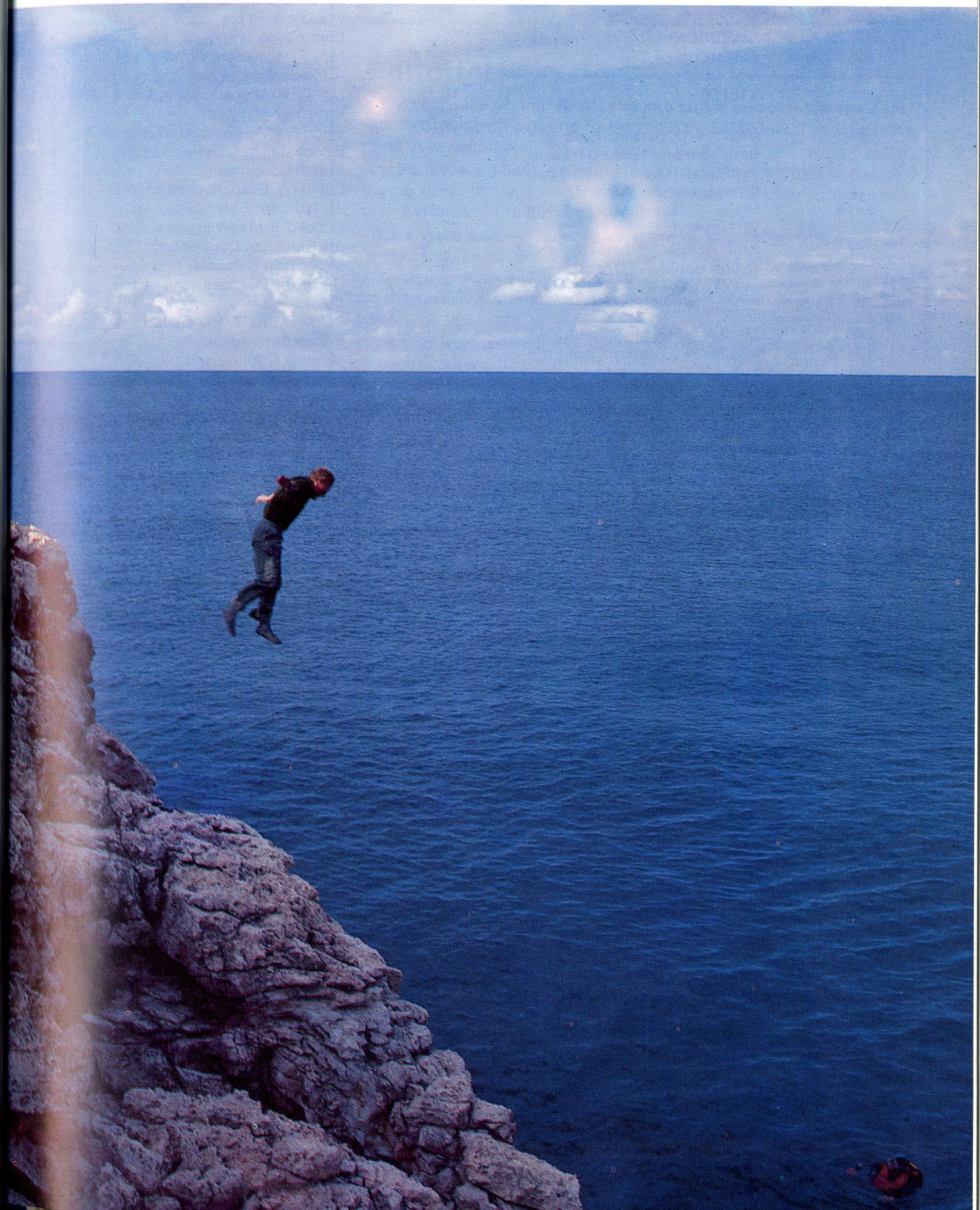


# THE BLUE BERET





# MARCH IN RETROSPECT

## ROTATIONS

12-14 March CANCON  
12-25 April SWEDCON  
18-25 April SWEDCIVPOL

## VISITS

4-6 Capt W D Barton, Capt J J Bouchard and MWO D F Laver visited the Canadian Contingent.  
5-15 Major T Nilsen visited HQ UNFICYP.  
6-7 Ambassador Blomberg and Major General Pertit Jokinen visited the Swedish Contingent.  
7-8 & 11-15 Mr N Jerebro, Mr K Edman and Mr N I Tetting visited the Swedish Contingent  
7-14 Messrs. E Hanson, S Webb, L Skipper, R Clark and Ms J Garner visited the British Contingent.  
9-11 Lt Gen Sir Geoffrey and Lady Howlett visited the British Contingent.  
10-15 Major General Torben Hjalp, Major Karsten, I B Meier and Major Leo Nielsen visited the Danish Contingent.  
11-14 Major M Wanseth and Capt R Carlsson visited the Swedish Contingent.

