

THE Blue Beret

April 1996





A VISIT IN COMMEMORATION



On 13 March 1996, the Canadian Contingent had the great honour of receiving Mr Jean Berger and his wife Mrs Gertrude Bouillon, the parents of a Canadian soldier who was killed in Cyprus on 10 September 1974. Private Jean-Claude Berger, of the then Canadian Airborne Regiment, was serving a six month tour with UNFICYP when he was shot while returning to the UN camp in Louroujina. The incident occurred during the tense period following the Turkish intervention that summer.

Mr Berger and Mrs Bouillon are from Rimouski, Québec. This visit was their first to the island of Cyprus. They were accompanied by their friends, Mr and Mrs Maurice Goyer of Ste-Thérèse, Québec.

After having met with Mr Feissel, the Chief of Mission, they visited the Ledra Palace where a memorial plaque has been mounted at the front entrance listing those Canadian soldiers who have died in Cyprus since 1964. They were then taken on a tour of Camp Berger, named in honour of their son, in the village of Louroujina. Mr Berger and Mrs Bouillon were deeply grateful for the



Capt Mike Beauvais, Commander CANCON (left) with Mr Berger, Mrs Bouillon and Sgt Jack Wilson (CANCON)

opportunity to visit the area. It allowed them to have a better understanding of the environment and the circumstances surrounding that fateful day when their son perished.

The Canadian Contingent wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the British, Austrian and Hungarian Contingents for their cooperation and assistance in this memorable visit.

A FAREWELL WITH A DIFFERENCE!

On Monday 11 March 1996, a very remarkable career finally came to an end with the departure from UNFICYP of an equally remarkable personality. What made this farewell so different from the countless other occasions when we have had to say goodbye to members of the Force is the fact that this time, we not only lost a good friend, but also a man who made history within UNFICYP. WOI Werner Müller completed an incredible 17½ years of service with the Austrian Contingent in Cyprus, thus certainly becoming the longest ever serving military member of this or possibly any other peace-keeping operation.

Without doubt, the silver number (35!!!) on his UN medal "in the service of peace" qualifies him for entry into the "Guinness Book of Records", and the same would certainly apply to the number of friends he has made throughout the years. UNFICYP is losing a determined and highly experienced NCO who arrived in the mission area for the first time on 20 October 1972, at a time when the deployment and modus operandi of UNFICYP differed significantly from today's ones.

Ever since then, Werner Müller was convinced of the importance of UNFICYP in terms of paving the ground for a lasting settlement to the island's problem. He has not spared any effort in making his own contribution. After having served the



The Force Commander (left) presenting a gift to WOI Müller

majority of his time with the Headquarters in Nicosia, most recently in the post of Superintendent Clerk, he was transferred to Sector Four where he utilized his vast experience by serving as a Welfare Officer.

WOI Werner Müller will be remembered for his pleasant personality, his loyalty and last, but certainly not least, all the hard work he has contributed towards the success of the Force. He is a credit to his country, and we wish him all the best for his future and much success in his new career as a writer.

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FRONT COVER:

THE FEMALE ELEMENT OF SECTOR ONE

BY CPL JOHN DALY

The Blue Beret



EDITORIAL

It was almost eight months ago when Waldemar Rokoszewski (the UNFICYP Spokesman) was assigned to serve with the UN in Tajikistan. However, Waldemar was absent in body but not in mind. He was kept informed of major activities and events in Cyprus and in UNFICYP. He is certainly happy to be back with us, and the feeling is mutual.

On another subject, the financial situation of the United Nations remains critical because of the continuing failure of many member states to pay, in full and on time, their assessed contributions. In order to help ease this situation, Headquarters New York has requested among other things that all missions make every attempt to find ways and means of economizing. UNFICYP is no doubt a cost effective mission, but this does not mean that we cannot make a contribution.

The Force Photographer has, for example, just saved UNFICYP well over £400 on one assignment alone. Due to the danger of derelict buildings along the Green Line, he was requested to take a number of photographs to provide proof that certain buildings or parts of should be demolished for security reasons. The cost of producing these large photographs at a laboratory in Nicosia would have been over £470. Bobbie produced these photographs in UNFICYP's darkroom at an overall cost of £39.90.

