Sultan Tekke, near Larnaca.

The report says a new unit of the Late Bronze Age town dating from the early part

of the 12th century BC was laid bare. It consists of a courtyard with four surrounding rooms. Access to the courtyard was obtained through staircases from two ends.

Several household vases, jars, a terracotta lamp and lead sling bullets were found in the courtyard and the rooms.

A human burial was discovered outside the house. The skeleton had "an exquisite necklace and other jewellery composed of beds all provided with gold caps, further granulated gold beads, gold earrings, a gold and a

silver ring". A bronze dagger and three arrow heads were found along the left arm, while three bronze vessels — a bowl, a jug and a frying pan — had been placed between the legs.

At the short end of the tomb, which was partly lined with stones, behind the feet, a magnificent bronze trident, 86 centimetres long, and a large ivory box, were found.

Various other burial gifts, including ivory pipes, a decorated flask and a jug, also accompanied the dead man who was buried in the first half of the 12th century BC.



AUSTCIVPOL

Sergeant Ben Blakeney instructs some of the children at the Youth and Family Community Centre in the art of playing the Didjeridu. With Inspector Murray Geale, in their "off" time, they show films to the children at the centre on Friday evenings. The films mainly consist of animals native to Australia. The most popular film shown is the "Kangaroo". An interesting aside, one evening prior to the showing of a film "The Jackeroo" it was surprising to find out that a lot of the children thought a jackaroo was an animal.

Concern for Survival

Over the past twenty-five years or more there has been growing concern in many places among musicologists and others for the survival of folk and traditional music. Interest in the preservation, as well as in the nature, of 'other musics' has resulted in the establishment of an academic discipline known as 'ethnomusicology'. The techniques of a trained ethnomusicologist include recording music, analysis of its structure and obtaining, with the aid of the music makers themselves, some insight into the role of their music in its own social environment.

In Australia, early settlers and explorers sometimes reported on the Aboriginal music and dances they witnessed. A few attempts were made to write down the words of songs, and occasionally, to note the tunes. In the absence of any other musical information of this kind, these reports are not without value; but concentrated and continuous studies of music, which exist only in performance, are possible only with the aid of well documented sound recordings. Although not the first in the field at least some attempts were made at the turn of the century to preserve samples of indigenous music in Tasmania and in Central Australia. And now, in the latter half of the 20th Century, some Australian Aborigines are showing concern for their music's survival by recording it for themselves.

Sound Recordings

The first sound recordings of Aboriginal music were made in 1899 on wax cylinders in Hobart, by members of the Royal Society of Tasmania. The singer was Mrs Fanny Cochrane Smith, who claimed to be the last of the Tasmanians. In the early 20th Century cylinder recordings were made of Aboriginal singing in various parts of Australia. After World War II, following improvements in sound recording, increased recordings of Aboriginal music were made, notably a collection made in 1948 for the Australian Broadcasting Commission and one for the University of Sydney.



Article: Murray Geale
Picture: Pete Statham

Australian Aboriginal Music

Since then many recordings have been made by field workers for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies in Canberra, and now collections of Aboriginal music amount to more than 2000 hours of playing time.

Music-Making Equipment

Aboriginal music is primarily singing: and like the vocal music of other people who have no writing, aboriginal songs are learnt 'by ear' and orally transmitted from one singer to another. The music-making equipment of these hunter-gatherers has always been easily transported. In addition to their main musical instruments — their own voices — they have weapons and implements, such as boomerangs, throwing sticks, spear throwers and shields, which are used during singing for producing song accompaniments. Short blowing tubes sounded in former times by Aboriginal hunters as turkey lures, or as emu decoys, may owe their origin to the instruments commonly known as the didjeridu; on the other hand the 'didjeridu' may have given rise to these sound traps. In its present song accompanying role, the longer blowing tube, consisting usually of a eucalyptus branch hollowed by termites, is to be found only in northerly regions of the Australian continent.

Corroborees

The term 'corroboree', believed to have been derived from an Aboriginal language once known in New South Wales, now denotes a public occasion at which Aboriginal singing and dancing take place. The Aborigines have their own names for these events, e.g. djunba (Kimberley, W.A.) yoi (Bathurst and Melville Islands); bunggul (North Eastern Arnhem Land); gunborg (North Western Arnhem Land); pulapa (Western Desert, Walpiri language).

Styles of corroboree performance vary from one region to another and as one proceeds northwards from central and western desert regions one finds a wider range of dance movements synchronous with the music, and considerable diversity in the styles of associated dance songs.

