FORCE COMMANDER'S COMMENDATION

On Saturday 2 March 1991 at about 0300 hours, Corporal Cummings returned to his accommodation block in Jubilee Camp, United Nations Protected Area, Nicosia.

Upon entering his room, he discovered it to be full of smoke and a fire to be blazing fiercely in one corner. He immediately raised the alarm and awakened six colleagues in the adjoining rooms of the block and ensured that they evacuated the building.

 Corporal King, one of those Corporal Cummings had woken, returned to his room, which was engulfed in smoke and flames, in an attempt to save his belongings. He did not re-emerge. Corporal Cummings, with scant regard for his own personal safety, re-entered the blazing building and found Corporal King unconscious, having been overcome by smoke. He carried him to safety and gave exhaled air resuscitation. This was successful and Corporal King was soon breathing unaided.

Due to his prompt action and disregard for his own safety, Corporal Cummings may well have saved Corporal King’s life. Pictured right is the Acting Force Commander, Brigadier Fredenslund, presenting the FC’s commendation.

VISIT OF DANISH CHIEF OF DEFENCE

The Danish Chief of Defence, General Jørgen Lyng, visited DANCON on 26 and 27 February 1991.

IMPEANDING ARRIVAL

Between 3-8 March 1991, the future Commander of the Danish Contingent, Lt Col D Banja (left) paid a short recce visit to DANCON. The change of command will take place on 4 May. On his departure, the current CO DANCON, Lt Col OASC Hansen, will take up the post of Chief of the Danish UN Department.

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. All words used are official and may not be reproduced without the permission of the Editor.

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DANCON MARCH 1 - 1991

The March took place in the Troodos Mountains on 2-3 March and 9-10 March with 544 participants from all Contingents.

The DANCON March was first held in 1972 with personnel from DANCON only taking part. Since then, the March has been carried out twice a year with only one break, which was in 1974/75. With the recommencement in 1975, military personnel from all sectors could then participate, including civilians with the permission of Commander DANCON. The March is carried out over two days - 25 km each day. All military personnel are required to carry full marching equipment, which must weigh a minimum of 10 kg.

The purpose of the DANCON March is to encourage as many members of UNFICYP as possible to participate in physical training, at the same time offering a good opportunity to meet other UNFICYP members during the March.

The 37th DANCON March was no exception! It was enjoyed by all who participated, even though a few large blisters appeared at the finish line! DANCON would like to thank all participants for their high spirits over the two days, and we hope that in future, the March continues to remain a success.

GETTING TO KNOW B-COY, DANCON

by Flg Offr Mannerup

B Coy is the only Danish Company on the southern side of the Cease Fire Line. At present, it consists of four Officers, 26 NCOs and 64 Privates. Major M Jakobsen is the OC, a Cyprus veteran, running for his UN silver numeral no. 3! To assist him is his 2/i/c, Captain N-C L Hansen, two Platoon Commanders and a Sergeant Major.

Welcome to B Coy

the Tank Regiment are the major contributors. Everybody in the camp enjoys this arrangement, because it makes everyday life more interesting!

Sekourotissa Camp

B Coy is organised as follows:

(1) HQ Section, which handles personnel matters for the whole company.

(2) Supply Section, which provides B Coy with all necessary materials, including a bus for weekly transport to other towns in Cyprus.

The OC, Major M Jacobson

It is a fact that during the last few months, B Coy has done much to improve relations with neighbouring units of UNFICYP. Our doors are always open, so feel free to pay a visit to Sekourotissa Camp any time you wish, and we, the descendants of the great Vikings, shall be glad to offer you typical Danish hospitality!

The 2/i/c, Capt N-C L Hansen

(3) Cook Section - which provides the wonderful Danish lunches and dinners! Many of the supplies are imported, so that even though they sometimes work under field conditions, the personnel of B Coy feel very much at home.

(4) Reconnaissance Section is a special independent unit, which surveys the Buffer Zone by use of both vehicles and helicopters.

(5) Last but not least, we have the two OP platoons which survey the Buffer Zone on foot 24 hours a day.