Every little bit helps.

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THE BOMBAY CUP GOES TO TWICKENHAM

by Lt K Gould

Hours before the English rugby team played the Scottish at Murrayfield, Scotland, a smaller, but no less passionate, game was played at the UNPA. Three years ago, the Bombay Cup was started as a bit of fun. The members of BRITCON divided themselves into two teams, and then the "English" and the "Celts" played a game of rugby. Since BRITCON has a strength of about eight - and to play a game of rugby you need 15 - the rules for selection of these teams became a little grey...

So, on Saturday 2 March, almost anyone who was British, had British ancestry, had visited Britain or might ever visit Britain became "English". I did say the rules were a little grey. The "Celts" consisted of anyone who would get offended if they were called English, a couple of players whose ancestors fared the same fate under the Romans and two people who were walking their dog. Did I say the rules were very grey...?

The game at the UNPA had all of the passion expected. However, it was played to 'touch' rules, which allowed three women to play without risking injury or embarrassment. The referee was an Australian, who had foolishly volunteered to run the gauntlet of supporters' helpful

comments. The game was a fast flowing one where communication was not a problem - it is hard to talk when you are out of breath! The "English" made an early start and scored two tries and two conversions.

In the second half, the "Celts" came back and scored two tries in quick succession, but unfortunately failed to convert. Thus, the final score was 21:14 to the "English".

The cup was presented to WO2 Griffiths, the coach for the "English". Afterwards the teams retired to the "Vic" - or Twickenham - to watch the Calcutta Cup with good humour and the occasional jibe at the nearest person whose nationality corresponded to the team which was losing.

The real winner of the day was the swimming pool fund, which added to its coffers from the charity draw after the match.



WO2 Phil Rafferty (12 Regt RA) finds the way blocked by a member of ARGCON



COMMEMORATION SERVICE FOR ADMIRAL GUILLERMO BROWN

On 3 March, ARGCON commemorated the anniversary of the death of Admiral Guillermo Brown at the Headquarters of the Argentinian Navy Marine Corps located in Charlie Coy, Sector One.

The activities for the day started at 1700 hours. Present were the CO Sector One, Lt Col G Calvi, with Comdts R King and P O'Callaghan representing the Irish Contingent. Also present with the Officers and WOs of the Argentinian Navy Marine Corps.

Lt (Navy) G Castro delivered a short speech on the life of Admiral Brown, following which Lt Col Calvi, Comdt King and Lt Cdr Arduzzo placed a wreath on the plaque which bears the name of the Argentinian hero.



Lt Col Calvi, Lt Cdr Arduzzo and Comdt King laying a wreath

The programme for the day ended with music played by the ARGCON band, after which coffee was served in the Officers' Mess.

1996 - ALL ISLAND MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION

The aim of the All Island Military Skills Competition is to provide a challenging, joint-service team event in which physical fitness, shooting and basic military skills are tested. Hosted by RAF Akrotiri this year, the competition was entered by 25 British teams and two UN teams. The BRITCON team was made up from 12 Regt RA soldiers from a variety of different UN locations in Sector Two, and the Permanent Force Reserve, which was the only multi-national team to take part.

Both teams commenced training several weeks before the competition began and practised live firing on the UNPA ranges, first aid training and individual fitness. The actual competition took place during 26/27 February 1996 within the confines of the Western Sovereign Base Area, and four stands had to be completed over the two-day period.



The Shoot

observation and first aid. The Sector Two team did not score well on the observation part of this stand, however the tactical part gave them no problem and on being redeployed to the scene of a car bombing incident involving terrorists, the team carried out a good cordon with a satisfactory first aid response.

After mastering the UN patrol track, the driving stand was no problem. Two disabled vehicles were repaired, tyres changed, trailers filled with loads and then an obstacle course negotiated with the two vehicles pushing the trailers. This was an interesting stand that had been very well thought out and was enjoyed by all.

It was then on to the Commander's Stand with some trepidation, knowing only that it involved horses! Teams were divided between two horses and competed against the clock in getting the horses saddled with each man riding around an obstacle course. Despite personal fears, both teams did well with Sector Two coming in as winners of this stand.



