THE BLUE BERET
(UNFICYP EDITION)
Monday 27 April 1964

 Issued by the Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus

FROM: THE COMMANDER
To: ALL MEMBERS OF THE FORCE

Lieutenant-General Gyani sends the following message to all members of the United Nations Force in Cyprus:

"I WOULD like to avail myself of "THE BLUE BERET" to greet all officers and men of UNFICYP.

"You have been entrusted by the United Nations with the task of maintaining quiet and peaceful conditions in Cyprus.

"The people of Cyprus are relying on you to enable them to resume their normal way of life and help pave the way for them to settle their differences peacefully and live in harmony.

"This is a unique opportunity for you to serve the people of this island and I have no doubt that you will do so with devotion to duty and with faith that we are going to succeed."

SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF THE FORCE COMMANDER

Lt. Gen. P.S. Gyani was born on 17 July 1910 in India. He attended the Imperial Defence College in the United Kingdom and was commissioned on 27 August 1931.

He graduated from the Staff College, Quetta, India and saw active service on the Burma front in World War II, from Feb. 1942 to Aug. 1945.

An artillery man, General Gyani has held several appointments and commands in the Indian Army, the last being General Officer Commanding the Fourth Infantry Division.

In 1959 he became Commander of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in Gaza, an appointment which he held for four years. During the latter part of 1963 he commanded the United Nations Yemen Observation Mission.

During the recent troubles in Cyprus he was at first the UN Observer and was later appointed Commander of the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) on 27 March 1964.

Gen. Gyani likes playing golf and enjoys listening to light classical music. He is keen on horse-riding and in India he is a Master of the Hounds. As well as fox-hunting he has hunted wild game in the Punjab mountains.

The General is married and has two daughters.

AUSTRIAN POLICE BEGIN DUTIES

The United Nations Civilian Police comprising 28 Austrian Police Officers commanded by Capt. Friedrich Mosser are acting as observers in the Omorphita area of Nicosia. They took up duties there on 22 April. They also have liaison functions with local police authorities. They will patrol the area on foot and by vehicle and undertake tasks of enquiry if necessary.

The United Nations Civilian Police will wear their national uniforms, the blue berets characteristic of the UN Force. United Nations emblems on the left arm and special badges identifying them as civilian police on the left front pocket of their uniform. Their vehicles will fly the United Nations flag and will have signs identifying them as belonging to the civilian police.

FINNISH CONTINGENT

The main body of the Finnish Contingent of the United Nations Force in Cyprus began to arrive in Nicosia on 25 April and is expected to be complete by 1 May.

Approximately 864 men with their vehicles and equipment will be flown into Nicosia International Airport by aircraft of the United States Air Force.

The Commander of the Finnish contingent Lt. Col. Jouko Suninen arrived in Cyprus with a small party on 27 March the same day that UNFICYP was formed.

The main body will stay in Dhekelia transit camp before taking over positions in the Nicosia area.

LOCAL NEWS IN SWEDISH


Inom kompanierna rustas också för fullt och när idrottsfolkens anländer blir det väl dags att ordna bataljonsmästerskap och sedan ta ut de bästa spelarna till ett lag som skall representera de blå-gula färgerna mot andra nationer.

Vet ni förresten att överstelöjtnant Orvar Nilsson är verklig fotbolls-entusiast. Han är uppe varje morgon klockan 6 och träner en stund innan hans soliga ansikte dyker upp på HQ.

En symbolisk blomma överräcker vi denna vecka till fanjunkare Li-deskär och korpral Ekwall för en god insats vid skottlossningen i Timi onsdag-våll.
Round and About Cyprus

EASTER IN CYPRUS

For the Cypriot of the Greek Orthodox Church, Easter is the greatest event of the year.

In Cyprus this year, Easter Sunday falls on 3 May and this day is celebrated with long church services, feasting and games.

One of the main events is the raising of the "weight-lifting stone" which is undergone by the youths of the village. The winner of this contest becomes a symbol of many strength and prowess. Throughout the day fireworks are let off and in the evening bonfires are lit and there is much dancing, singing and merrymaking.

TURKISH CYPRIOITS CELEBRATE

Turkish Cypriots celebrated both a religious and a national holiday on Thursday 23 April. The religious holiday was Kurban Bayram, Day of Pilgrimage — the day which devout Moslem's observe when possible with the traditional journey to Mecca. It is also observed with gifts of lamb to the poor.