The Blue Beret

Vehicle Workshops

FSCs on patrol
A TROOPER'S VIEW OF LIFE ON THE LINE

by Tpr Gaz Walton

My life presently exists and revolves around an Observation Post (OP) called Bravo 35, situated in the Buffer Zone. It is one of several OPs which are manned by Troopers, in our case under the guidance of 5 Corporals and Lance Corporals and our Troop Leaders.

Is it as hard as people say being a Trooper? After all, we are the lowest rank there is in our Regiment. Well, the answer is no, or rather no, most of the time. When you sit down and think about it, there is nothing difficult about observing the area and reporting what happens. That's the easy part, the slightly harder aspect is when you are called upon to make your own decisions. Sometimes a Trooper may be in a situation where he needs to make a decision but is uncertain as to the correct course of action. This is why we have our LCpl and LCpl, who will give us the assistance and guidance we are looking for.

To give you more of an insight of our job at B-33, here is an account of a day in the life of a Trooper.

Early start! Well that really depends on whether you have been up for two or three hours, or are still rattling windows with your snoring! Whichever is the case, everyone is up and about by 0830 hrs. The night shift who are just coming off duty sort the block jobs out, and generally keep the hygiene standards remarkably high considering there are only two of them. Three Troopers man the OP tower during the day, and they obviously have to be alert at all times. To ensure their alertness, a rata is made so that each man doesn't spend too long at any one time on the tower. His job is quite active, watching 4 or 5 patrol tracks, and the vehicles on them. He also observes and logs any changes to defensive positions, or any digging of trenches etc in the Buffer Zone. He has to salute every UN vehicle that drives past, regardless of the type of vehicle or the rank of the occupants.

If a visitor visits the OP for the first time, he is greeted by the duty watchkeeper, and asked if he would like a formal brief. A formal brief is given on the tower by the duty Trooper and covers all aspects relating to the surrounding area. It has to be given orally, in a set format, and from memory. This is the time when the duty Trooper is beginning to get nervous. By the time a visitor gets his brief, the Trooper will probably be giving it to the man, the radio, the compass, and more than likely, a bird that happens to fly past. It is moments like this that a Trooper

SP REGT NEWS

With the support of the UN Police and UNICYP Military Police, the patrol competition was decided that the first Dash inter-tribe competition for 1991 should have suitable benefit. So on Wednesday 1st March, there was a competition for the 8 mile CFT, the troops entered two teams for a grenade throwing and assault course competition. Cpl Landry managed 32 points alone on the grenade throwing — better than in some cases both teams from the other troops. All the teams put in a valiant attempt, however, no clear winner. A clear 20 seconds on the assault course, and was able to lead the 'A' team as winners of the trophy.

Congratulations to the winning team: Cpl Hodds, LCpl Roberts, LCpl Bell, Sigs Skidmore, Toomes and Lean.

HISTORY OF 15 SQUADRON
ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

Lt D R D Hopkins REME assumed the appointment 2IC/AC of the UNICYP Wksp in mid January 1991. His main tasks include Workshop accounts and administration, as well as preparing and carrying out adventure training and many sporting activities.

Lt Hopkins was commissioned in 1985. Whilst some of his interests such as cars and motorcycles have had to be put on hold whilst he is in Cyprus (economic constraints force him to drive a Lada Samara), Lt Hopkins is looking forward to adding to his offshore sailing experience, improving his dinghy crew skills and taking up Korting.

15 Squadron RCT assumed the role of the UN Transport Squadron from 60 Squadron RCT on the 11 January 1991. This is the third operation undertaken by the Squadron. What follows is a brief history of 15 Squadron RCT:

In January 1942, 15 Tank Transporter Company Royal Army Service Corps was to be found on active service in the Western Desert. After service in this theatre and Western Europe, the company was disbanded in Hamburg during 1944.

15 Motor Transport Company RASC was formed in York during 1951 and disbanded in 1961. In July 1962, 122 Company RASC (Tipper) in Osnabruck, West Germany was redesignated 15 Company RASC (Tipper) and remained as such until January 1965.

In 1965 the company was re-roled in support of 1st Artillery Brigade and during this time was retitled 15 Squadron RCT. The Squadron remained in support of the Artillery until 1967.

In 1977 with the reorganisation of 1 (British) Corps, the Squadron was re-roled to support 5 Field Force.

