

THE BLUE BERET



APRIL 1980



MARCH IN RETROSPECT

Rotations

None

Medal Parades

7 British Contingent
13 Swedish Contingent

Visits

1—5 Maj Gen R Gutknecht, Lt Col J Murphy and Maj F Bertrand to HQ UNFICYP and the Canadian Contingent to conduct a staff visit.
4—13 Maj B Mollstedt to the Swedish Contingent.
4—12 Lt Col G Bladbjerg of the UN Department of MOD Denmark to the Danish Contingent.
5—8 Mr H Lindgren to the Swedish Contingent on personnel matters.
5—13 Capt W Kingsbury, Lt J Lynch and MWO Fawcett to the Canadian Contingent to carry out audits.
7—11 Brig F Gruber and Supt E Hess, Army Chaplains, to the Austrian Contingent.
7—12 Lt Col B Skoland, Lt Col E Aasan Capt J Fatnes, Lt Col P Johansson, and Maj A Skjerving a logistics team, to HQ UNFICYP and the Swedish Contingent.
11—13 Lt Col S Elvhammar, Lt Col K Forssberg, Lt Col K Nerheim, Lt Col O Hanssen, Maj O Ahl and Maj L Windmar to the Force as part of the preparations for a course for staff officers and military observers to be held in Sweden under the auspices of NORDSAM (FN).
10—12 Mr Arto Polso to the Finnish Contingent for a safety inspection.
12—19 Maj Gen (Retd) J Gardner and Mrs Gardner to the Canadian Contingent to officiate at the celebration of the anniversary of Moreuil Wood Campaign.
11—19 Lt Col V Jacobsen to the Danish Contingent for familiarisation as Contingent Commander designate.

13

Air Vice Marshal Furness, Director of Legal Services (RAF) MOD UK to HQ UNFICYP and 84 Sqn Det RAF to discuss legal problems.
The British Ambassador to Greece, HE Mr I J M Sutherland CMG, to HQ UNFICYP and the British Contingent for a briefing on the UN presence in Cyprus.

14

HE Mr Erick Kronmark, Swedish Minister of Defence, to HQ UNFICYP and the Swedish Contingent.

18—20

21

Mr S Charlesworth, General Secretary of the British National Council of YMCA to HQ UNFICYP and 1LI in Sector 2.

22—1 Apr

Comdt G Kirwan, Press Officer MOD Ireland, to HQ UNFICYP.

26

Brig M Pritchard, Deputy Director Manning (Army) MOD UK, to HQ UNFICYP and the British Contingent to give a talk on Army manning and to visit Sector 2.

26—10 Apr

Mr R Nicoll and seven customs officials to the Canadian Contingent to pre-clear them before departure.

27—30

Mr B Share, Mr D Skehan and Mr B Keenan, Irish Press, to HQ UNFICYP to prepare article for 'Cara', magazine of Aer Lingus.

21—4 Apr

Lt Tookey and Officer Cadet Marshall to the British Contingent to visit 1 LI.

24—27

Gen K. Jørgensen, Danish Chief of Defence, to HQ UNFICYP and the Danish Contingent.

26—3 Apr

Ms R Karlsson and Ms Y Hadjigeorgiou to the Swedish Contingent to prepare article for magazine "Svenska Journalen".

28—2 Apr

Mr Lars Braw, editor of magazine "Kvaellsposten" to the Swedish Contingent to prepare article.

Military and Recreational Competitions

4

UNFICYP Skiing Competition

6

UNFICYP Bowling Competition

FUTURE EVENTS

APRIL

Films on Shakespeare presented by the British Council at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 24 April.

It is believed that Shakespeare was born on 23 April 1564 and died on 23 April 1616. The British Council dedicate their programme on Thursday, one day late for the double anniversary, to him. The films will show his sources, his stagecraft and examples of his art.

MAY

Anthestia Flower Festival

To be organised in Paphos under the auspices of Physiokratikos Omilos Paphos in early May.

The 5th Cyprus International (State) Fair

To be held in Nicosia from 24 May to 8 June. Many Cypriot exhibitors and foreign countries are participating in their well decorated pavilions. They exhibit their industrial and agricultural products. At the side of the Fair there is an international restaurant with music and folk-dancing.