11-14

12-14

15

19

20

21-23

24-27

26

26-2/4

27-6/4

28-29

28-2/4

28-4/4

30-3/4

Lt Col L Skeppstedt, Swedish Defence Staff and party of 11 visited the Swedish Contingent.

Mr F Molden visited the Austrian Contingent.

Mr G R Worroll visited the British Contingent.

Brig R M Bowen, Deputy Paymaster in Chief visited the British Contingent.

Col J A Graham visited the British Contingent.

Lt Col J R MacPherson visited the Canadian Contingent.

Major Gen B Cassidy and Capt G Breen visited the Irish Contingent.

Col M Willis, MOD visited the British Contingent.

Major R G Elliott and Capt A B Rider visited the Canadian Contingent.

Messrs. E Ojanpera, M Aalto and I Meriluoto visited the Finnish Contingent.

Ambassador Muheim and party of six visited HQ UNFICYP.

Lt Col J A Annand & Major H I Monnon visited the Canadian Contingent.

Brig Lee, Comd 2 Inf Bde visited the British Contingent.

Mr H Engell, Danish Ministry of Defence and party of 11 visited the Danish Contingent.

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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. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper size 160mm by 210mm. 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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## Front cover

Cliff jump after  
Cape Greco March  
Photo by Lt Ulf Borgvald

# THE BLUE BERET



## Editorial

As the year rolls on into April, and into better weather we see a new Swedish Contingent arriving in Sector 5 and 3R22eR (The Van Doos) settling in to Sector 4.

In this issue we have an interesting article from 1 DERR in Sector 2 living up to their name of "The Farmers Boys" by their assistance to Cypriot Farmers in the Buffer Zone.

There have been a number of sporting and Military competitions recently and some of these appear in these pages. The ski-ing championship organised by AUSCON is featured on Page 14 and the "leap from the rocks" at the end of the Cape Greco March is our front cover picture.

We also have articles this month on two different elements of the Support Regiment, The Signal Squadron and the Transport Squadron. Both perform vital operational or logistic support functions for the Force as a whole. Finally we have an interesting article from 84 Squadron RAF on some of the archaeological sites near their base at Akrotiri. Cyprus is rich in history and there are many fascinating sites to be explored throughout the island.

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# FUTURE EVENTS

## APRIL

### SPORT

27-28 April Cross - The - Island Run UNBZ

## MAY

### SPORT

14 May UNFICYP ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

18 May UN HORSE RACE/FSC SQN

23-24 May TENNIS/FSC SQN

25 May Austrian Folk Festival held at Camp Duke Leopold, Famagusta



BRITCON Medal Parade  
held on 29th March 1985.



Sgt Harrill receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from Brigadier Lee—visitor to 1 DERR at B18.



WO1 Hicks, RSM, 1 DERR being towed off St. David's Camp to be replaced by WO1 Sherman.

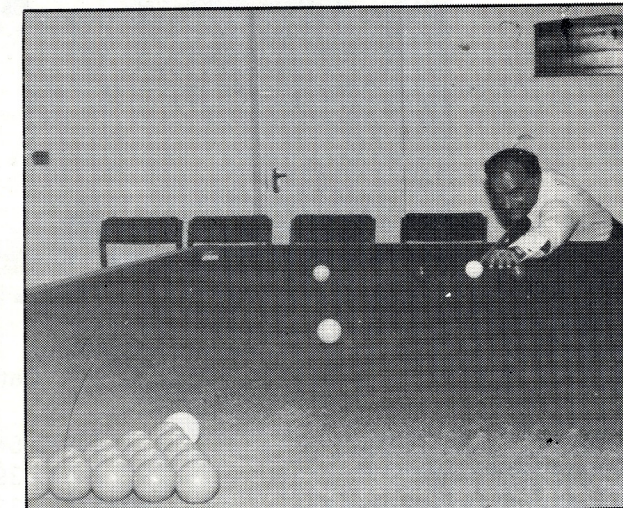


Insp N Caswell and Sgt T Holson receiving their UN Medals at the AUSTCIVPOL Medal Parade held at HQ UNFICYP.

