FIRST STEPS TOWARDS NORMALITY

DURING THE PERIOD THAT THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE IN CYPRUS HAS BEEN OPERATIONAL MODEST, TOUGH SIGNIFICANT, GAINS HAVE BEEN MADE TOWARDS RESTORING NORMAL CONDITIONS IN THE LAND.

Beside the military role UNIFCYP has a role at the political level. Militarily its aim is to stop the fighting and ease tension; politically its aim is to lift revive the economy and stabilize the life of the land.

The plans which are made officials at the highest level are implemented by the soldiers of UNIFCYP who move into direct contact with the local people. Of great importance at this time of year is the first phase involving planting activities in the mixed farms that began on Saturday May. The second phase, which concerns areas where farmers have abandoned their work, will begin when the first phase is seen to be proceeding satisfactorily.

The United Nations Force give every assistance, including protection to implement harvesting arrangements in the Nicosia Zone. So far, soldiers of the Cypriot and Finnish Continus are helping to protect harvesters in certain villages of the Nicosia area.

Arrangements have been made with the Cyprus Grain Commission and the Turkish Cypriot Co-operatives for the release of a consignment of grain for last year's harvest. These are being made to open the Cyprus Seed Store Plant. Before this can achieve a few technicalities such as the repair of machinery to be resolved.

The Cold Storage Plant in northern part of Nicosia is now being used for storage. Arrangements have been made for two mechanics to supervise the cleaning of the machines, distribution of the food, the correct storage, and opportunity for Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot merchants to purchase items from the store.

The Citrus crop is one of the mainstays of the economy of Cyprus and steps have been taken so that oranges and strawberries destined for export can be transported to Nicosia for shipment abroad.

One of the major ways in which the soldiers of UNIFCYP play such a significant part is in the escorting of convoys. Convoy of Citrus food for export have been protected by troops and on Sunday the 10th May UNIFCYP soldiers escorted the first convoy of 16 lorries from Famagusta to Nicosia — thus enabling Turkish Cypriot merchants in Nicosia to move merchandise which had been cleared by the customs authorities in Famagusta. Similar convoys are expected to come to the capital every Friday.

In the medical field considerable attention is being given to the problem of displaced persons. Their health and food problems are being solved with the assistance of the Joint Relief Commission.

Steps have been also been taken, with the help of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent, for the transport and distribution of food and medical supplies to needy areas.

Steps have been taken to re-establish the country's postal services and attempts are being made to start negotiations aimed at normalising the country's telephone and telegraph services.

The problem of missing persons is being tackled in co-operation with the International Red Cross and investigations are being carried out by the UNIFCYP Civilian Police.

In all these fields the soldiers of UNIFCYP are involved and much of the success depends on their efforts to put into reality the plans of the high-level officials. The task is not easy and needs the co-operation of the people of both communities in a spirit of confidence and trust and a peaceful atmosphere.

ARRIVAL OF GALO PLAZA

On Thursday 14th May, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus, arrived at Nicosia airport at 19.00 hrs. He was greeted by the mediator, Sakari TUOMIOJA, the Deputy Commander of UNIFCYP Maj.Gen R.M.P. CARVER and the senior political adviser in UNIFCYP Alejandro FLORES.

Galo PLAZA, who was appointed Special Representative of O THANT on the 11th May, was born in New York in 1906. At the time his father, General Leonidas PLAZA, was Minister of Ecuador to the United States. Galo PLAZA was educated in Quito, Ecuador, and attended the Universities of California and Maryland, where he studied agriculture, and Georgetown School of Foreign Service.

In 1936 he was elected mayor of Quito and in 1938 became Minister of Defence — a position he held for two years.

From 1940 until his appointment in Cyprus as Special Representative of the Secretary-General he has held several official appointments in his own country and in the United Nations. Between times he has returned to private business activities and to-day is actively engaged in several projects connected with the development of Ecuador.

Among the official appointments which Mr. PLAZA has held are Ambassador to the United States 1944–1946, President of Ecuador 1945–1952 (his father had also been President 1922–1925, 1932–1935), Chairman of the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon 1958, Chairman of the study group of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the basis for the Latin American common market 1959–1960, Chairman of a study group on administration of the Kamina and Kitona Bases in the Congo 1960 and President of Ecuador's Development Bank 1960–1964.

During 1946 Mr. PLAZA attended the San Francisco Conference, where the United Nations Charter was written, as a member of his country's delegation.

Mr. Galo PLAZA has been appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus to strengthen the political arm of the United Nations Force in Cyprus and also to help the task of the mediator. His main task will be to deal with the objectives outlined by U Thant in his report to the Security Council on the 29th April 1964 in which the Secretary-General said: "The mission in Cyprus needs urgently to be strengthened by the addition of a top-level political officer, who, on behalf of the Secretary-General, could conduct negotiations for the implementation of the programme outlined below."

This programme deals with such matters as freedom of movement, removal of fortified positions, disarming of civilians, and normal functioning of official departments of the government.
THE CYPRUS TREE

Some years ago the following interesting account "The Cyprus Tree" appeared in "Embros", the English daily daily of Mr. G. B. FIZEY.