Kataklysmos 26 May

The celebration of the "Flood". A unique and colourful Cypriot celebration associated with the Pentecost, as well as with sea games, traditional dancing and singing. Festivities in all the sea-side towns. It takes place 50 days after Easter Sunday. The festivities start on 25 May.

JUNE

Cyprus National Junior Tennis Championship

To be held in Nicosia at the Field Club Courts during the second fortnight of June. Open to all junior Cypriot Nationals and permanent residents only.

The 5th Nicosia Festival

Takes place in Nicosia the second week of June, with theatrical performances, concerts of popular and classical music as well as exhibitions of folk art.

Paphos Festival

Performances of ancient Greek drama will take place by moonlight at the ancient theatre of Kato Paphos by the Higher Schools of Paphos during the months of June and July.

St Paul's Feast 28 and 29 June

Religious festivities at Kato Paphos at which the Archbishop in all his Byzantine splendour officiates, assisted by all Cypriot Bishops. A procession of the Icon of St Paul through the streets of Kato Paphos follows.

JULY

International Art Festival of Limassol

It takes place during the first fortnight of July in the Municipal Gardens of Limassol. There are folk and classical dances, concerts of music and songs, exhibitions, etc.

Troodos Open Tennis Tournament

An open tennis tournament will be held in Troodos during the second fortnight of July. Open to all without any restrictions including foreigners and professionals.

Curium Festival

Performances of Shakespeare (second fortnight of June) and ancient Greek drama and concerts by moonlight at the ancient theatre of Curium near Limassol. The performances take place throughout the summer.

AUGUST

Folk Art Festival (PAMPAPHIA)

Organised in Paphos under the auspices of Laographikos Omilos Paphos during the first fortnight of August.

The Dormition of the Holy Virgin

Celebrations take place at the monasteries of Trooditissa and Kakkio on 14 and 15 August. The Abbots, dressed up in their religious gowns, attend the services whilst the churches are full of pilgrims from all over Cyprus and villagers take the opportunity to sell their products.

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

Second fortnight of 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 second fortnight of September. Open to all without restrictions including foreigners and professionals.

OCTOBER

International Clay Court Tennis Championships

To be held in Nicosia at the Field Club Courts during the first fortnight of October. Open to all without restrictions.

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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.

This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Force Commander. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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on the cover

A Competitor negotiating a gate on the grand slalom course of the UNFICYP Skiing Competition which took place on 4 March.

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

Staff Photographer Leaves

Since January 1978 Sgt Pete Statham has been the Force Photographer, which means he has also been the Staff Photographer for "The Blue Beret". During the time he has been with the Force a large number of photographs in every edition of "The Blue Beret" have been his and since the introduction of the new format journal virtually all the cover photographs have been his work and the one for this issue is his last.

You will rarely have seen his name credited in the magazine as he eschewed publicity. Occasionally, particularly when his photographs were used to illustrate an article, his name did appear in the credits and invariably when this happened he appeared in front of the editorial desk to express dismay at the overruling of his wishes. As will have been realised the Editor took very little notice of this as Pete Statham's photographic help and advice had been instrumental in producing the new image house journal and it was felt he deserved the credit. The Editor would like to place on record his thanks for the willing help Pete Statham gave to him personally over the last 2 years and all the staff of the magazine wish him success in his new appointment.

On this occasion we would also like to take the opportunity to welcome our new Staff Photographer, Sgt George Moffett, who arrives on the crest of a wave, having just had one of his photographs selected as the British Army "Photograph of the Year". Congratulations and welcome.

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Calgary Stampede



Article by Roy Forestall.

Pictures by Cedric Mercer.



The "Bucking Broncho" at work.



Goat Wrestling, not so easy!

Moreuil Wood Day has traditionally been celebrated on 15 March by a sombre day of military parades, remembrance services, luncheons and perhaps, to lighten the very serious mood, a Regimental all ranks dance in the evening. In addition in Canada the unpredictable winds of March usually lend an Arctic touch to the proceedings. Moreuil Wood Day 1980 was unusual in many respects.