UNFICYP SHOOTING COMPETITION

On 17 August the UNFICYP Shooting Competition took place at Dhekelia range. Well organised by AUSCON the contest gave a good indication of the high training standard of all Contingents in shooting and handling their weapons. There were three different weapon contests — rifle, submachine-gun and pistol — and last but not least, the "Falling Plate Competition", full of excitement and cheered by spectators.

"Egg Heads" at work: the Range Control registering and notifying the results of all contests.



Power and Skill: a Canadian with his submachine gun.



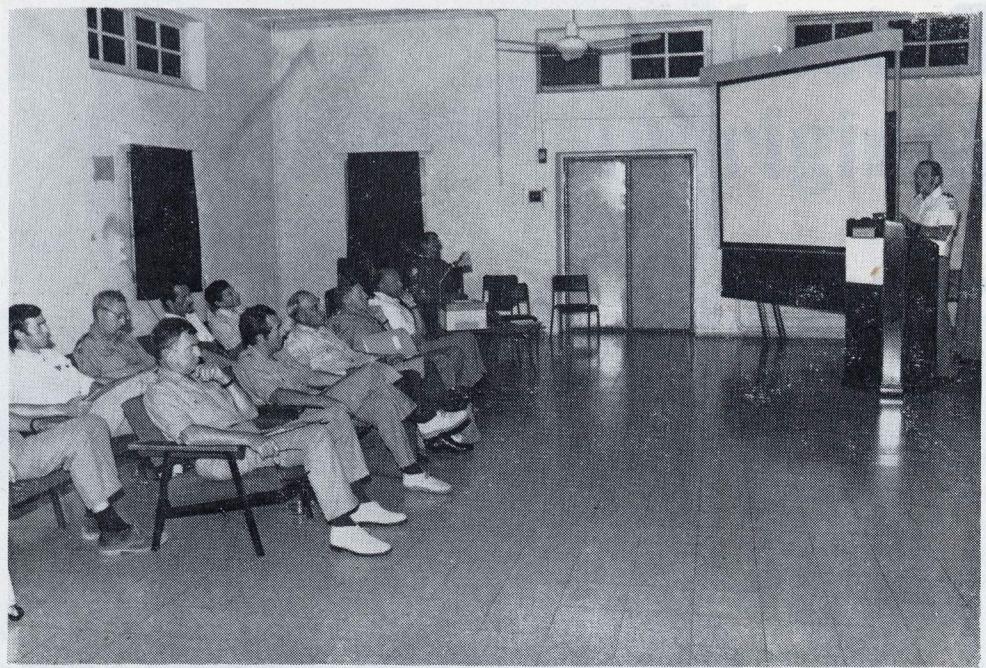
Absolute concentration: the Team from SWEDCON on the pistol range.

The final results were:

Rifle: 1st Sp Regt	SMG: Sp Regt	Pistol: Sector 2
2nd Sector 5	Sector 5	Sector 1
3rd Sector 4	Sector 3	Sector 5
Falling Plate: 1st Sector 5	TOTAL: 1st Sp Regt	
2nd Tpt Sqn	2nd Sector 5	
	3rd Sector 2	

Full physical action and high precision in firing as well: the most interesting contest, "The Falling Plate Competition".