The amusing poem published here is inspired by the single Cyprus tree whereby the islanders of land and sea necessarily entail ownership of the trees thereon. The unfortunate, who penned these lines, having bought a piece of land, afterwards with much difficulty acquired the "controlling" interest in an olive tree, only to find the olives on the tree were still not his. The deal was finally settled with the cutting down of the tree, the proceeds of the sale of the wood being distributed among seven people interested! He still retains six-sevenths ownership of three other trees on his land, but intends to leave the deal at that!

CYPRIUS

The Secretary-General, U. THANT, announced, on the 11th May, the appointment of Galo PLAZA of Ecuador as his special representative in Cyprus.

In his report to the Security Council on the 29th April, the Secretary-General referred to the urgent need to strengthen the mission in the island by the addition of a top-level political officer, who, on behalf of the Secretary-General, could conduct negotiations for the implementation of the programme which the Secretary-General had outlined in his report of the 29th April.

Mr. PLAZA's assignment would initially be until 27th June 1964. He would be directly responsible to the Secretary-General, and his functions. U. THANT stated, would not in any way impinge upon the efforts of the United Nations Mediator to find a long term solution to the problems of Cyprus, nor upon the functions of the Commander of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

UNFICYP CIVILIAN POLICE STRENGTHENED

The civilian police force of The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was strengthened by 40 members of the Swedish Police who arrived in Nicosoia on the 6th May.

Australia informed the Secretary-General on the 7th May that it would provide 40 policemen for service in Cyprus with UNFICYP.

A New Zealand aircraft is expected to bring 25 New Zealand civilian police to Cyprus on the 26th May.

The first units of the Danish Contingent for UNFICYP began arriving in Nicosa on the 14th May. The full contingent is expected to be in Cyprus by the 10th June.

U N NEWS

CAMBODIAN REQUEST

Cambodia, on 13th May, transmitted a complaint to the President of the council, in connection with "the repeated acts of aggression by the United States and South Vietnamese forces against the territory and the civilian population of Cambodia."

Cambodia asked him to call a meeting of the council.

"As soon as possible to consider the situation resulting from these acts of aggression."

COMMITTEEadopts RESOLUTION ON ADEN

The special committee of 24 on the ending of colonialism, in a resolution adopted on the 11th May, urged the United Kingdom to cease all military measures against the people of Aden and the Aden Protectorates.

Depreciating the military action by the British authorities against the people of the territory, the committee called on the Secretary-General of the Security Council to the "Dangerous situation - prevailing in the area."

The United Kingdom stated the resolution referred to its military action as if it had decided to march out and attack peacefull tribesmen. This was a complete travesty of the true situation. There was a deliberate campaign by a hostile neighboring country to overpower by violence the constitutional government of the South Aden Federation and to undermine its progress towards independence, the United Kingdom added.
FORCE COMMANDER SPEAKS WITH THE PRESS

To be in the public eye means many contacts with the press. Often awkward questions are asked which must be very carefully answered and the danger of not answering a question can so easily be misinterpreted either as an agreement or otherwise with the point of the question.

On Thursday 14th May Lt. Gen. P. S. GYANI agreed to meet the press on an informal basis and the reporters had his awkward and "loaded" questions ready. The Force Commander parried this one, countered that one and often thrust home to the questioner.

The one thread which emerged from this encounter was the point raised by the Force Commander that what he saw in Cyprus must be within the remits of reference which he had given by the Secret Director-General, U THANT, and would be wrong he said for it to go beyond those terms. He also asked the person expert to act.

Asked about the effects UNIFCYP were making General GYANI pointed out that we are working on the removal of the UNIFCYP and on the situation itself.

The following day General GYANI and Archbishop MARJIAS visited Famagusta to see the situation for themselves.

MEDAL FOR UNIFCYP

It has been proposed to issue to troops of UNIFCYP a United Nations Medal to commemorate the efforts being made by the Force to settle the Cyprus problem.

The design for the medal ribbon — thought up by the Personnel/Logistics Branch of HQ UNIFCYP on Sunday morning — was then submitted to the United Nations Headquarters New York, for approval. It is made up of 5 larger sections interspersed with two smaller ones. The two outer sections of equal size are United Nations blue whilst the centre section of the same size is white. Between the outer and inner sections there are two small strips of dark blue representing the Mediterranean.

The medal itself is likely to be the same as that bestowed on all other United Nations operating forces. The obverse, in form and bearing on one side the emblem of the United Nations and the letter UN, whilst on the other side there is an inscription: "In the service of peace".

It is understood that details of the medal ribbon and its regulations for issues and are now awaiting final approval.

REDEPLOYMENT

During the week a redeployment of forces took place in Nicosia and the Kyrenia Range. The Battle Group Headquarters of the Royal 22e Regiment and the reconnaissance squadron of the Royal Canadian Dragoons moved into the Kyrenia Range area on Tuesday 12th May. The 1st Coy of the Finnish Contingent took over the Nea- polis area in northern Nicosia on Wednesday 13th May from 'A' Company of the Royal 22e Regiment of the Canadian Contingent. The other UNIFCYP companies of the Finnish Contingent are already deployed in Omorphita and the zone west of the Pediese River in Nicosia.