Drivers of the UNFICYP Secretariat proudly displaying their Safe Driving Certificates for twelve months accident free driving, presented by the CAO, Mr Brophy.



Mrs Duchesne presenting chocolate Easter eggs to the first children entering the swimming pool this year. (L to R) James MacArthur, Emma Duchesne and Charles Duchesne.



Major Anderson on his way to victory in the UNFICYP Officers Mess Snooker Championships.





# UNESCO AND LOCAL HISTORY

By Flt Lt. F.M. Haggerty

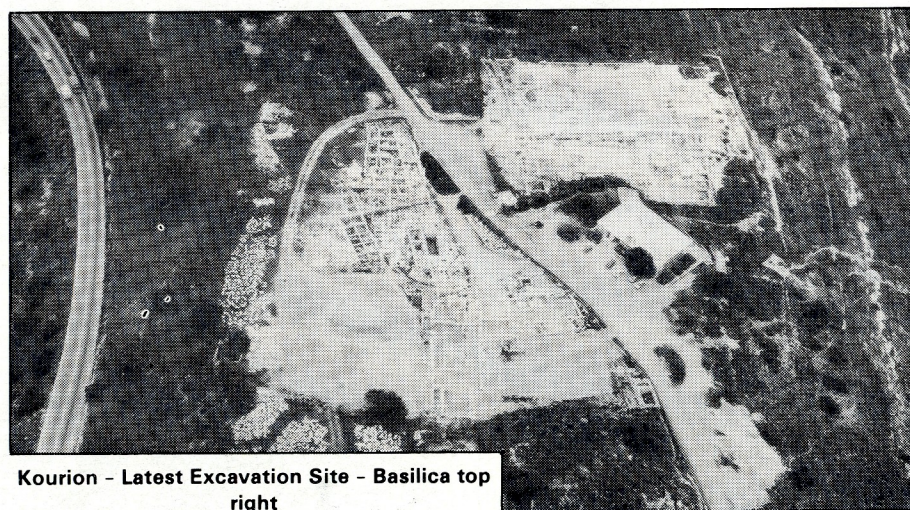
Royal Air Force Akrotiri is situated on a peninsula on the south coast of the island. Nearby lies the ancient city of Kourion reputed to have been founded by the Argives in the Late Bronze age of Cyprus (1625-1050 BC). This city and the surrounding area will hopefully soon be added to the UNESCO list of sites to be preserved for the heritage of mankind. Kourion rapidly developed into a city which commanded a superb view over Episkopi Bay. The only easy access to the city was along a razor back ridge from the west. The whole city is being excavated but time and money are the main drawbacks. The most impressive building there is the theatre which can seat 3000 people and was originally totally covered.

Nearby are the baths and a building dedicated to Christianity which displays a plain mosaic which is the earliest example of the word "Christ" written in mosaic.

Just to the west of the city is the small basilica of At Meydan, built by the Romans in the late 5th century AD as assembly halls but later it became a church. It appears to have been in use until the 7th century when Islam arrived on the island. Next along the road is the stadium, taking its name from the Roman measure of distance equal to 186 metres. Built just for track events it could seat 6000 spectators in 7 rows of seats. The walls are made of huge sandstone blocks and are 6 metres thick. This building dates from the second century AD.

The Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates was built in 7 century BC and destroyed in 370 AD by huge earthquake. It had almost 1000 years of continuous use. Last year British service units assisted in erecting 2 reconstructed pillars at the temple itself and this July we hope to replace the capitals and one of the huge lintels. This reconstruction should give the tourist a memorable insight to the splendour of the original building.

Within 25 miles of RAF Akrotiri are classic sites that can be used as examples of the developing Cypriot culture. I will briefly list the sites and the period to which they belong to provide a quick reference for anyone who wishes to carry out a visit to the area.