Sgt Furrer (PFR) in action

On the whole, this was an excellent competition which was hard fought throughout, the eventual winners being Recce Platoon 1 RGBW. Both teams did well, with Sector Two coming 11th and the PFR 13th - a credit to the United Nations. The challenge has now been set for other UN teams to better these positions in next year's event.



Finishing the March

The first stand was a time limited march of one hour in which teams had to map read their way to the range via well hidden checkpoints after the obligatory inspection. The British team set a good pace and only encountered difficulty locating one checkpoint. Within the march, there was a surprise team best effort speed march over 400m which was sited near the end of the course. Immediately following the march, teams went onto the ETR range for the shoot which was very challenging and testing. Targets had to be engaged at differing distances from a variety of positions with very short exposure times. Fortunately, careful team selection had furnished the two UN teams with some very capable marksmen, both achieving a very high score. The march and shoot was the most challenging stand, and the British team did well to achieve an above average time on the march and a high score on the shoot.

The second stand involved a QRF/Internal Security scenario and was based on the deployment of a mobile VCP patrol. Skills to be tested were tactics,



AUSTCIVPOL ASSIST CYPOL



The public holiday of 'Green Monday', which took place this year on 26 February, provided the ideal opportunity for some local criminals from Nicosia to carry out a burglary of the Zyyi Village Co-Operative Society.

Four men had stolen the safe-box from the premises and, using a stolen car, made good their escape into the Buffer Zone. Two of the offenders found a culvert under the Old Larnaca Road in the area of Liri Troop, Sector Two. Using the isolation of the BZ for cover, they proceeded to cut their way into the safe, stealing £418 in cash and a number of cheques.



Sgt Tracy Wilson inspects the scene of the crime



Sgt Debbie Hogan awaits the arrival of CYPOL. Note the culvert under the roadway where the safe was dumped

Two BRITCON soldiers patrolling the area spotted the offenders' vehicle, and when they approached to make enquiries, the offenders were forced to make a hasty escape, leaving behind their tools and a substantial amount of evidence at the scene. AUSTCIVPOL attended the scene and called for the assistance of CYPOL forensic experts. Whilst awaiting the arrival of CYPOL, the offenders returned to the scene in an attempt to recover their tools. When they saw AUSTCIVPOL they once again made their escape in the direction of Yeri village. AUSTCIVPOL gave chase in their patrol vehicle in an attempt to get a description of the offenders. The offenders travelled

at high speed and managed to lose the police in the small streets of Yeri. AUSTCIVPOL returned to the scene and assisted CYPOL with their enquiries.

Inspector Socrates, the officer in charge of CID Paphos Gate Police Station, said: "Directly due to the evidence collected at the scene and from witness statements from UNFICYP personnel, CYPOL CID were able to arrest four male persons in relation to the offence". "Subsequent investigations led to the same four men, plus one other, being charged with another 30 break-in offences within the Larnaca and Nicosia districts," he added.

RAISING THE FLAG

Left, AUSTCIVPOL raises the flag at Linou Police Station. Stn Sgt Leigh Dixon and Sgts Kim Brunt and Mark Tawton live and work from a house in the small village of Linou near Skouriotissa. The 3-man team is responsible for all the UNCIVPOL duties within Sector One, and has generated a very good relationship with the civilian population, the local authorities and ARGCON.

A small celebration was held recently for the raising of the flag, for the first time, up their newly "acquired" flag pole.



Comd Carpenter and the three "Linou Sisters" gather under the Australian flag

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED IN UNFICYP

This year, Women's Day was celebrated a day early at HQ UNFICYP on Thursday 7 March. Close on 200 people found (some with a certain amount of difficulty!) their way to the International Mess, where an evening with summer in mind had been arranged.

Nicosia's Academy of Grooming and Modelling, together with a dietician and a doctor, had been kind enough to give up their time and talents to provide a fashion show and two short talks on healthy eating and staying cool, calm and collected in the heat.

