COMING LISTEN TO THE BAND

The Band of the First Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers is seen above playing once more at a United Nations Medal Parade, on this occasion at the Swedcon Medal Parade on 21 September. The Band, although not part of the United Nations element of the Battalion, has played for nearly all United Nations Medal Parades that have taken place during the Battalion's tour in the island. It has been particularly congratulated on the manner in which it has played each contingent's national tunes in the way they would be played in their home country. In view of the esteem in which the Band is held we have given over the centre spread of this issue to a "Focus on" feature all about the Band.
SCACYP FLIGHT

Scacyp is short for Scandanavia — Cyprus. It is the regularly flight from Denmark and Sweden serving Dancon and Swedish here in Cyprus. It normally operates every four weeks bringing supplies, post and reinforce to the two contingents from their home countries.

The flight has arrived and unloading has started.

GOOD SAMARITANS

Life Saving Medevac

At 0115 hours on 22 September Sector 1 was asked to evacuate from Kato Pyrgos a Greek Cypriot who had sustained a severe head injury and take him to Nicosia General Hospital. The Sector Duty Officer called for a helicopter and 2 Coy Rescue Section prepared the helipad at Kato Pyrgos for a night landing. In less than one hour and a half hours after the original call 2 Coy was sent to help. The patient was being treated in the hospital in Nicosia.

Forest Fire Fighting

At 1400 hours on 23 September a forest fire was observed South of Marathasa Dam. Sector 1 immediately offered help which at first was not required. By 1400 hours the fire had spread and Sector 1's offer of assistance was taken up and 20 soldiers from 8 Coy were sent to help fight the fire. After four hours the fire was brought under control. One of the Dnesh soldiers fighting the fire was overcome by smoke but was fully recovered.

OLEAN'S LAST RESTING PLACE

In Xeros a monument has now been placed on the grave of Olen's latest mascot and 'Good Adviser'.

NEW COY COMDS FOR B AND C COYS

Major G W. Wiberg took over B Coy on 29 September. He is from the Drammens Livregiment stationed in Askeland. In the picture he is seen with Lt Col W. Wylde, Commanding Officer.

Also on 29 September G Coy got a new OC. Major O.D. Bruce is from the Fotterskes Fodregiment stationed at Vordingborg. He has served with UNFICYP before; in 1964 he was OC A Coy in Nicosia. He has also served with UNTSO for several years. In the picture he is seen with his sabre in front of his Company when they paraded back to Canada.
The Band leading the contingent for the March Past at the Briton Medal Parade in front of the International Airport terminal building on 4 September.

The Swedish Medal Parade was at Larnaca on Thursday, 21 and 22 November, at which the Band has played.

Due to their system of rotation the Austrian Contingent has its Medals Parade every three months and the Band has therefore played for parades on 24 May and 18 August. The Austrians have made their mark on the Band as can be seen by the creation of the new "Compan" Section.

The Swedish Medal Parade has been the most memorable one, taking place as it did in the shadow of the Troodos mountains with the sun setting behind them.

Focus on The Band of I RRF

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Over the last few years the band of the Fusiliers has grown in popularity in a number of countries in Europe. While stationed in Gibraltar with the Band from 1971-2 they were invited to play at the birthday celebrations of King Hassan II of Morocco. They were also in constant demand by the Royal Navy to play for various ships of all nations into and out of port. Royalty played for also included the British Royal Family; the Band played at a charity concert given in the presence of HRH Princess Margaret last November and was present when HM the Queen opened the new National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

The Band by no means restricts its activities to music; its members are all trained medical assistants and in war would be used exactly as in field hospitals, and medical centres through the combat zone. Though the majority of their time is spent in musical practice and training they do have to carry out other training, such as physical fitness, the same as the other Fusiliers in the Band.

As can be imagined the provision of music and instruments is a major expense. The Band therefore relies upon public subscription orders in order to provide the equipment and music with which to carry out their various performances. Musical instruments can run from £100 to £400 or more each and a music score for one can be as much as £40.

Most people will have only seen the Band in its military role on parade but as part of their charter they also have a dance band, with a jazz section, and whilst in Cyprus they have produced a 'Compan' group — modelled roughly on the excellent Austrian Contingent Trio — which became a firm favourite whilst it was there. The Band has at times banded a choir and also on a number of occasions a Pop Group; efforts are being made to reform this group which is always popular and the previous one was only collapsed when its members were posted to other bands and depots.