The Squadron returned to the United Kingdom in 1983 and became part of 2 Infantry Division Transport Regiment RCT.
UNFICYP SKIING COMPETITION

This event, which took place on 14 February 1991 in the Troodos mountains, saw one of the most outstanding results for the soldiers of the Austrian Contingent so far. Five of them took part, with CPL Tabel gaining first place. Second came MCPL Lackner, and third place was taken by Sgt Pichler, representing UN MP Coy. The Australians did well in this competition — not only did they excel in the singles, but they also won the team competition. In second place was UN MP Coy, and third came BRITCON.

The winning team!

Maybe next year...?

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

With the Military Skills Competition looming, 5 Tp in Sector Four have taken up clay pigeon shooting, and why not? The photo above shows CT Boyd under instruction. On the left, Tpr Brown is shown taking on the world, whilst Goh Carney (standing with the ear defenders on) looks on.

AND STILL ON SKIING

What snow skiing the Troodos mountains provided was pounced upon with gusto, culminating in the UNFICYP Skiing Competition. This involved two runs down a giant slalom course and 54 competitors from all sectors, including the Cyprus Ski Federation. The races began in earnest and it was soon evident that the Australians were "in a class of their own" — a description normally reserved for the Blues and Royals! Although trying hard to regain this heading, no medals were collected, but an extremely enjoyable day was had by all. The photo shows the FSC Sqn "Ski Dudes" — LCPL Lickford, LCOH Crocker, LCOH Smith, Tpr Habgood, Tpr Turner representing the Sqn at the UNFICYP Skiing Competition.

POLO

The polo setup makes this sport accessible to many who have never hit a ball in their lives. Members of the Sqn grasped this opportunity with both hands and took on the polo team of the Queen's Own Hussars. After a closely contested 2-chukka match, the QOH 'carried the silver' home by winning 2-0. The photo shows the FSC Sqn versus QOH with their representative flags flying. Left to right: Maj BWB White, Strumper, Capt M Goodman, CT JP Barclay, CT J Kent, Maj J Brook-Fox (umpire), Capt R Geoffrey, Capt J Roigerson, Maj A Lodge and Capt N Thomas.

DIVING

A number of soldiers from the FSC Sqn have taken full advantage of the wonderful chance to learn to dive in Cyprus. A very experienced instructor, offers PADI courses to UN personnel. So far, almost 20 people have passed and are now able to hire diving equipment and dive, within their limitations, around the world. As it is said, "diving is no problem here in Cyprus". The photo (left) shows Tpr Turner — "Whatever the surroundings, you are messing with the wrong guy".
WHO'S NEW IN THE SECTOR THREE ZOO

by Captain S.G. Yuzwak

1 PPCLI's CO is LCol Ray Romsey, who also is double-hatted as Commander CANCON. His DCO is Maj Dave Pentney and his RSM CWO Ritchie. All three gentlemen bring the benefit of previous Cyprus tours to their jobs.

Our Operations Centre is headed by Maj Howard Michuch and also runs Headquarters Company. This may be quite a change for him since his previous postings were in Canada and the United States.

LCol R. Romsey

Yes, it's that time of year again. With Mid-March 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry had successfully moved from Calgary, Alberta to Cyprus and replaced 12th BRC in Sector 3. With this rotation will come new perspectives as well as new faces.

Maj H. Michuch

explain his somewhat haggard appearance. Somewhat less haggard but no less busy is the OC of City Company, Maj Joe Pollock. This man has been to Cyprus so many times that he has a permanent forwarding address. OC of Rural Company is Maj J. Pollock.

Although the Advance Party was lucky enough to have "all" its luggage inspected before crossing the pond, most of the arrivals were processed quickly and smoothly. In fact, in some cases, the arrival was so smooth that some people went straight from the aircraft, through the Arrival Assistance Group and on duty at the nearest OP! Welcome to Cyprus.

Maj B. Southern

is Maj Barry Southern who has vowed to cover the UNBZ in paint. Rumour has it that it is to ensure that his Operations Officer can find his way in the dark. Last, but certainly shortest, is OC of Administration Company Maj Ermie Reimumiller. Maj Reimumiller is determined to run the entire company around.