Also on Wednesday 13th May the platoon of the Sherwood Foresters of the British Contingent took over to be under the command of the Finnish contingent and to battle headquarters at Elisabeth Camp in Nicosia.

FOR SALE - CAMERA

KOLLE MAGIC Model No. 1. Fully automatic with famous auto-leveller. 55 mm Schneider Xenar 75 mm Coated lens, with case. 'Camera' is brand new and still in makers box. F.5. British Isles, UK as a present there will be no customs duty on it. Please E5. Contact Sg.t R.H. ENNICK, MP, 1st BN FORESTERS, BFPO 53 or send your letter c/o of the "Blue Beret" and we will forward.

Yhdisryneiden Kansakuntien Suoment

Pataljoona No. 1

A magazine published in Finland with the purpose of serving in Cyprus and has in the past provided a company for a period of 4-5 months in Gaza and the Lebanon and is now active.

The present issue of YKSP:I is 15, the 1st edition.

In this regard bicycles which are normally a part of equipment in Finland have been brought to maintain mobility.

It will be appreciated that climatic conditions in Finland and Cyprus differ widely. Moving from the cold northern winters to the hot summer in the sub-tropics, the Finnish Government has made arrangements that the Finnish Defence Force Headquarters did not insist on bringing in rifles companies and a supply company, the total strength being 993 officers and men.

YKSP:I is armed and equipped to carry out its task in Cyprus in the quickest and most efficient manner. In this regard bicycles which are normally a part of equipment in Finland have been brought to maintain mobility.

The idea of using bicycles is to be considered as normal in the Finns, especially in the cold climate. In Cyprus, bicycles are also used extensively by the police.

Ayi Airine ja Famagusta Gaten Partio


Ayi irinä pidetään paitaavista- tai yhteyttä ja jopa paataljoonan komentaja naukauttaa soilitas- tori on ehdittänyt tuntunutus Aiyarainen. He eivät eivät tehtävää menestyksellä avulla vaan helppokertoja. Aiya irinää on myös muodostanut järjestämis- nätteet tuntumaisiksi erityisesti ja Aiya irinää "varustaa" on teh- distystä kirjoittaa eräänlainen koe- mistaan munan joukkueesta. Aiya irinää rahastioonista voikin kertoa kyliä vanhoja kreikkalaisia toimintaa ja lähinnä Kansain ja veteen. Pikkuopera kaivat niitä hiekasta esin. Mereen läheisyyssä on tehnyt pää- viittaiset ummatteeksi mahdolliseksi ja Aiya irinä pojan lienevä- nätteke keke suomalaisten aikana. UK as a present there will be no customs duty on it. Please E5. Contact Sg.t R.H. ENNICK, MP, 1st BN FORESTERS, BFPO 53 or send your letter c/o of the "Blue Beret" and we will forward.

Local News

in Swedish

Nu är det dags att utfärda den här varningen: Svenska pokvar var på er varakt! Det här landet är farligt på många sätt! Att det är farligt har övervärds medhjälpare Leif Ahlden upptäckt alldeles för sent, för redan efter en månad på denna underbar vackra ö har han fastnat i de gärn som en vacker flicka vid namn Maria levt ut för honom. Despekt, så heter fröken, att Maria är en djupt nörgningskraftig, mattebärande flicka från Morpou och när detta läs hur unga man redan rekåte sin förlovning och längre fram i sommar blir det väl ett festligt bröllop.

Men att förlova sig med en gråkärrad kvinna, talar det inte alls väl mellan de båda parten utan där är familjen också djupt engagerad. Och innan den gode Leif fick sitt eftervarvet och hennes fru Maria, fick han allt lov att ställa upp inför hennes familj gransknande och eftersom Leif tycker mycket av den kvinnliga, att Maria vara en nörgningsblickig innan Maria färd sig helt mot dessa tidlura. När äventyrter för Leif är slut på detta är en dron drar han alltså nерom och Maria och hemma i Malmö skall han ingå som kompanjon med sin far en verksamhetsledning i Malmö och i det tända bättre i Karlberg för att kunna laga "kebab" när Leif driver hemat i kvällen. Skall vi alltså förena oss i ett

AN APPEAL FOR FIRST ISSUE OF THE BLUE BERET

There is a great demand for copies of the first issue of “The Blue Beret” (UNIFCYF edition) published on Monday April 24, 1944.

If anyone has a copy of this first issue would he please return it to the office as soon as possible (Address “The Blue Beret”, Wolsley Barracks, HQ UNIFCYF, Nicosia), or hand it to the Public Relations Officer of his Contingent.

REMEMBER

DON’T FORGET THE BLUE BERET PHOTOGRAPHIC EMBLEMS. TAKES IT HOME, put them in a brief description of your career so far.

STORE OF BLUE BERET

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