Western bands, stetsons, flapjacks, bar girls, floats, palm trees and shirt sleeve weather all lent a different flavor to Moreuil Wood 80. For one day the Regiment put on a mini Calgary Stampede in all its original facets, that would have made the Stampede Board green with envy. What would Stampede be without a chuckwagon breakfast complete with Western Band? Not much, of course, so we had one. Wolseley Barracks was decorated to represent a western town complete with four bars to the acre, bank, undertakers and court house. Hangings took place regularly — Judge Lancaster did get a little carried away with his powers of a delegated officer. Across the street bar girls beckoned the unwary up to the CO's office. Due to the combination of steep stairs, burly Indian guards and shall we say for want of a better term — booze — few made it. In between the hangings and the shoot outs a western band provided entertainment, the general store sold out of its stock of stetsons and hundreds of people of all ages had a whale of a good time.

A Stampede Parade wound its way through Wolseley Barracks at about ten in the morning. The imagination that went into the floats combined with the bright sunshine made the parade a photographer's dream. Temperance man McGowan regaled the crowd to sobriety but his advice went unheeded as the float immediately

behind him was doing a hot business selling a concoction of pure alcohol guaranteed to cure anything. Beautiful girls dressed in borrowed clothes and some what paranoid about their bubbles bursting waved daintily out at the crowd. Horses, stagecoaches and even a wrecker lent a definite air to the whole proceedings.

And how could there be a parade without a band? The one from the Light Infantry did very nicely.

The stage show was not quite professional but certainly entertaining. Bands, beauty contest, skits and a musical ride kept the crowd in stitches — of pain or laughter — I wonder?

The rodeo was held under a hot afternoon sun. A bucking bronco that seemed more destined to maim than buck, goat wrestling and chuckwagon races made up a very successful event. It was truly an international rodeo as teams from Britain and Australia competed alongside the various CANCON squadron teams. The Australians had particular troubles goat wrestling as the time keeper finally gave up watching the clock as they kept breaking the meet record for the most inept team. The Brits did surprisingly well at chuckwagon racing but only after Spr Roshier had put on a great show by, first being run into by another team, and then finally falling under his own speeding wagon. Fortunately his injuries were not serious enough for him to have to be shot!

Over a thousand people from all over the Island enjoyed what many of us have described as our best day on the island. The sun, the comradeship and the spirit of good fun made Nicosia, Cyprus the place to be on the 15 March.



Canadian team wins second heat of Chuckwagon race.



The Musical Ride with a difference.

FUGUES to FOLK

Article by Sue Bingham

There were no fugues in the programme that was performed by the English Chamber Orchestra at the Municipal Theatre in Nicosia during the evening of Wednesday 19 March. However, the title of this article just shows the marked contrast of two concerts which took place in Nicosia within a few days of one another. Cyprus does not appear to be renowned for its cultural activities and there is generally a feast or a famine. This being the period of Lent one might be reasonably led to expect a famine, but for the musically inclined this has not turned out to be the case.

Contrasting they might have been, but for one with very catholic tastes in music, I found both concerts equally enjoyable.

The English Chamber Orchestra, sponsored by the British Council, which for the uninitiated is in Museum Street, opposite the Municipal Theatre, has not performed in Cyprus since 1969 and so it was no surprise to find the theatre full to capacity with all age groups obviously making the most of a rare opportunity.

The programme consisted of Stravinsky's 'Dumbarton Oaks', a fairly short concerto, which required only half of the thirty-five strong orchestra. This was followed by Mozart's Violin Concert in A Major, the soloist being Jose-Luis Gracia. After the interval the orchestra started with 'Symphonies' by Gordon Crosse and the programme ended with a very popular choice, Mozart's Symphony No 40 in G Minor. The audience, by this time, had no intention of letting the orchestra slip away and conductor, Norman Del Mar, lived up to their expectations, when with some audience persuasion, he supplied two encores. The concert enabled a rather cold, wet evening to be transformed into a delightful one which ended all too soon and I am sure that everyone there would prefer not to have to wait another eleven years for a repeat performance.