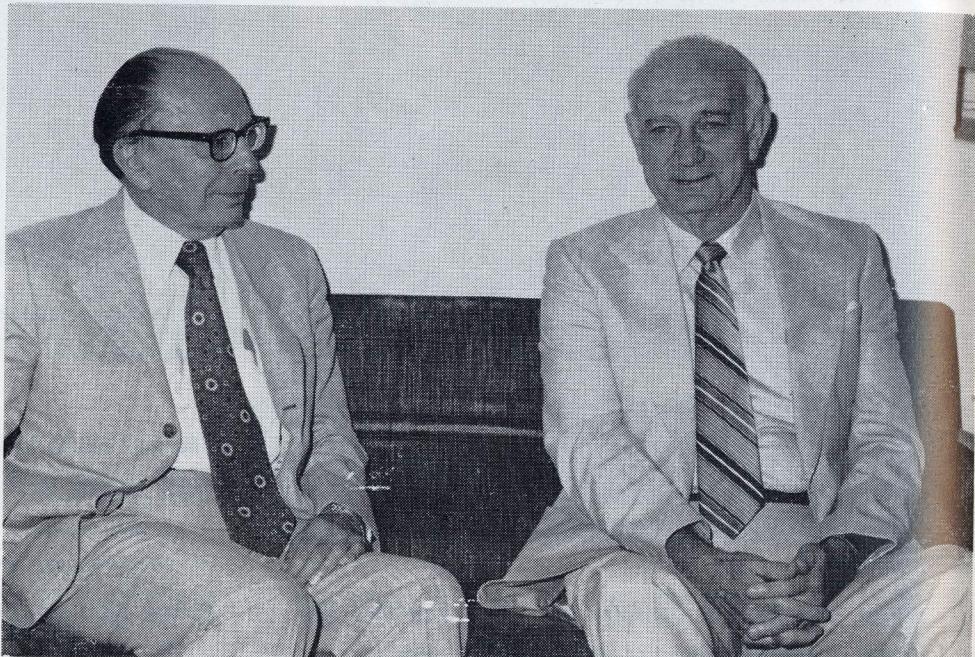




The Nordic Working Group visited UNFICYP between 21—23 August. The Group, consisting of officers from Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway, were briefed on the military and political situation in Cyprus and visited the Danish and Swedish Contingents to assess manning requirements for the future. Here they are photographed being briefed by COO, Lt. Col K A Lambert, in the Briefing Room at HQ UNFICYP.

VISITORS

Commissioner of the Commonwealth Police Force, Mr. J M Davis, CVO., OBE., QPM., paid an official visit to Austcivpol from 9—15 August. He has been responsible for all Austcivpol Contingents which have served in Cyprus since 1964. He is pictured with The Special Representative, Mr. R. Galindo Pohl.



Mr. J A Schumacher, Deputy Director Field Operations Division, UN HQ New York, visited UNFICYP between 23—25 August. He met the senior officers of all sectors for discussions and briefings. He is seen here in an Alouette of the AAC Flight, accompanied by Major Ib Gottschalk, the HQ UNFICYP Sector 1 Expert.

C£185 FOR UNICEF RAISED BY BRITISH ROAD RUNNER

On 21 August LCpl Clayton of the UN Tpt Sqn ran 29.9 miles on the Green Line Run route from Troodos to Nicosia in aid of 'The Year of the Child'. LCpl Clayton is the Transport Squadron's physical training instructor and saw the chance of doing a solo Green Line Run as a personal challenge and as an opportunity to raise money for a very worthwhile cause.

Though he did not complete the run, he completed almost four miles more than an Olympic marathon in five hours, a most commendable effort. By means of quite heavy sponsorship, he raised C£185 for UNICEF. He is pictured here presenting the cheque to Mrs. Hargrave, wife of COMDBRITCON, who received it on behalf of UNICEF at the UNFICYP Safe and Skilled Driving Competition.

Pictorial news

CROSS – ISLAND MERCY DASH



At six forty-five on Monday evening, 20 August, Headquarters UNFICYP received an urgent request from HQ CYPOL, to evacuate by helicopter, Mrs Agathi Christodoulou Tourtouri, who was in a critical condition due to a very bad haemorrhage, and transfer her from the village of Kambos to Nicosia General Hospital.

An Alouette of the Army Air Corps Flight of the UN was dispatched promptly and picked up the patient, who was flown to Nicosia and quickly transferred to a waiting ambulance and taken to the hospital, where she arrived at eight fifty, just two hours and five minutes after the emergency call had been received.

The picture shows the patient being transferred from the UN helicopter to the ambulance after landing at Nicosia and being checked out by the Canadian MO, Capt Jean Veilleux.



UN NEWS



The Withdrawal of UNEF from the Sinai

The Security Council held informal consultation on 24 July as the Mandate of the UN Emergency Force in the Sinai was about to expire.

In a press statement following the consultations, the Secretary-General said it was his understanding that Council members agreed there should be no extension of the Mandate, and that he would, therefore, make the necessary arrangements for an orderly withdrawal of UNEF. This was expected to take six to eight weeks.

Mr. Waldheim also stated that, in view of the fact that the withdrawal of UNEF was without prejudice to the continued presence of the UNTSO observers in the area, he intended, in accordance with existing Council decisions, to make necessary arrangements to ensure the further functioning of UNTSO — the UN Truce Supervision Organisation — which has been serving in the area since 1948.

On 1 August, it was stated that concerning the date of departure for the UNEF Battalions, the spokesman had received the following indications from Jerusalem: (1) The first group of 140 members of the Swedish Battalion would be leaving that day from Tel Aviv by a special Swedish military aircraft; (2) The Finnish Battalion would depart on 7 or 8 August and 23 August from Port Ofira; (3) The Indonesian Battalion would leave on the 3 and 21 August from Cairo; (4) The Australian Air Unit, the Canadian and Polish Logistics Units would leave in small groups from Ismailia and Cairo beginning 8 August.

There would be Security Council consultations within the next 2 days in connection with the withdrawal of UNEF and with particular reference to the letter from the Secretary General to the Council informing it that he would transfer some Canadian and Polish Logistical Support Units from UNEF to UNDOF.

A month of Armed

Five soldiers of the Nigerian Battalion of UNIFIL were wounded, one seriously, while on mobile patrol on the night of 14 August, in an ambush by unidentified armed elements. The seriously wounded soldier was evacuated to the Ramban Hospital in Haifa.