The Band accompanied the battalion on its eighteen month tour in Ulster and helped to guard both the families' recreation areas and the barracks. It also gave some notable performances in Lodonderry and Strabane at Christmas time.

In 1976 the Band was invited to be part of the British Army's Christmas Tour to France to play at the Liberation celebrations for three days. For this the Band has performed in the London M.A.T.R. London's Show and the Wembley Musical Pageant, which is an annual event at Wembley Football Stadium and features orchestras from the British Army.

The Duncan Medall Parade held in the stadium at Evrykou on 25 August was a most memorable occasion, taking place as it did in the shadow of the Troodos mountains with the sun setting behind them.

There were also the occasions when the Band has been asked to play at concerts and shows given by well known television and film personalities. It has played for the Irish singer Brian Donn, the singer-comedian Ken Dodd and perhaps the best known internationally, Jimmy Connolly. Jimmy Connolly has also asked the Band to play for him on three separate occasions.

Whilst in Cyprus the Band has played almost all over the island from Famagusta to Episkopi and from Curium to Nicotia. It can now 'stand at ease', come to 'Attention', 'Quick march' and 'halt' in four different languages. In addition, at the request of HQ UNICYP, it has just completed a recording of the National Anthems of each of the contingents. Apart from the military programme the Band has played at the Larnaca Folk Festival and the International Scout Jamboree whilst the dance section has performed in many clubs and messes throughout the Sovereign Base Areas.

During the last eight years the Band has also produced two playing records which have featured a variety of music, from military to folk, from light classical to jazz, and including our better known regimental tunes like 'Blydon Races', and 'Keep Your Feet Still Gents Honny'.

All military musicians go through quite a long and intensive training which takes place at the Royal Military School of Music, at Kneller Hall in London. Musicians not only learn their trade here but also play in the Army and in the British Army and the band's students' course lasts twelve months, during which time the student is taught everything from the most basic to the most comprehensive in the world. Later in his career the student will then perform to Kneller Hall to undergo advanced training. As an apprentice Bannister the course lasts 3 years. Our Bandmaster, WO1 T Muller, an Irishman, completed his course last year and came to the Fusiliers at the end of 1977.

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SWEDCON MEDAL PARADE

In a month’s time the Swedish contingent will rotate. UN battalion 69C goes home and 71C takes over. On Thursday 21 September the Swedish "Summer Soldiers" received the tangible reward for their main role in the cause of Peace - the UN medal. The Medal Parade in Larnaca was very well organized, and the programme was completed in about forty minutes. Thanks are due to Lt Col. Stally who had rehearsed his men for the entire afternoon on the day before the parade. Thus ensuring that they were well prepared to make a good impression on the Force Commander, Maj Gen, J.J. Quinn and the assembled guests.

In his speech the Force Commander referred back to all that the previous Secretary-Gen, J.J. Quinn, had stated about the Swedish contribution to the UN peacekeeping efforts.

The colours are marched past the Force Commander.

OP A 28: “Our Eyes towards the Sea”

It is quite a normal OP with all the usual tasks that the others have. With one addition, it has to observe the Casse Fire Line to seaward. On occasions fishing boats and speed boats cross the line to the North, the fishing boats seeking better fishing grounds and the speed boats probably to look at Varoshia. However, the Casse Fire Line continues the division of Cyprus out to international waters. A boat crossing the line is therefore in exactly the same position as any other offending entering the Buffer Zone. Once it is seen that a boat is about to cross the line a red smoke flare is fired from a Veroy pistol by OP A28 as a warning. In the picture a warning flare is being fired by the Operator, Sgnt Plocek.

OP A 28 is also the end of the run for the Force Reserve patrol. The cherries and the rocks below the OP make it a very pleasant stop for them - they almost arrive wearing their snorkels for the dip in the sea they always manage to get!

AUSCON NEWS

Small but quick as a flash, that's our Ops Clerk, he doesn't handle the multitude of papers that arrive on his desk - he conducts them. Sitting behind his typewriter hard at work he reminds one of an octopus, he seems to have at least eight arms. Keep it up Op Rosalina.

UN NEWS (Continued from p. 6)

I regard to human rights, I have repeatedly expressed my full support for the respect of human rights. I have repeatedly expressed concern about violations of human rights, I have made appeals in that regard to the Governments which, in my opinion, do not respect human rights. And I have done everything I possibly could to help victims of violations of human rights, either through public statements or through quiet approaches to those Governments.