The McCalmans, on the other hand, are not such strangers to Cyprus. Their previous concert took place at the Municipal Theatre in May last year. On that occasion they had quite a large supporting cast but this month's concert was a more intimate affair with just the McCalmans and singer Katy Heath performing at the School for the Blind. The performance started at 8 pm on Sunday 23 March — tickets were just 500 mils — which for three hours of high quality folk music was a bargain. Unfortunately a relatively small number of people took advantage of this. The programme was compered by Philip Jay, an announcer from BFBS Cyprus and a capable folk singer in his own right, who gave us a few songs from his repertoire at the start of each half of the show. Katy Heath followed and beguiled the audience with her impudent charm. Her songs, many of which she had written, were, although not in the traditional folk idiom, very easy on the ear and her performance was most enjoyable.

Naturally, the stars of the show were the McCalman's, a trio from Edinburgh, whose popularity is world wide. They regaled us with shanties, ballads and, what was more unusual, two more modern songs sung in the 'Barber Shop' style. Their harmony,

Out & About in Cyprus

timing and standard of music was high, as always, and Ian McCalman coped well with some heckling from the second row, building up an easy rapport with the audience. Although we were only some hundred strong, by the end of the evening there was quite a folk club atmosphere and regardless of the fact that tea was the strongest drink available most people were reluctant to leave. However, after the audience thought they had gone for good the

The McCalmans

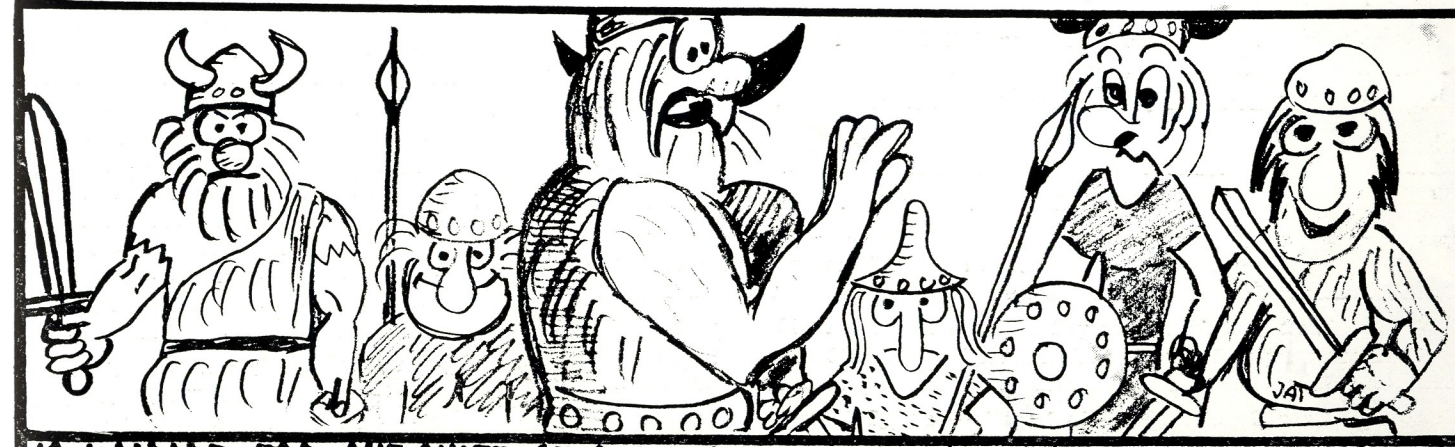


McCalmans re-appeared for an encore, this time performed in the auditorium. After that final song everyone left peacefully; happily humming to themselves.

It seems a great pity that this concert was not better supported. There was at the Chamber Orchestra recital a sprinkling of UN but as the folk concert was organised especially for the Force a higher attendance would have been more encouraging for the performers. It would be a great pity if lack of enthusiasm for these events deprived the UN of the few live concerts that come their way.

KEEP SMILING

A VIKING SAGA



AT A PARADE FOR THE CHIEF OF DEFENCE, THE VIKINGS WERE ALIKE — ALMOST !!!



SIGNALLER'S PATRON SAINT'S DAY CELEBRATED

On the 24 March 1980, a formal dinner was held at the Officers' Mess by the Signallers of UNFICYP in honour of their patron, Archangel Gabriel, who, in 1951, was canonised by Pope Pius XII and designated the patron saint of all communicators.