The national holiday which also fell on Thursday was Children's Day and commemorates the opening of the first Turkish parliament of the Turkish Republic of Kemal Atatürk, founder of the modern Turkish state, decreed that the 23 April would be honoured on this day for they represented the future of Turkey.

Here in Cyprus, Turkish children were dressed in their finest clothes and fed at parties with gifts and the statue of Atatürk in the Turkish sector of Nicosia was bedecked with a large selection of floral wreaths.

UNIFICYP STAMP

On 5 May the Cyprus Post Office will issue stamps over-printed with UNIFICYP and the UN emblem.

A Special Stamp was issued on the occasion of the unanimous approval of the Security Council Resolution on Cyprus. Future stamps to be issued are in commemoration of the 24th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare, and the Olympic Games.

CYPRUS FOODS-BREAD

The covered bazaars which often weave in and out of the heavy traffic contain breads of all kinds and the KOULLOURADES (men who push the carts) will anywhere to serve you.

KOULLOURI are long fingers of crisp bread covered in sesame seeds. If you have strong teeth you can enjoy for OLYSTARKIS which is rounds of hard bread with a crunchy outside and soft inside, HALIOMOPTITITES containing cheese, and TAHINOPTITITES with a sweet honey centre.

IRISH CONTINGENT

The Irish Contingent of the United Nations Force in Cyprus became operational at 11.00 hours, 22 April, and by 16.00 hours it took over responsibility for the entire Famagusta area on the eastern part of the island.

The Irish Contingent, consisting of 150 Irish Battalion, is now deployed at Vero Point, Komi Kebir, Peristerana and Chatoz.

The Headquarters of the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. Patrick Feeney Barry, is located two miles from Famagusta, on the Famagusta—Salamin road.

The Contingent has two Porters armed and will receive six more shortly.

Canadian Brigade H.Q.

One hundred and thirty Canadian Army personnel flew into Nicosia on Friday 24 April aboard a Royal Canadian Air Force transport aircraft. The total of the Canadian Brigade Headquarters, which is on hand in Cyprus to form part of the United Nations Headquarters within UNIFICYP, is now 24 Officers and 134 men.

It is proposed that the Brigade Headquarters, which is commanded by Brigadier A. J. Teddie, DSO, CBE, will become operational in Nicosia Zone before the end of April.

Nordway. The proposed U.N. Training and Research Institute will receive a contribution of $56,000 from Nordway.

International Bank. Loans have been made to Peru and Japan to help in construction work.

UN THANT press Conference

At a press conference held on 21 April the Secretary-General spoke on recent trouble spots in the world. He felt that the climate in Cyprus had improved since the United Nations Convention and he had full confidence in the Force Commander, Gen. Gyan, and the Mediator, Ambassador Salim Phuomija. He considered it necessary that the Greek and Turkish contingents on the island should be placed under the command of General Gyan.

Speaking about the Congo, U Thant said that he hoped to withdraw the entire United Nations Military Force in the Congo by the end of 1964.

The Secretary-General saw no prospect of United Nations involvement with the Indonesia—Malaysia dispute at the moment.

Disarmament Conference

The Committee received with great satisfaction statements made by Nikita S. Kruschev and Lyndon B. Johnson on behalf of their countries and took note of a United Kingdom statement on its policy.

South Africa. A report was submitted by a group of experts on 20 April on methods of resolving the present situation. It recommends the formation of a national convention fully representative of the people of South Africa to consider views and proposals for the future. Solutions can only be reached by free and democratic consultation. One of the signatories of the report is Sir Hugh Foot.

A Letter from Turkey informed the Secretary-General of incidents which had occurred in Cyprus since the resolutions of 4 and 13 March. The events, Turkey added, constituted danger to peace and security. Turkey reserved the right to have immediate recourse to the Security Council if danger to peace was not averted.
RELIEF OPERATIONS IN CYPRUS

The Joint Relief Commission & UNFICYP

An important part of the duties of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus is the assistance given to relief operations. As a result of the present emergency, thousands of people find themselves isolated and in need of help of one kind or another. Many people are cut off from their normal sources of supply of foodstuffs, medicines and other commodities. Many find themselves unable to communicate with their relatives and friends. The sick find difficulty in reaching medical care and restrictions on travel make normal life difficult.

The relief, on humanitarian grounds, of these conditions is being met by the Red Cross and St. John Joint Relief Commission to Cyprus, which operates under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The Commission consists of six District Teams comprising one Red Cross and one St. John Officer, stationed in each of the administrative Headquarters towns in Cyprus — Nicosia, Larнака, Famagusta, Limassol, Paphos and Kyrenia, and with a Headquarters containing Medical and Stores personnel at the Office of the Commissioner at 26 Ex-Tennison Street, Nicosia.