The evening began with ten of the Academy students showing us a range of sports-wear, progressing through casual wear to Yves St Laurent haute couture and finishing with the ubiquitous little black dress. Throughout the fashion show, Niki Lazarides, Director of the Academy, gave us a continuous commentary on the clothes being modelled.

A short break followed with healthy cocktail eats and "slimming" refreshment, and it was then back to a talk by Mrs Rodoula Papalambrianou, who outlined the seven rules of healthy eating and stressed the benefits of following a Mediterranean diet.

Her talk was followed by Dr Irene Cotter, who on one occasion had said the best way of coping with 40 degrees Celsius was to book into the Four Seasons Hotel in Limassol! As this was a wonderful idea, but impractical for most people there, she went on to explain how one should best cope with the very hot summers in Cyprus.

The evening finished with a delicious but nutritiously healthy buffet supper, provided by the International Mess.

Over £100 was raised for the UNFICYP Families Social and Welfare Committee, which was donated to charities north and south.

IRCIVPOL NEWS

On 20 February 1996, IRCIVPOL said goodbye to two of their Contingent, Sgt Jim Tutty and Garda Brian O'Connor, who returned home after completion of their tour with UNFICYP. They were replaced by two new members from Ireland, who are very welcome.



worked both in uniform and plain clothes, and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1987.

Detective Sergeant Lorraine Stack (left) has been allocated to Famagusta. Lorraine joined An Garda Siochana in 1979, and has spent most of her service in Dublin City. She

In 1990, Lorraine was appointed Detective Sergeant, and was allocated to the Serious Crime Unit in Dublin with special responsibility for Child Protection and Welfare. She is the holder of an advanced diploma in Child Protection and Welfare.

Detective Garda Padraig O'Reilly (right) has been allocated to Athienou. Padraig joined An Garda Siochana in 1982. He was appointed to the Detective Branch five years ago, and is attached to the Crime and Security Section in Dublin. He is trained in surveillance and counter-terrorism.





Smoking has been in the headlines of the mass media for the last few decades.

Scientists all over the world have provided ample proof that smoking is bad for you. Recent estimates prepared by the World Health Organization (WHO) show that there are 1.1 billion cigarette smokers in the world. WHO warns that if current smoking patterns persist, about half a billion people currently alive will be killed by tobacco, and about half of those, 250 million people, will die in middle age.

The WHO is sponsoring promotional activities on the occasion of the World No-Tobacco Day, fixed every year on **31 May**. This year's theme is "The Media and Tobacco: Getting the Health Message Across". The choice of the slogan for this year reflects the will of WHO to draw attention to the fact that public information is a vital component in the prevention of smoking.

However, a new debate has come about in recent years which is dividing the world into those who smoke, or "firsthand" smokers, and the non-smokers who breathe or inhale the smoke directly from the environment.

"Secondhand smoke", as it is sometimes called, is becoming an important personal and equally important public health issue. It is a topic that all concerned health-care people can benefit from learning more about. It is also an emotional topic fraught with controversy and contention. Ask a non-smoker what it's like to breathe someone else's smoke while trying to enjoy a meal in a restaurant, and you are likely to hear some decidedly negative comments.

Ask one of the million individuals who still smoke if smoking in public should be banned outright, and you may get an earful about personal liberty and the freedom to

do as one chooses. You may also hear arguments that air pollution from cars is much worse than a little cigarette smoke in the air.

It is well beyond the scope of this introductory article to analyze the arguments for and against smoking or the underlying legal and legislative issues. The purpose here is to create awareness of the issue.

Is secondhand smoke an irritating annoyance or a serious health threat? What is "secondhand" smoke?

Secondhand smoke is the smoke from cigarettes, pipes or cigars which fills the air when people smoke. It does not include puffing and inhaling. It is involuntary smoking, sometimes called passive smoking.

The smoke that pollutes a closed area is either "sidestream" or "mainstream". Sidestream smoke is the smoke that curls off the burning end of a cigarette and goes directly into the environment. Mainstream smoke, by contrast, is the smoke that smokers inhale and exhale.