A total of 20 Signal Officers from 11 countries attended.

During the dinner the Signallers were entertained by the Band of the 1st Battalion The Light Infantry, and cables received from Austria, Canada, Denmark, Sweden and UK were read out to the Signallers of UNFICYP.

SUCCESSFUL SMILING SYLPHS

In early January, several ladies in UNFICYP decided that after Christmas, the seasonal fare had been just too much; or rather, that there was just too much of them! The outcome was a Sponsored Slim, with the proceeds going to charity, organised by Mrs Beryl Thomas. (She is the one in the picture who is trying to look even slimmer!) As a result of the concerted abstinence, weight equal to one man was lost, and a cheque for £210 sterling has been forwarded to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.



CHOIRBOY TO QUARTERMASTER



Born in 1941 in Vienna, G. Alteneichinger was admitted to the Vienna Boys Choir (Wiener Sängerknaben) in 1949 for musical education as a result of the great musical talent he had shown. Five years later he was detailed to join one of the four travelling choirs, and he took part in performances all over the world.

The Vienna Boys Choir is a well-known private institution, founded in 1946 by Emperor Maximilian I to cultivate sacred music. The "King of Melodies", Franz Schubert, and the famous conductor Clemens Kraus were former choirboys.

When he left school, Capt Alteneichinger became a commercial clerk. He did his national service in 1960 and afterwards joined the army as a civilian official within the Ministry of Defence. Because he enjoyed the army, he applied for, and was granted, a place in a militia officers training course. After promotion to Lieutenant (Quartermaster) in 1971, he applied to serve with an Austrian battalion abroad and has completed tours with UNEF in Egypt and UNDOF in Syria. He has served with UNFICYP as Quartermaster since October 1979 and will rejoin his wife and two sons of 11 and 13 after the next rotation in April 1980.

Pictorial news

EASTER FAIR

GREAT SUCCESS

Article by Sue Bingham. Pictures by George Moffett.



The Bread stall doing a roaring trade.

Due to the popularity of last year's Easter Fair, in aid of UNICEF, the UNFICYP Families Club decided to hold another one this year with the proceeds going to various Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot charities. The Fair, officially opened by Marc Tyley of BFBS, took place on Saturday 29 March and was, as last year, the successful result of a tremendous amount of hard work by a great many people. The families of UNFICYP provided bottles, handicrafts, cakes, bread and pies and sold numerous raffle tickets, the prizes for which were kindly donated by shops and companies in Nicosia.

The Fair attracted quite a large crowd and there were queues at all the stalls, making the total collected at the end of the afternoon in the region of £1,200.

No doubt the Easter Fair, which has proved such a success, will become a regular feature of the UNFICYP calendar. Congratulations to all concerned!



Seeking for treasure on the White Elephant stall.

UN News (Continued from page 16)

statement to reflect the Turkish Cypriot position concerning bizonality, security and the "partnership" status of the communities.

17. In a last-minute effort to break the impasse, I presented a new suggestion to the parties on 28 March. Under this plan, there would be a revised opening statement containing elements of my suggestions of August 1979 (see para. 8 above); the interlocutors would note this statement and the Greek Cypriot interlocutor would, as requested, be able to put on record his reservation concerning the interpretation of certain controversial terms (such as bizonality and security) used in the statement. Thereupon the interlocutors would proceed to the substantive consideration of the matters on the agenda.

18. On 29 March, Mr. Rolandis indicated that his side could accept my latest suggestion, provided certain changes were made in the opening statement. If these changes were accepted by the Turkish Cypriot side, the Greek Cypriots would agree to consider the opening statement as binding. Alternatively, he suggested reconvening the talks on the basis of the accord of 19 May 1979, without an agenda.

19. On 30 March, Mr. Denktash announced that his authorities had decided to accept the proposals of the Secretary-General (see para. 17 above) and that, if the Greek Cypriots also accepted them without conditions or reservations, the intercommunal talks could resume next week. Mr. Denktash rejected the suggestions of Mr. Rolandis (see para. 18 above) which, he said, would introduce the Greek Cypriot reservations into the body of the opening statement.