Maj D. Pentney

1 PPCLI REGIMENTAL DAY GOING ON

Traditionally celebrated every 17 Mar to honor the birthday of our original Colonel-in-Chief, 1 PPCLI this year celebrated Regimental Day at Wolseley Barracks on Tuesday 19 Mar, so as not to disrupt Sunday routine.

The inter-company sporting events consisted of tug-of-war and broom-ii-o, a Regimental sport that combines the best (or worst, depending on your point of view) elements of broomball, field hockey, hurling, rugby and Australian Rules Football.

The Adm Company tug-of-war team was nothing short of awesome, going undefeated in the preliminaries and making very short work of Rural Company in the finals. They took full advantage of the "no weight limit" rule and while some grumblings about illegal substance use were heard from the losers, it was evident that the winners simply had better technique — and more body mass.

The broom-ii-o competition was very spirited and highly competitive, with all teams playing relatively evenly matched. The finals pitted City and Rural companies against one another and City Company, looking fresh despite having played a semi-final match just minutes prior, finessed their way to a 3-0 victory.

The day's sporting activities culminated with the much anticipated (by everyone except the competitors) Officers — Senior NCOs broom-ii-o match. The Senior NCOs were seeking a measure of revenge after having lost the hockey challenge earlier in the season, while the Officers were looking for a victory to ensure a clean sweep of the year's challenges. The Senior NCOs jumped to a quick 2-0 lead, but the Officers proved to have much skill, hustle and good looks (which is the key, because it's not whether you win or lose, but how good you look playing the game). They stormed back with 4 unanswered goals and won the match 4-2, occasionally employing the "more is better" strategy and sending all their players onto the floor at the same time. The Senior NCOs, of course, answered with their own show of force, the result being short periods of total pandemonium and chaos, until the referees were able to restore order and reinflate the ball. No blood was shed (well hardly), bones broken or limbs lost and the general consensus among the competitors was that it is a good thing the match is only played once a year, as the other 364 days are required for recovery.

Maj E. Reimumiller

1 PPCLI TAKES OVER

by Lt Holdren

On Saturday 9 March 1991 12th BRC and 1 PPCLI paraded for the Sector Three Handover Ceremony. The event marked the official passing of responsibility and control to 1 PPCLI as the Canadian Contingent to the United Nations in Cyprus. On this day, the weather was bright with a brisk wind to show off the Colours.

The parade itself was very brief, starting with the forming up of 12th BRC under the command of LCol J.O.M. Maisonneuve. General Milner, the UNFYCP Force Commander, then gave a farewell/wel-

The Colour's of 1 PPCLI

come speech. Finally LCol R.R. Romsey marched on the Colours of the "First and Finest." It was over as quickly as it had begun.

"It was only a parade," you might say, and essentially you would be correct, but it was a much awaited parade. We had been waiting long enough to take over the reins of control so that we could put the familiar and comforting stamp of an Infantry unit back on the line. All that could be covered in preparation for the change had been done. Since the arrival of the advance party on 22 Feb 91, a third of 12th BRC had had a marvellous time no matter how cloudy the day, as their counterparts followed them everywhere. Indeed they must have looked forward to the change-of-command with as much anticipation as us (though for a different reason).

As if by magic, the new presence on the line brought an increase of incidents, and now all are putting to daily use that which we had learned. It should be noted that the Battalion took command of a well organized Sector. This was a positive sign that 12th BRC had done a super job.
The Blue Beret

April 1991

SWEDCON MEDAL PARADE

On 23 January 1991, the SWEDCIVPOL Medal Parade was held in the Sun Hall Hotel, Larnaca. About 100 guests were invited to this function. Commander SWEDCIVPOL, Ch Sup't Håkan Thelin, made a speech and the Force Commander then expressed his gratitude for the way in which SWEDCIVPOL has completed its tasks within UNFICYP. Mjr Gen Milner presented the following members with their medals, shown on the left:

Top, left to right: Insp Lars Wallberg, Insp Lars Juneklint, Insp Anders Fockman, Insp Bjorn Astell.

Bottom, left to right: Ch Insp Thomas Fasth, Insp Christer Tholinson, Insp Ulf Nord, Ch Insp Ulf Sjoberg.