Kourion - Latest Excavation Site - Basilica top right

Period	Date	Location
Neolithic 1 Aceramic	7500-5600BC	Khirokitia and Kalavassos
Neolithic 11 Ceramic	4600-3900BC	Sotira-Teppes
Chalcolithic Mainphase	3000-2300BC	Erimi-Bamboula
Chalcolithic Transition	2900-2500BC	Souskion
Early Bronze	2300-1900BC	Episkopi-Phaneromani
Middle Bronze	1900-1625BC	Episkopi-Phaneromani
Late Bronze	1625-1050BC	Kourion and Palaepaphos
Early Iron Geometric	1050-750BC	Temple of Apollo

# SCOUT CAR SQUADRON

By Capt. B. Gill



We have now settled into our role and consequently we have found that during February we were able to take part in quite a number of sports and competitions generally with success. The most important competition was, of course, the Military Skills and the success of the team was entirely a result of the hard work and dedicated effort of the team led by 2Lt Peter BULLEN and Sgt Paul CUTTING.



On the military side we have once again been out on a Force Reserve Exercise, this time near ASTROMERITIS. Fortunately the weather was rather warmer than the previous one and so generally we had an enjoyable day.

As the weather gradually gets better and the snow recedes we look forward to all the other sporting opportunities that will emerge as the sea looks more and more inviting!

Skiing has also featured largely in our months activities. In the NEFSKI Championships we came third. We did not have quite so much fortune in the UN Championships.

Even so, many members of the Squadron have had a chance to ski in Troodos, some for the first time. Consequently we have benefitted greatly from the opportunity afforded by the closeness of the slopes.







## DANCON NEWS

By: Pte K. - P. Koudal

Photos by: Pte. P. Jacobsen

### WEDDING IN VIKING CAMP

On 2 Feb a soldier from VIKING CAMP, Pte S.L. Rasmussen married in COLUMBAS CHURCH, NICOSIA, Bubbha Saengsawang from Thailand. For the celebration afterwards all members of the Staff and HQ Coy, DANCON were invited for a giant party in the Pte's Mess, which in this way wished the married couple GOOD LUCK.



## THE SAUNA



The word "SAUNA" is the Finnish word for bath, and a Finnish invention. The cold afternoons and evenings in VIKING CAMP were the main reasons for building a SAUNA which is today of a very fine quality.

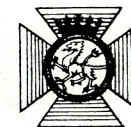
The last time the FORCE ENGINEER was in VIKING CAMP he inspected the sauna and stated that the building and the result was perfect, and that statement was appreciated by Pte P.B. Nielsen and Pte. M.B. Madsen as the creators, because none of the two Privates are engineers in their daily work. The sauna has several purposes, YOU CAN LOSE SOME SUPERFLUOUS KILOS, if you have them and also a bad cold can be cured.

The sauna is open daily for three hours and that's more than enough, because the temperature is almost 100 degrees centigrade, and one hour to one and a half is the maximum time for VIKINGS.

The project cost the privates nearly C £750, a large amount of the money was taken from the surplus from the Pte's Mess.

The "SAUNA" was opened on the 22nd of January, and has become very well used.

## THE FARMERS BOYS



By Captain Phillip King

Photographer: L/Cpl East

Bravo 36 is a rather small "temporary" building just south of the Buffer Zone, near the village of Peristerona. Although it is not sited particularly conveniently in terms of the needs of the two soldiers who live there, it is admirably placed for the local population.

Most of the farms that run along Sector Two to the east of Bravo 36 are arable cereal and root crops, while to the west the other half of the Sector has mostly citrus crops. There are hundreds of farmers in Sector Two, although only about forty per cent of it is farmed. At any time of the day a farmer may drop into Bravo 36 to discuss problems or projects for this UN outpost is the home of the two Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment farming NCO's; Sgt Jeff Barber and Sgt Phil Harrill. Sgt Harrill looks after farming in the west of the zone, while Sgt Barber looks after the eastern half.



Sgt Barber with some of his friends picking oranges.

The two "Farmers Boys" provide escorts for farmers as and when required and assist the Sector Humanitarian Officer when the Force Commander directs that new fields be opened to farming once more. Of course the Farming NCO's cannot be everywhere at once, so close contact with the soldiers manning the observation posts is essential to ensure that buffer zone boundaries are enforced and that farmers do not allow herds to stray into forbidden areas.