Heavy exchanges of fire continued. On 13 August, de facto forces fired a total of 83 artillery mortar rounds and 67 tank rounds. Armed elements fired a total of 45 artillery-mortar rounds. Fifteen heavy mortars fired by armed elements impacted within 100 metres of the Dutch position on the coastal road, one directly on the post. There were no casualties. During the same day, three artillery rounds from de facto forces impacted close to a Fiji post, while six rounds impacted within 50 metres of the UNIFIL Tyre Barracks. Between 0500 GMT on 14 August and 0500 GMT on 15 August de facto forces fired a total of 175 artillery-mortar and 54 tank rounds, while armed elements fired approximately 50 rounds. There were also 30 unidentified rounds and flares fired in various areas outside the UNIFIL area. On the day before two jeeps of the Irish Headquarters Company were hijacked by armed elements in the Tyre pocket. The vehicles were recovered on the same day. Also, a UNIFIL helicopter making a routine Beirut-Naqoura flight was fired at by armed elements from the Tyre area. There were no hits.

On 24 August it was reported that the situation in southern Lebanon was one of the most tense in recent times with the total for the previous day's heavy firing one of the heaviest observed. De facto forces fired 1016 artillery mortar and 106 tank rounds, armed elements fired 61 artillery mortar rounds. UNIFIL had suffered four casualties; one Dutch officer, two Dutch soldiers and one Fijian soldier had been wounded. The situation in the Fiji battalion zone remained calm after the incidents of the previous day, despite a brief clash during the night, which had not resulted in casualties.

Referring to the capture of 30 UNIFIL soldiers on the 23rd by a group of armed elements, the UN spokesman said that with the assistance of the PLO Liaison Officer, who had stressed that the armed elements in question were not under PLO control, the release of 16 Fijians and 14 Dutch personnel captured had been obtained but some weapons were still being held and negotiations were going on to get them back.

During the night there had been an incursion by Israeli Defence Forces and de facto forces into the area of the Irish Battalion. Referring to a report from UNRWA, the spokesman said that in the past few days several localities in southern Lebanon had

On 2 August a letter by the Secretary General to the President of the Security Council was released at Headquarters. The Secretary General, referring to UNDOF, established under Security Council Resolution 350, said, "For reasons of economy, UNDOF has hitherto relied, to a great extent, on UNEF for third-line logistic support in such areas as transport and maintenance, movement control, postal services and field engineers. With the termination of the Mandate of UNEF, this logistic support is no longer available and, consequently, it has become necessary to strengthen the existing Canadian and Polish Logistic Units of UNDOF. In this connection, it is proposed that the logistic component of UNDOF be increased by 200 men. This would bring the over-all strength of the Force to about 1450, all ranks. While this is over the figure of about 1250 given in the protocol to agreement on the disengagement between Israeli and Syrian Forces, in the new circumstances this addition to the logistics component of UNDOF is the minimum required to support the Force. It is my intention, subject to the usual consultation, to make the necessary arrangements to this effect".

On 20 August, it was stated that Finland had increased the size of its contingent to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights. In a letter to the President of the Security Council, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said this brought the Force back to full strength, following its depletion by the withdrawal of the Contingent of Iran last March. At that time, a company of the Finnish Battalion serving with the UN Emergency Force in Sinai was transferred to UNDOF — but the Golan Heights Force was still more than one hundred men short, and daily patrols had to be reduced. The willingness of Finland now to provide more men meant that UNDOF was once more at its prescribed strength.

Activity for UNIFIL

been heavily shelled, in particular, Nabatiyah and Tyre. Buss refugees camp had been hit on 21 August, a refugee shelter destroyed and a clinic seriously damaged. Israeli planes were overflying the area continuously creating great tension among Lebanese civilians and Palestinian refugees. The camps at Buss and Rashidieh were again being evacuated towards Saida. Thousands of civilians were said to be fleeing northward to escape the shelling.

Asked if any thought was being given to discontinuing the Mandate of UNIFIL, given the present difficult situation the spokesman said that in fact the situation proved how valuable UNIFIL's presence in southern Lebanon was.

UNFICYP CHRISTMAS CARDS



UNITED NATIONS FORCE IN CYPRUS

A limited number of UNFICYP Christmas cards have been printed and are now available. The cards shown above have all the Contingents' flags in colour with the Season's Greetings printed inside in all Contingent languages. All profits from sales go to the UNFICYP Welfare Fund. To avoid disappointment purchase early from Mr. John Amos, Procurement Officer, Blue Beret Camp, Nicosia. Tel: 7208. Price 100 mils each including envelopes.