Secondhand smoke is made up of about 80% sidestream and 20% mainstream smoke. According to scientific reports, sidestream is the more dangerous of the two. Remarkably, it is claimed that about 75% of cigarette nicotine goes up in the air, not into the smoker. What's more, it takes sometimes several days to get nicotine out of the air in rooms where people have smoked. Secondhand smoke contains many substances that may cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, but in addition, secondhand smoke contains at least 40 documented carcinogens, or cancer-causing agents. It is claimed that secondhand smoke contains a higher concentration of toxins and cancer-

PASSIVE SMOKING AT WORK: IS IT A HAZARD?

by Mrs Miriam Taylor



causing chemicals than smoke inhaled directly by the smoker.

Evidence emerging from dozens of studies suggests increased health risks from exposure to secondhand smoke. Some of the biggest risks are:

1. Lung Cancer:

Passive smoking is estimated to cause 3,000 lung cancer deaths in non-smokers each year in the USA alone. One major study which analyzed non-smoking spouses living with smokers concluded that long-term exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer in women who have never personally smoked.

2. Cardiovascular disease:

Studies also point to an adverse effect on the heart with increased risks of heart disease among exposed individuals. Secondhand smoke is implicated in an estimated 36,000 deaths from heart disease each year in the USA. According to the journal of the American Medical Association (April 1995), secondhand smoke reduces the ability of the blood to deliver oxygen to the heart and for the heart to use oxygen effectively.

3. Asthma and other respiratory and ear infection problems:

Children are particularly vulnerable to secondhand smoke. Secondhand smoke is associated with 300,000 cases of infant respiratory infections, 20,000 cases of asthma and one million cases of asthma made worse in American children each year. Secondhand smoke exposure can lead to a build-up of

fluid in the middle ear or cause irritation to the tubes connecting the nose with the middle ear.

A study carried out at the University of California, Berkeley, included the measurement of levels of secondhand cigarette smoke at 25 different workplaces, comparing places that banned smoking with those that had no restrictions. The report findings concluded that in places that allowed smoking, there was a significant number of people exposed to dangerous-to-health levels of passive smoking. Other researchers noted that large work spaces with high ceilings and good ventilation minimised the build-up of tobacco smoke.



Certain reports show that a non-smoker working among smoking colleagues inhales the equivalent of just 1 1/4 cigarettes a month. ("Cigarette equivalents" have been defined as the number of cigarettes one should have to smoke to receive the same amount of nicotine as breathing the air in the given environment for a particular period.) A waiter working in a restaurant breathes just two cigarette's worth a month. However, as already explained, secondhand smoke is different from inhaled smoke.

Nicotine is addictive to active smokers, but it is not a carcinogenic substance. According to the findings of Katharine Hammond, an environmental health researcher at the University of California, in

her report submitted to the US Occupational Safety & Health Administration, the non-smoker is getting a lot more than just plain nicotine. The significant difference lies in the carcinogenic components of sidestream smoke.

As a result of the recent findings regarding the dangers involved from exposure to secondhand smoking, several international organisations, including the European Union, have included in their health promotion campaigns the ban of smoking in indoor athletic premises, cinemas, theatres, restaurants, airports and other public areas. The USA and a number of states in Europe have been studying numerous actions of how to restrict people's exposure to passive smoking.

In Austria, the Cabinet on April 4 1995 adopted a draft anti-smoking law which would ban smoking in all public buildings, universities, theatres and train stations. Airports would also be affected. A regional Italian court on March 27 1995 ruled that smoking in public must be banned throughout the country in order to protect non-smokers from secondhand smoke. According to the Washington Post, the National Council of Chain Restaurants, which has 90,000 restaurant members, supports a ban on smoking in all public buildings, including restaurants. A third of their 90,000 members already ban or restrict smoking. The US Air Force has recently implemented a nationwide Defence Department policy that limits exposure to smoking in the workplace.

These are a few examples of what is happening, however we are only at the beginning. Society is often presented with difficult questions such as is there a safe level of exposure to passive smoke?

Is there sufficient scientific justification for smoking bans? What is the validity of the findings so far? Is there a need for new legislation concerning tobacco? Do non-smokers have a right to breathe smoke-free air? Should we have restrictions where people may smoke?