Because so much of the buffer zone is unfarmed it has become something of a nature reserve; most soldiers have become good bird recognition experts. The abundance of wild life means that not so friendly dogs can find a living. In winter they are solitary, but less food in summer makes them hunt in packs. Farmers are not allowed to carry firearms in the buffer zone so protection of livestock from the dogs (which have been known to attack fully grown cows) falls to the Farming NCO's. Borrowed shotguns (to be replaced by officially purchased ones) and helicopters have been

used to hunt the dogs. January and February were particularly cold months to hunt from "stripped down" helicopters in! Soldiers manning OP's will very often hear the dog packs at all times of the day, so it is their reports that are instrumental in clearing this menace for the farmers.

Another side to their humanitarian work with the Battalion is the regular visits they make to the north of the Island, and also to the south; the Northwind and Southwind Patrols. With the Humanitarian Officer they visit minority communities and take gifts, medicines and home comforts for these people.

Any of the "Farmers Boys" working along the buffer zone will testify to the friendliness and generosity of the local population. The two Farming NCO's have had the opportunity in the six months that they live and work in Sector Two to meet more people and make more new friends than most, and are rather happy that they could become "farmers" in fact as well as nickname.



Sgt Harrill gets down to some work with a farmer in the Buffer Zone.



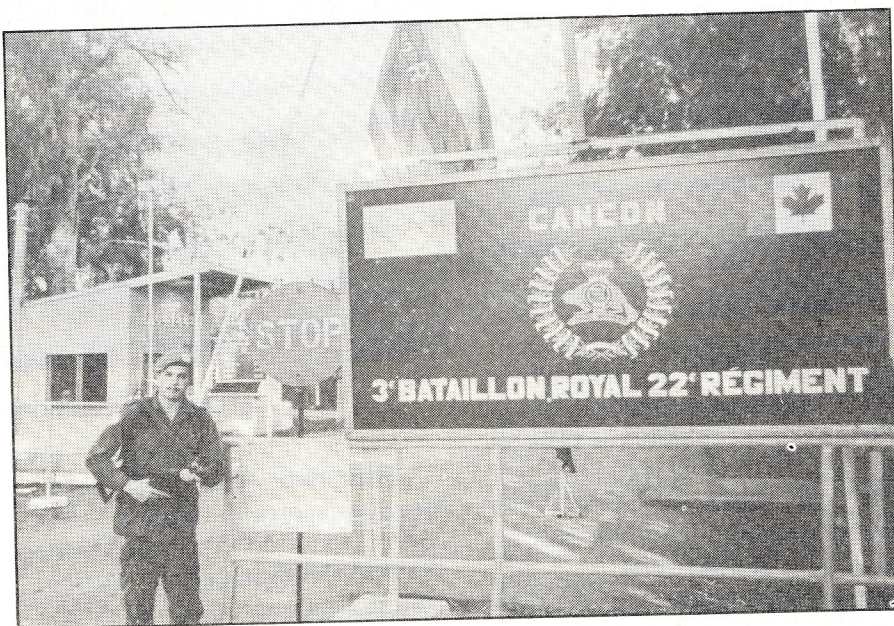


## THE THIRD BATTALION, ROYAL 22nd REGIMENT HAVE ARRIVED

Photos by: Cpl Lanthier

It was a long trip from Canada, and by that I do not just refer to distance. Well, you know how pilots are. Why do airplanes always break down in time for lunch? Anyway, we have finally arrived. We have now been on the island for just over a month. All elements of the battalion have been working long hours at their new jobs. The line platoons have had their moments of excitement and tension, mixed with the frustration of having to adapt to the Cyprus situation and all the peculiar logic attached to it.

The long hot hours in the OP, the never ending sandbags, the frustration of trying to prevent ancient animosities from reaching boiling point—these constitute the real heart of the matter. After more than twenty years, history shows us that we



Newest neighbour to BRITCON AND SWEDCON



MGen Greindl presiding at the change of command ceremony between 1 RCR and 3 R22eR

have achieved some success, which is fruitful for both communities. Now what is important is that we do our duty.

We have to play our own role in the troubled history of this island, and we have to play it well. In the process, we will all change. We will develop as individual units as well as United Nations responding to the challenges before us. A Cyprus tour can be one of two things; a boring six months, or a rewarding and fulfilling experience with our UN friends. One can be sure that it will be the latter. So, until the next article, we would like to wish all members of UNFICYP good fortune, good weather and good times.