These people, operating in their familiar white cars bearing the emblem of the Red Cross and the badge of St. John, may be seen throughout the island pursuing a ceaseless programme of visits to villages — where they investigate cases of hardship and seek to apply the most appropriate remedy.

All of the existing Teams are drawn, at present, from the United Kingdom and have no object other than the relief of human suffering wherever they may be encountered and irrespective of the cause.

Wherever they may be met, the men work roads while escorting food convoys or in the villages relieving smaller, but no less urgent, cases of misery, the members of the Commission recognise in members of the Peccico-Keeping Force that they are truly "soldiers of humanity" as stated by the Secretary-General in his message in the first issue of "THE BLUE BERET".

Already, members of the Commission have reason to be grateful for the assistance of UNFICYP units in the discharge of their duties and look with confidence to future cooperation in the execution of their similar, but parallel, task.

For its part, the Commission is happy to offer its fullest assistance and cooperation wherever it may be found useful or desirable.

SHAKESPEARE ON PARADE

APRIL 23 marked the 400th birthday of William Shakespeare, world-famous playwright.

This occasion was celebrated at Stratford-on-Avon, Shakespeare’s home, by Troops of the Royal Engineers, the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and the Royal Pioneer Corps.

Led by their Corps band, the Sappers, who are "freemen" of the town, marched past the Mayor of Stratford who was accompanied by Major-General T.H. Foulkes, Honorary Colonel of the Royal Engineers A.E.R.

HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, visited the Shakespeare Centre and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre during the birthday celebrations.

The Theatre is beautifully situated on the banks of the River Avon and is visited every year by thousands of tourists from all over the world.

THE 1ST BATTALION, THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT

The Parachute Regiment was formed in 1940 following a call by Sir Winston Churchill for volunteers from all regiments and corps of the Army to form a Parachute Force.

From the first offensive in February 1941, when 7 officers and 31 soldiers dropped into Italy and destroyed the Monte Vulture Aqueduct, to the epic fight at Arnhem, the Red Devils, (so called because of their distinctive cherry coloured berets) have had a reputation for fitness, tenacity and bravery.

Since the war, the Battalion has seen service in Palestine, Germany, Egypt, and Cyprus. It is part of Britain’s Strategic Reserve stationed at Aldershot with 16 Para Brigade Group.

The Battalion was rushed to Cyprus on January 3rd and has recently handed over postings to Canadian Troops. It is expected to leave UNFICYP in two to three weeks time.
SOCCER NEWS

Brazilians Prepare for 1966
World Cup

THE BRAZILIANS are determined to keep the World Cup and are preparing with typical thoroughness.

28 players have been selected as first choice for the international team, but another 28 will tour Europe and a third party of 30 from the State of Grande do Sul, will visit Africa to include matches in Morocco, Algeria, Sudan, Ethiopia and Nigeria. Then, in 1964 countries in Eastern Europe will be visited, and from the 100 players involved in all these tours will come the 1966 World Cup side, according to "F.A. News".

The great Did is now coaching a Peruvian club in Lima, but it is expected that he will return to Rio de Janeiro to take charge of the national team, although there is also a rumour that he is committed to coaching contracts in Australia. Another Brazilian star, full-back Nilson Santos does not intend to retire although he is now 37 years of age. Brazilian clubs like Santos F.C. are also touring most of the other South American countries, all with Wembley 1966 in view.

Holland - Clubs to Revert to Amateur Status

Something new in Holland. The Dutch Football Association is asking clubs to revert to amateur status and intend to reduce the number of clubs engaging contract players (part-timers) from 64 to 52. Most of the clubs are in disagreement with the proposal. Sweden is experimenting with substitutes.

English Teams go on Tour

Stoke City are to make a five-week South American tour this summer. Matches will be played in Bogota, Santiago, Rio de Janeiro and Peru. Shrewbury Town will tour Czechoslovakia and East Germany in May.

Austria

Now that the Austrian FA have reduced the number of foreign players allowed to each club to two, Austria FC, who have five, are hoping that three of them at least will have naturalised. Austria has changed from three-up, three-down promotion and relegation to two-up, two-down. Banews.

SWEDES IN THE AIR

From our Swedish Correspondent

Lefkja, Wednesday 22 April
Today soldiers of the Swedish Second Company stationed in Lefkja near Xeros did some helicopter training.