20. Mr. Rolandis criticized Mr. Denktash's announced acceptance of my proposal as misleading, on the grounds that the Turkish Cypriot side had rejected my suggestion that the Greek Cypriot interlocutor

should express his reservations; in so doing, Mr. Rolandis said, the Turkish Cypriots had rejected an essential component of the Secretary-General's proposals.

21. I and my representatives continued intensive consultations from 30 March to 2 April. On 31 March, Mr. Rolandis suggested, as a new approach, that my Special Representative should undertake preparatory consultations with both interlocutors separately on certain controversial matters, including bizonality and security. This approach was turned down by the Turkish Cypriot side when, on 1 April, Mr. Atakol responded that such consultations had in fact been going on for some time. In further contacts by my Special Representative with the Turkish Cypriot side on 2 April to verify the possibilities for a compromise formula, it was ascertained that Mr. Atakol maintained the position of the Turkish Cypriot side that neither party should make any reservations.

22. In these circumstances, I wish to inform the General Assembly that, owing to the divergent and firmly held positions of the parties, the effort to resume the negotiations between the communities on the basis of the agreement of 19 May 1979 has not, so far, borne fruit.

23. I however continue to hold to the opinion that the intercommunal talks, if properly used, represent the best available method for negotiating a just and lasting political settlement of the Cyprus problem based on the legitimate rights of the two communities. I shall therefore pursue the mission of good offices entrusted to me by the Security Council to this end. I shall keep the General Assembly informed of the outcome of my continuing efforts to facilitate the development of a concrete and effective negotiating process for the solution of the Cyprus problem.



UN NEWS



QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Report of the Secretary-General dated 2 April 1980

1. This report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 34/30 of 20 November 1979 on the question of Cyprus. In paragraph 12 of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it by 31 March 1980 on the progress achieved in the negotiations between the two communities in Cyprus on the basis of the agreement of 19 May 1979.

2. During the past months, I have pursued the mission of good offices entrusted to me by the Security Council in resolution 367 (1975) of 12 March 1975 and continued by subsequent resolutions, including most recently resolution 458 (1979) of 14 December 1979. As I reported to the General Assembly on 8 November 1979, the intercommunal talks that had been resumed on 15 June on the basis of the high-level agreement of 19 May were recessed on 22 June. My report to the General Assembly and the report of 1 December 1979 to the Security Council gave an account of my subsequent efforts to bring about a resumption of the intercommunal negotiating process on the same basis.

3. I and my Special Representative in Cyprus have since continued intensive consultations with all concerned within the framework of my good offices mission, and following the approach outlined in my reports, so as to circumvent the difficulties that were encountered in June 1979 and get down to concrete negotiations on the substantive aspects of the Cyprus problem. I suggested that the elements of that approach might be embodied in a statement to be delivered by my representative at the opening of the resumed round of talks, outlining my understanding of the common ground that had been worked out in the course of the consultations. The statement would simply be noted by the interlocutors, who might if desired put on record their views on the matters covered in it, and would then go on to the consideration of the substantive aspects of the Cyprus problem.

4. The opening statement was to make it clear that both parties had reaffirmed the validity of the high-level agreement of 19 May 1979, and that both had submitted proposals providing a "bizonal" territorial arrangement in respect of the bicomunal federal system that was referred to in the Makarios/Denktaş guidelines. Both parties had indicated that the matter of the security of the Turkish Cypriot community, as well as the security of Cyprus as a whole and of all its citizens, would be duly taken into account by the interlocutors during the negotiations. The practical application of both these concepts would be dealt with in the context of the substantive consideration of the constitutional and territorial aspects and would be reflected in the substantive positions and proposals of the parties concerning the various items of the agenda.

5. The opening statement would set forth the Secretary-General's understanding, on the basis of the 19 May agreement, that the matters to be discussed would include the following subjects:

- (a) Reaching agreement on the resettlement of Varosha under United Nations auspices, in accordance with the provisions of point 5 of the 19 May agreement;
- (b) Initial practical measures by both sides to promote goodwill, mutual confidence and the return to normal conditions, in accordance with the provisions of point 6, which states special importance will be given to this matter;
- (c) Constitutional aspects;
- (d) Territorial aspects.