Then, on 31 January, following the SWEDCON January Briefing, Ch Sup't Håkan Thelin presented UNFICYP numbers to 10 Officers serving with SWEDCON/SWEDCIVPOL over and above their first tour of duty.

CAPTIONS COMPETITION

If you can think of an appropriate caption for this month's competition, please send it in to the MPIO's office, HQ UNFICYP by Wednesday 15 May.

The Blue Beret

April 1991

AUSTRALIAN MEDAL PARADE

On 8th February 1991, the 33rd Contingent of Australian Civilian Police assembled at the BBC Officers' Mess to receive their UN medal for service in Cyprus.

Although the Australian Federal Police, from which the contingent is drawn, is a disciplined body with a traditional uniform policing component, a fair proportion of the members are plain clothes investigators and drill is not their strong suit. For that reason, and because of the indoor setting, a simple march-on, march-off format was adopted.

The Australian High Commissioner, His Excellency Mr R Stevens, was present to observe the Force Commander present medals to the 13 recipients, one of the largest parades for some years.

During a speech following the presentation, Major General Milner drew parallels between the traditional role of civilian police and some aspects of the UN mission in Cyprus. He also referred to the operational contribution being made by two female members of the contingent.

After the ceremony, a reception was held at the Officers' Mess with celebrations continuing later at the AUSTCIVPOL Mess. During the evening, music was provided by the band of the Queen's Own Hussars under WO Ian Stewart.

The 33rd AUSTCIVPOL Contingent on parade was conscious and proud of the fact that they were the latest of an unbroken Australian Civilian Policing contribution to UNFICYP stretching back to 1964.

This month's caption competition was won by an anonymous bidder who submitted the entry above.
INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK

DANISH AKVAVITS

Aalborg Akvavit, the Danish "national drink and appreciated by millions of people all over the world" has its origins in the history of Danish civilization. The oldest written notice discovered on akvavit date back to the years 1528 and 1531. In two letters from these years, a Danish nobilmen mentions akvavit as "water called aqua vitae" which cures any internal illness that a man can have, the Latin aqua vitae meaning "water of life".

Through the centuries people learned to appreciate akvavit more and more. They did not have to suffer from an internal illness to snatch a couple of glasses—prevention was better than cure!

Almost every Dane distilled his own akvavit in those days, but in 1846 the production of akvavit was taken up on an industrial scale, and the first bottle of Aalborg Akvavit saw the light of day in a new and, at that time, very modern factory in the town of Aalborg.

Today more than 145 years later, Aalborg Akvavit is still produced exclusively in Aalborg.

In 1946—a century after the first bottle of Aalborg Akvavit—the famous Aalborg Jubileums Akvavit (the word jubileums is the Danish word for anniversary) was introduced, and since then both brands have been synonymous with the term akvavit or akvavit the world over. Akvavit is to Denmark what Whisky is to Scotland, Gin to England, Vodka to Russia and Sherry to Spain.

Denmark exports these two popular akvavit brands to about one hundred countries all over the world.

THE FLYING DANE

1 measure Aalborg Akvavit
Sweppe's Bitter Lemon to taste
Serve in highball glasses with ice.

The Akvavits may be obtained through DANCÔN.

Closely associated with Danish Akvavit is the word "Skåli" (pronounced "Skæli"). In Denmark we say "Skåli" as our toast before drinking. The "Skåli" tradition is known in many countries, but when drinking Danish Akvavit the following little "ritual" is considered the only right one to use:
1. Raise your glass, look your partner in the eyes — say "Skåli".
2. Bottoms up.
3. — and raise your empty glass towards your partner.

We can trace the word "Skåli" and the "Skåli" ceremony all the way back to our distant ancestors, the Vikings. The word "Skåli" itself also means a little bowl which the Vikings used for drinking, and according to legend the "Skåli" ritual came into existence to protect lives.

Crystal clear Aalborg Akvavit is known for its distinctive caraway flavour, while the golden Aalborg Jubileums Akvavit contains a variety of spices including dill, giving it a smooth, full-bodied taste.