Groups of Swedish soldiers were taken up in the air and after a short trip round they did a very quick landing. Sometimes they jumped out of the helicopter as it was hovering some feet above the ground and sometimes they slid down a rope from a height of about 10 metres (30 feet).

Each man, including the Company Commander was enthusiastic about this quick way of moving soldiers. The same method is used in Sweden to transport specially trained commandos in the archipelago around Sweden.

No one hesitated to fling himself down the rope and the training was very successful.

GUNNERS GET FREEDOM

THE TRAINING regiment for the British Royal Artillery, 17 Regiment, which is stationed at Oswestry, receives the 'freedom of the city' at a ceremony to be held on Saturday 2 May 1964.

A parade will be held in the town and the Regiment will present the Mayor of Oswestry with a gift for the town. The ceremony will be televised throughout Britain and after the parade the Regiment will stage a display of training methods with recruits taking part.

BRITISH SOLDIERS AWARDED COMMENDATION

Cpl John James Motherway RAPC (attached to 1 BN The Parachute Regiment), L/Cpl Malcolm Simpson and Pte. Allan Story both of 1 BN The Parachute Regiment have been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for showing great courage and complete disregard for their own safety in saving the lives of their comrades when a tent caught fire on the night of 8/9 January at Dhekela. They rushed into the blazing inferno and managed to drag out their comrades who were alight from head to foot and were unconscious.

FOR YOUR LISTENING

All times are local

Canadian Broadcasting Corp
19 Metre Band 2201 (French)
25 & 31 Metre Band 2245 (English)

Radio Sweden
19 Metre Band 1645 (English)
25 Metre Band 2145 (English)
31 Metre Band 2370 (English)
19 Metre Band 1715 (Swedish)
21 Metre Band 1825 (Swedish)
25 Metre Band 2015 (Swedish)

Finnish Broadcasting Corp
25 Metre Band Finnish & 31 Metre Band Swedish
1200 - 1725 (Dally)
1130 - 2010 (Monday)
1900 - 2005 (Friday)
1800 - 1900 (All other days)
0830 - 0850 (Sunday)
0800 - 0820 (Weekdays)

Austrian Radio
16 Metre Band 0800 - 1100 German, French and English
19 Metre Band 1300 - 1600 English
31 Metre Band 1900 - 2010 Monday, Sat. & Sun.

British Broadcasting Corp.
19 Metre Band 0700 - 1000, 1130 - 2330
25 Metre Band 0500 - 1000, 1800 - 2330
31 Metre Band English 0500 - 1000, 2000 - 2330
41 Metre Band English 0500 - 0645, 0745 - 1000
49 Metre Band 0500 - 1000

British Broadcasting Corp.
428 Metres English 0500 - 0545, 0745 - 1000
417/470 Metres English 0500 - 1145, 0745 - 1000

British Forces Broadcasting Service
203 Metres English 0530 - 2315

British Forces Broadcasting Service
VHF
29.2 M/c 0530 - 2315
99.6 M/c English 0530 - 2315

United Nations half-hour is broadcast each evening from 2000 to 2100 by the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation at the medium wave 495 metres (606 kc/s).

STOP PRESS—26 APR 64

AUSTRIAN HOSPITAL UNIT

A second party of the Austrian Hospital Unit which will form part of UNICYP arrived in Nicosia yesterday by C-130 aircraft of the United States Air Force. The Unit will consist of 54 personnel and equipment to set up a medical reception centre, a dental centre, an X-ray department and a maximum 52-bed hospital with medical and surgical wards.

The UNICYP hospital unit will be located at a disused Zebrin hospital in Kokkin Trimitria, in Nicosia. The Australians will also provide a small mobile field medical unit which can be deployed anywhere in the island.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Personal Column

A personal column will be available in this paper. It is for members who wish to advertise, for example, a car, radio or any other items for sale. Items for inclusion should be sent to the paper a week before publication. The paper is published every Monday.

FINANCIAL PLEDGES FOR UNITED NATIONS CYPRUS FORCE

The following financial contributions have been offered for the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNICYP).

US DOLLARS

Australia 117,000
Austria 40,000
Belgium 100,000
Cyprus 280,000
Denmark 75,000
Federal Republic of Germany 500,000
Federal Republic of Greece 2,800
Greece 500,000
Italy 250,000
Japan 100,000
Luxembourg 5,000
Netherlands 100,000
New Zealand 42,000
Norway 50,000
Sweden 100,000
Switzerland 75,000
Turkey 100,000
United Kingdom 1,000,000
United States 2,000,000

April 10, 1964

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