## TRANSPORTS OF DELIGHT

By: Major Poyntz

Photos by L/Cpl Farlow

Now firmly established and half way through their tour of duty as UNFICYP Transport Support Squadron, 15 Squadron RCT have been kept quite busy both on and off duty. Not only has it been necessary to do the familiar job of resupplying refugees, taking children to school, watering the outposts, removing rubbish (etc!), and providing the cheapest taxi service in Nicosia but it has been done for a month, as far as possible, with fewer men and fewer vehicles due to the recent trial of the Inspector of Establishment's recommendations.



Sport for all—Cpl Lonie, Dvr Emmens & Dvr Young.



LCpl Sage shows that Shooting requires thought! Best Individual Shot UNFICYP Shooting Competition.

When not on the road the Squadron has taken an active part in the UNFICYP Shooting Competition, helping the Support Regiment come third and producing, in LCpl Sage, the best rifle shot in the Competition. All competitors enjoyed the Safe and

Skilled Driving Competition which the Squadron organised and ran in January. Sport is keenly followed and the Squadron has been actively engaged in football, running, basketball, volleyball, softball, badminton, squash, skiing, golf, swimming,

windsurfing and scuba diving.

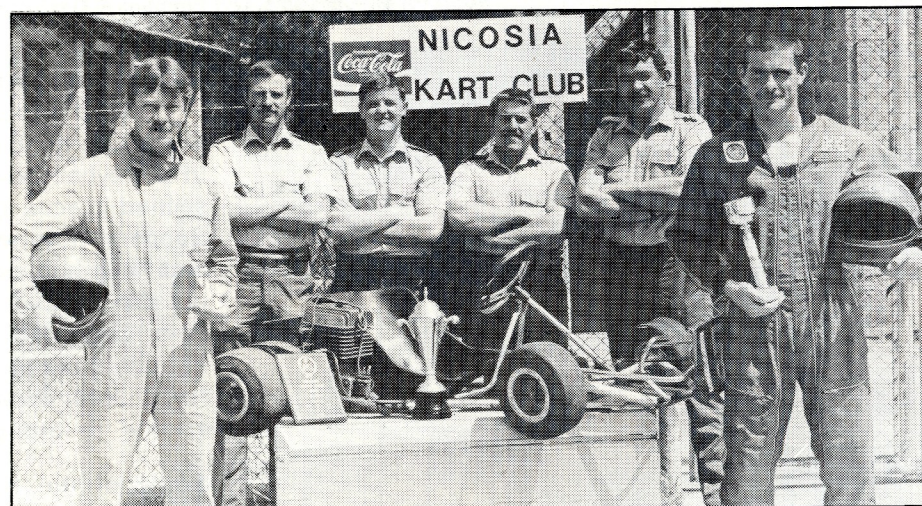
They have done particularly well in volleyball, winning first and second places in the UNFICYP Support Regiment Competition and have had several successes on the football field. Bowling, darts and snooker attract many Squadron players once daylight fades and they are presently second in the bowling league.

Some of the Squadron's more interesting pursuits are sport parachuting, mountaineering and sea angling. Recently they have lost their gliding instructor on posting. Longer days and more sunshine will see Members of the Squadron further afield taking full advantage of the many activities available. The International Pancake Race on 19th February was run by the Squadron and proved to be a lot of fun. For the Spring Fair, amongst other things, the Squadron intends to run a train service. With the visit of United Kingdom Regimental Commanding Officer Lt Col D Williams and the BRITCON Medal Parade the Squadron is nothing if not busy as they move into the last half of their tour.





Brig P.R. DUCHESNE and LtCol W. BRANDNER discussing after the Skills competition (...and before the Skiing Competition!)



The Nicosia Kart Club adding more trophies to their collection.



Brigadier Duchesne has handed over the medals to the winners of the UNFICYP orienteering A class, 1st Pte Hollbeck, 2nd Capt Hansson, and 3rd Pte Steen, all from SWEDCON.



All the medal receivers in the orienteering oldboys class, from left to right Major Jeppsson, Capt Brandt and Capt Hansson. All from SWEDCON. Capt Brandt was given a special celebration since it was his 60th birthday the day after the championships.



# INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK



## FROM THE SWEDISH CONTINGENT

### Recipes By

Lt Staffan Dopping

Picture by:

Capt Tony Johansson

### TOAST SKAGEN (1 person)

1 toast

1 tablespoon roe from bleak or similar

### Mixture a la Skagen

50ml shrimps

50ml mayonnaise

50ml cut dill

2 teaspoons lemon juice

1 teaspoon Worcester sauce

salt and pepper

A typically Swedish appetizer, suitable on most occasions. Put the mixture on the toast and put the roe on top. Garnish with lettuce, lemon and dill. Bon appetit!