Although Danish tradition suggests you serve akvavit straight — with food or with beer — Aalborg Akvavit and Aalborg Jubileums Akvavit are very tasty in various cocktails. Here are some popular suggestions:

**DANISH MARY**

3 oz tomato juice
Juice of 1/2 lime
Dash celery salt
1 1/2 oz Aalborg Akvavit

Stir with ice until cold. Pour into 6 oz glasses.

**VIKING**

1 measure Aalborg Akvavit
1 measure Nolly Dry Vermouth
1 measure or more orange juice

Stir and serve cold with ice.

**HOT AMBER**

1/2 Peter Heering
1/2 Aalborg Akvavit

Serve ice-cold.

**THE COPENHAGEN**

1 oz Aalborg Jubileums Akvavit
Juice of 1/2 lime or lemon

Shake well with crushed ice. Serve in cocktail glasses.

The Vikings were always armed at their animated parties, and to avoid the risk of having their head cut off whilst drinking, they always tried to catch their table companions’ eyes, and hold them while emptying the "Skåli", thus diminishing the risk of being sliced up into bacon — a risk which was considerable in those days?

Skåli.

**SECTOR TWO HUMANITARIAN TEAM**

The Sector 2 Humanitarian Team consists of four people. Captain Charles Davies heads the team, and is supported by SSgt Dave All, SSgt Chris Gould and Sgt Stuart Gouldstone. The responsibilities of the team are divided so that Capt Davies and Sgt Gouldstone work on the humanitarian side, whilst SSgt All and Gould deal with the agricultural problems.

The Humanitarian Team has a diverse and interesting job. The responsibilities range from control of the citrus farmers and bee keepers in the west of the Sector, to overseeing the arable farmers in the fertile Oyogbo Valley, and also controlling farming in the Avionia area. There are sundry other problems which can occur, such as contamination of water supplies either inside or outside of the Buffer Zone.

Capt C Davies and SSgt D All examining the plowing from the Rainbow Factory.

On the humanitarian side itself, we are involved in visiting minorities in the North and South, including a faction.

This variety results in a busy life with never a dull moment, but we all agree that the Humanitarian Team is certainly one of the best jobs in the Sector.
en passant...

If you have any information you would like to see published in this section please telephone extension 2235 by 14 May 1991.

MOTORING - THERE IS NO RUSH...

In the UK over 250,000 drivers are breath tested each year but now the Police in some areas intend to test drivers involved in ANY motoring offence, this figure could double. To beat the breath test — Don't drink and drive.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

Now that the sun is shining and people are starting to take trips out for the day sightseeing etc, the temptation to have maybe just one alcoholic drink is very great. Maybe you fancy just a couple of glasses of your favourite wine to accompany your meal? Well before you do, just look a bit further. If a standard drink is measured as a 1/2 pint of ordinary strength beer (and you know how they vary on and around the island), the following drinks at the standard measure equate to one standard drink:

1/3 pint of strong or export beer
1 glass of table wine
1 glass of sherry
1 single whiskey
3 standard drinks can register as "Over the Limit". To beat the breath test — don't drink and drive.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING IN CYPRUS

The defensive driver is not necessarily a slow driver, except when the conditions demand. He is a skilled driver as well as a good driver. No matter what the conditions, whether it be the road, vehicle or other people's behaviour, his powers of concentration and observation enable him to ensure that no action on his part will contribute in any degree to the development of an accident situation.

Listed below are some of the special hazards to watch for when driving in Cyprus and the remedies to be taken to avoid accidents:

SPECIAL HAZARDS - Watch for:

- Doors opening in your path
- Turning without signalling
- Unexpected stopping
- Reversing without looking
- Driving in the middle of the road — even on bends
- Excessive speed
- Pedestrians lingering in your path
- Animals
- Dazzle at night

THE ANSWER is care, courtesy and consideration. Avoid accidents by:

- Allowing more time for your journeys
- Refusing to be irritated by the faults of others
- Using your horn whenever necessary
- Checking and double checking for danger
- Staying well behind vehicles in front
- Expecting surprises
- Slowing right down whenever there might be danger
- Using the rough verges if the tarmac is narrow, but slow down.

DON'T COMPETE - DRIVE DEFENSIVELY AND SURVIVE

...ENJOY CYPRUS!

15 Sqn RCT