Of course, I have also stressed the fact that we are faced here with a problem of ideologically-driven interference in internal affairs. On the other hand, we have human rights provisions and covenants which oblige us to do whatever is possible to maintain respect for human rights. On Draft Convention aimed at strengthening the security of non-nuclear States as proposed by the Soviet Union.

“I have seen the proposal, of course, and I consider it to an important one which I am convinced will get the necessary attention during the forthcoming General Assembly. Evidently, non-proliferation states are interested in getting the necessary assurances from the nuclear powers and the purpose of the draft, so far as I understand it, is to obtain such assurances”.

Role of the United Nations in regions of conflict “I think that Governments more and more realises the importance of the United Nations and the useful role it can play in international affairs, especially if the world community is faced with regional conflicts. But the fact is that in most cases, whether in southern Africa, in central America or in Asia, sooner or later Governments request United Nations involvement. Of course, such involvement can produce positive results only if member-states, especially those countries involved in conflict and the United Nations and other Governments work together. I am sorry to say that we have not made much progress in this regard. There is a sort of stalemate. The last meeting of the Committee of the whole, which should have agreed on its working methods could not reach agreement on terms of reference. The question is still the same; should the committee be a negotiating body or should it just have monitoring functions. No agreement was reached in that regard and the group of 77 has decided to ask for a debate on this issue in a plenary session. I wish to inform you that in the meantime new efforts have been made in order to overcome this difficulty in the committee of the whole and to find a way out of this dilemma by agreeing on a formula which would satisfy both sides. I cannot tell you whether this will work, but at any rate I wish to express my deep concern about this situation. You know my position, that the outcome of the North-South dialogue is of decisive importance for the future of mankind. It is our duty and responsibility in the United Nations to make every effort to overcome difficulties and to achieve a solution to this crucial problem.”
Secretary Generals' Eve of 'Session Press Conference

At UN HQ New York on 19 September the Secretary General held his traditional press conference on the eve of the 33rd Session of the General Assembly.

Answering the first question on the incoming session, the Secretary General said: "I will not talk about the General Assembly. We have 130 items and we will be faced with most of the problems which are present-preoccupying the world community: with the Middle East, at any rate, certain aspects of our relations with South Africa, as well as with SWAPO.

There is also the question of the situation regarding South Africa, which has to be discussed with the Security Council. This is done under discussion with the African nations, and the Security Council.

Another aspect is the registration of states. SWAPO and the African States have also expressed serious reservations in regard to the fact that South Africa has started registration of the delegates who will be attending the meeting on the question of the African nations, which would be established in the next session. An important development going on in the United Nations is the Special Representative and his missions. The situation in South Africa has not been changed because the Security Council has not yet decided.

On the Middle East

I have received from President Carter's text of the two agreements signed at Camp David. I have read them and I also received a letter containing an accompanying explanatory letter from the President of Egypt. I can also tell you that this morning I discussed the most recent developments with the Secretary of State Mr. Kissinger, on the same subject and he gave me some details about the background of the agreements reached at Camp David. Although I have not seen these documents, I do not think that they would be appropriate for me to comment on them in detail at this time, when further steps are being taken to follow up the Camp David meeting.

I fully appreciate the enormous effort which has been made by the three leaders to tackle the problem of the Middle East. I think the role of the United Nations in this is very important. There is a number of references to the role of the United Nations in the text of the agreements. The Security Council is responsible for the situation in South Africa, and it is also likely to play a role in the situation in the Middle East.

On Cyprus

I am pleased to note the progress which has been made on the Cyprus problem, and I have noted the recent developments. The United Nations has a responsibility to act in the peace process. I believe that the Security Council is responsible for the situation in the Middle East and South Africa.

The situation in Lebanon

We are involved in a situation in Lebanon in the first place through our peace-keeping operation in southern Lebanon, and also in a peace-making effort. I have a Special Representative in Beirut who is in constant contact with the Lebanese Government. I myself have been in Lebanon to discuss the situation with the Government there.

I think that the fact that we introduced a peace-keeping force in southern Lebanon has certainly contributed to quietening the situation in that area. Of course, we are concerned by the fact that we have not been able to achieve a lasting ceasefire, and we are working hard to ensure that the ceasefire is maintained.

On Human Rights

"We must maintain our positions in respect to human rights. This is a fundamental issue that we cannot afford to ignore. We must continue to stand up for human rights and to press for their protection. This is a matter of principle and we cannot compromise on it.

Traffic Statistics

Two weeks ending 30 September 1978

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Continued on p. 7