### BODY CAKES (potato dumplings) (4 persons)

5 kg potatoes peeled raw

3/4 kg lightly salted pork

0,2 kg onion

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

250ml barley-flour

1 teaspoon salt

Potato dumplings - or body cakes which is a humorous translation of the Swedish name "kroppkakor" - are both cheap and well-tasting. The course is very common in Oland, a big Swedish island in the Baltic, and traditional out there.

Grate the raw potatoes or mince them. Put the potatoes into a sieve over a bowl, and let the water go off. It takes about two hours. The potato-flour sinks to the bottom of the bowl. Take away



the water but save the potato-flour. The liquid can also be passed through a rough towel.

Cut the pork into small cubes. Mince the onion. Mix the pork-and onion cubes with the pepper. Mix the grated potatoes with barley-flour, salt and the potato-flour. Mix thoroughly.

Heat up water with salt added (1 tablespoon/litre water) in a wide kettle. Make round balls of the mixture, one at a time. Flatten the ball. Put the pork cubes into the middle and put the mixture over the pork. Re-form the mixture into balls.

Place the balls into a wooden ladle and put into the boiling water, one by one. Let the dumplings simmer for about 45 minutes.

Serve with melted butter and lingonberry jam.

### SEMLA (Swedish lent-bun)

1 bun

50ml thick cream

marzipan or almond paste powder sugar

This dessert is called Shrove-Tuesdaybun, Lent-bun and hetvagg ("hotwall"). Cherished child has got many names, as a well-known Swedish proverb says. This bun is eaten mainly during lent.

Cut off the upper part of the bun and dig out a "crater" in the rest. Stuff this crater with almond-paste and put generously with whipped cream over the lower part of the bun. Put on the upper part and powder the sugar on the hat.

Serve together with coffee and/or warm milk. And don't forget to eat it!





## UNFICYP SKIING COMPETITION

By Capt F. Fritzlehner

Photos by Sgt Thomson

Not only the Austrian mountains are covered with snow. There was also a lot of snow in the Troodos mountain range. Therefore AUSCON found good conditions to organize the skiing competition for UNFICYP on 28th February 85.

The participants represented all UN-contingents and our guests the Cyprus skiing club. The grand slalom track started at the peak of the Olympus (1995m) and ended next to the station of the North Face Lift.

Wolfgang GRAFENBERGER, an Austrian skiing instructor, set the exciting course. No surprise—he is also the trainer of the Cypriot National Team, which took part in the World Championship in Bormio 85.

The mountain trained Austrian soldiers had been favoured by many. But the 21 gates created a tremendous problem for them. The Austrians forced the speed, risked everything and lost.



SWEDCON won all the first three places. They did their best to imitate the Swedish world champion Ingeborg Stenmark who gave the Austrian National Team a hard time over many years. Our Cypriot guests competed in the guest-class and presented ski racing par excellence.

One Austrian saved the Austrian skiing reputation: Mrs Helene GREINDL, the wife of our Force Commander, won the UN-Ladies race in an excellent and speedy manner. Bravo "Frau General"!

It was a typical Austrian skiing day: beautiful weather, marvellous atmosphere, "Gluhwein", Austrian folk music, olympic spirit of the participants and excellent audience.

### Results

OPEN/UNFICYP  
INDIVIDUALS UNFICYP TEAM  
1. Sgt NILSON SWEDCON  
2. Pte BERGSTROEM SWEDCON  
3. Pte SJOSTROEM SWEDCON

UNFICYP LADIES  
1. Mrs GREINDL AUSTRIA  
2. Miss OLLIF AUSTRALIA  
3. Miss VESEY UK

UNFICYP TEAM  
1. SWEDCON  
2. MP COY  
3. SP REGT



Competitors in the Ladies Event.

## THIS IS POLAR COY!



By Major Goran Blomqvist

Photos by Lt Ulf Borgvald



The camp guard at the main camp, Camp Polar in Athienou.

The main camp of 2 rifle coy, SWEDCON, known as Polar coy with the well-known polar bear as their symbol, is located in the village of Athienou. The company has about 20 kilometres of sector five as their area of responsibility. It is the area between UN road at Pyroi and the ESBA, Dhekelia. The terrain is very varied. In the west there are plains, in the middle it is hilly, and in the east there are plains again.