6. Concerning procedure, it would be understood that the four items listed above should be dealt with in rotation at consecutive meetings. At an appropriate early stage, committees or working groups might be set up by the interlocutors.

7. The Greek Cypriot side, while taking exception to certain aspects of my description of the common ground, indicated that it could accept the over-all approach, having in mind that the statement of the representative of the Secretary-General would not be binding on the parties and that, as suggested (see para 3 above), the Greek Cypriot interlocutor would be given the opportunity to place on record the position of his side.

8. The Turkish Cypriot side advised my representatives that it was prepared to resume the talks provided the text of the statement describing the Secretary-General's understanding of the common ground were negotiated and agreed upon as binding by both sides.

In this connexion, Mr. Denktaş suggested a number of amendments to the text of the opening statement. Some of these were based on my suggestions, on which the parties had been sounded out in August 1979 and which the Turkish Cypriots had accepted in October 1979.

9. The Greek Cypriots rejected the modified approach and the amendments suggested by the Turkish Cypriot side, which in their view constituted a demand for pre-negotiating the basic elements of the Cyprus problem and entering into commitments consistent with the Turkish Cypriot position.

10. During this period, Mr. Denktaş made a number of public statements in which he criticized the terms of General Assembly resolution 34/30 as impeding the resumption of the intercommunal talks. The Turkish Cypriot community, he indicated, did not consent to hold talks "even under the shadow of such a resolution". In an effort to clarify this aspect of the matter, the United Nations spokesman stated that the Secretary-General's efforts to get the talks resumed had been undertaken within the framework of the good offices mission entrusted to him by the Security Council, and on the basis of the high-level agreement of 19 May 1979.

11. When Foreign Minister Rolandis visited me in New York on 4 and 7 February 1980, I briefed him on my intensive efforts to bridge the gap between the positions of the two communities. In this connexion, Mr. Rolandis outlined certain steps that his side was prepared to take under the heading of "initial practical measures" (see para. 5 above, item (b)). These might include financial grants to the Turkish Cypriot community, public utility works throughout the island under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme and reopening the question of reactivating the Nicosia International Airport. He suggested that the Turkish Cypriot side reciprocate by agreeing to the resettlement of Varosha under United Nations auspices (*ibid.*, item (a)) and by reopening the Nicosia-Larnaca road.

12. On 21 February, Mr. Denktaş criticized the above suggestions as a "handout" being offered to a "so-called minority". He noted that the Greek Cypriots were at the same time attacking his community in international forums and intensifying economic restrictions, in violation of point 6 of the 19 May agreement.

13. During this period I was ready, as part of my efforts, to send Mr. Pérez de Cuellar, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, on a mission to the area with the object of exploring further the possibilities of resuming an effective negotiating process. However, in the absence of any indication of sufficient flexibility to make such a visit worthwhile, I decided not to pursue the matter.

14. I further explored the possibility of adjusting the scenario for the reopening of the talks as well as the statement of my Special Representative so as to circumvent the difficulties outlined in the preceding paragraphs. In my view, contentious issues such as "bizonality" and the "security of the Turkish Cypriot community" could only be dealt with productively within the framework of the intercommunal talks, as part of negotiating the constitutional and territorial aspects. I therefore urged the parties to resume the talks and proceed as soon as possible to the consideration of concrete matters with a view to achieving progress.

15. President Kyprianou on 25 March reiterated his opposition to the Turkish Cypriot notion of negotiating a binding agreement prior to the opening of the talks. He was prepared to accept the opening statement of my representative provided the Greek Cypriot side were given the opportunity to reserve its position concerning certain terms (such as bizonality and security) to which the two parties had given conflicting interpretations. He also objected to the textual modifications proposed by the Turkish Cypriots as tending to alter the high-level agreements of 1977 and 1979 in a manner unacceptable to his side.

16. On 26 March, Mr. Denktaş informed my Special Representative that his side adhered to the position that the opening statement of the representative of the Secretary-General would have to be a binding agreement if an immediate collapse to the talks were to be averted. He also pressed for modifications of the text of the opening

(Continued on page 15)