Within the area three villages: Athienou with about 3,800 inhabitants, with mainly farming and ancillary industries. Troulli has about 800 inhabitants, mainly farmers, and in the easternmost part of the area is Pyla, with a mixed population. About 1,000 persons live in the village, roughly 700 Greek Cypriots and 300 Turkish Cypriots. The main occupations are farming, trading and service jobs in Larnaca and Dhekelia. The whole area is now in full bloom, and very beautiful.

The coy is organised as a head-quarters and three platoons. The HQ is located at Camp Polar, which is not actually a camp with a barbed wire fence round a sealed zone, but an area where the UN barracks mingle with the houses of the common population of Athienou. For this reason, relations are very good between us and the locals.

The company is assisted by a scout car troop from the FSC Sqn, which executes patrolling in our area. Within our company area is one more camp, Camp Carl Philip in Pyla. It is a platoon camp, occupied by the "Pyla platoon".

All personnel, the "Polar bears", are conscripts volunteering for UN service. There are soldiers from army, air force and marines. Most professions are represented, thus it is possible to solve most problems that we face.

A considerable number of the personnel want to return once again to UN service on Cyprus, and have already applied for it.



Major Goran Blomqvist, OC at 2 coy, SWEDCON.



# UNFICYP COMMUNICATIONS

By Major CR Treeby and Lt JBM Savard.



It should be clear to any reader of the Blue Beret that good communications are the life blood of UNFICYP peace-keeping operations; the need to report quickly is vital if our task is to be effective. For this reason we are very much "comms" orientated with radios, pagers and telephones proliferating in every operational vehicle, office, OP and even much of the living accommodation. Much is taken for granted and few realise what stands behind the whole system; what maintains and improves it.

Communications within the UN, island-wide, are the responsibility of the Force Signals Officer (FSO), Major CR Treeby, who is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of all the UN Signallers to provide a comprehensive and effective system. As a Staff Officer in the Headquarters he is assisted by a Staff Officer (Telecommunications) who is responsible for telephone and line planning and is the prime liaison officer with both the Greek and Turkish Telephone Authorities. The fact that Capt Lyytinen is a Fighter Pilot in the Finnish Air Force does not detract in any way from his ability as a diplomat to get the very best out of these two organisations.

The FSO has a direct responsibility of the daily running of 254 (UNFICYP) Signal Squadron, whose activities were described in our October 1984 edition.

The five line sectors have their own signals section of between

10 and 15 members. They manage their own internal land line telephone systems which run between 50 miles in sector four to over 200 miles in sector five. They also operate a sector VHF command net as well as being a station on the VHF command net. Since most of their operators aren't professionals, they often rely on 254's expertise to solve technical problems. The FSC Sqn, AUSTCIVPOL and SWEDCIVPOL also have signal components. Although smaller, they still play an important role.

The main source of headaches faced by 254 Signal Squadron consists of dealing with the telephone network. Economic restraints have precluded the allocation of an independent UNFICYP system so we are faced with using a system comprising part of the RAF radio relay system, the local telephone agencies "land line and the sectors" field cable linked together by the Signal Squadron's own field equipment. Control of such a system involving many agencies with carrying priorities is a communications nightmare, however a new simpler solution is being sought, that may even save money! The sectors are also not without problems. They too must deal with the local agencies and every year many sections of their

extensive field cable systems are damaged by a combination of sun, rain and humidity and require to be replaced. For many, the telephone network, together with the motorola net, are the main channels of communications and VHF radio has become almost forgotten in some instances.

Doubts are now being raised as to whether the traditional systems could adjust to any critical situation and 254 Signal Squadron has made steps towards improving its flexibility by putting more emphasis on field radios. Although it will remain a priority of the Squadron to better the basic telephone system, it has now set its sights at a much higher target; an efficient and fully integrated system!

To educate the staff on the fragility of what is now in place and on the advantages of VHF radio communications has been the main concern of the FSO since he took over in November.

Communications education is a continuous task and readers of the Blue Beret are asked to assist by bringing this article to the notice of their own Staff so that they may be aware that without realistic Communications' Contingency plans, they will be without the necessary information to perform their own tasks or take appropriate action.



Its all go in the Telephone Exchange.