Whatever the outcome of this debate, we believe that prudence should prevail. Prevention is better than cure. The imposition of smoking restrictions including measures to keep smoke out of the workplace, offices, factories, restaurants, stores, shopping centres and public transportation, apart from removing the risk to the millions of non-smokers, may motivate a number of smokers to quit.

WHO estimates that cigarette consumption per adult declined in developed countries during the 1980s from about 2,800 cigarettes per person of 15 years of age and over to about 2,400 cigarettes. But at the same time, this decline was counterbalanced by an increase from about 1,150 to 1,400 cigarettes per adult in developing countries. The net result was that world consumption has hardly changed at all, staying steady at 1,650 cigarettes per adult per year.

A pilot survey carried out by the Blue Beret editorial staff based on information obtained from tobacco sales in the various contingents has shown that consumption within UNFICYP by both military and civilian personnel is roughly **3,600 cigarettes per person per year**.

This figure puts UNFICYP well above the world average and shows that perhaps it is time to create more awareness within the Force on the risks associated with smoking, whether firsthand or secondhand.



AUSTRIA'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO CYPRUS VISITS UNFICYP

by Capt S Perr

Dr Hans Sabaditsch is the new Austrian Ambassador in Greece and is also accredited to the Republic of Cyprus. On Thursday 19 March, he arrived in Nicosia to receive official accreditation as Ambassador to Cyprus from President Clerides.

The following day, Ambassador Sabaditsch met with the Chief of Mission, Mr G Feissel. He then visited his Austrian compatriots at Camp Duke Leopold V, Famagusta, and was given a briefing and a short tour of the Camp. This was the first time he had had an opportunity to see the conditions under which his fellow Austrians live and work. Ambassador Sabaditsch mentioned that on his various appointments in many countries, he always felt very proud when receiving compliments on the internationally accepted high standards of the Austrian UN peace-keeping forces.



Ambassador Sabaditsch proudly showing his AUSCON plaque with the CO Sector Four, Lt Col WFJ Wildberger

Sector Four look forward to welcoming Ambassador Sabaditsch back to Cyprus, at least in autumn when our Medal Parade takes place in Salamis.

KEEPING UNFICYP ALERT! PANDORA'S BOX EXERCISE

by Capt S Perr

Under the supervision of the Austrian Sector, an exercise took place on 28 February in the area of the deserted village of Petrophani, near Athienou, which is located in the Buffer Zone. All Sectors and Units took part in this unannounced exercise, which was conducted in order to practise the Force's readiness and reaction in a case of emergency.



A stretcher patient on a medical evacuation



Austrian soldiers guarding a UN checkpoint

Checkpoint manning was exercised, as was crowd control with very realistic situations created by the soldiers of the Permanent Force Reserve. However, the highlight of the day was the arrival of the helicopter which was used for monitoring from above and also for practising medical evacuations.

All participants did their utmost to ensure the success of the exercise, a fact appreciated by the UNFICYP Chief of Staff and Chief Operations Officer.

VISIT OF MR ANDRÉ ERDŐS TO CAMP BERGER

In January this year, the Hungarian Deputy State Secretary, Mr André Erdős, arrived in Cyprus for a Conference in Nicosia. Whilst on the island, he visited UNFICYP HQ where he met with the Chief of Mission, Mr G Feissel. He then paid a surprise visit to Camp Berger, the base of the Hungarian Platoon located within Sector Four.

Mr Erdős was given a briefing on the responsibilities of the Platoon. Maj Antal Ughy, CO HUNGCON, highlighted the successful work carried out which resulted in excellent relationships, both with their Austrian comrades and with the parties in conflict on the island. After a delicious lunch, Mr Erdős was taken on a tour of the Camp, where he saw for himself the working conditions and lifestyle of the Hungarian soldiers.

He was also given the opportunity to visit to the church of Panayia Pallouriotissa, located in



Mr Erdős (centre) being given a brief at a Hungarian OP with Maj Ughy (right)

the Buffer Zone, which (rumour has it) will be consecrated on 20 August as "Ayios Stephanos-Hungarycos".

The Hungarian Contingent was very pleased to have had the opportunity of hosting one of their important officials.



MISTER AUSTRIA COMES FROM CYPRUS!

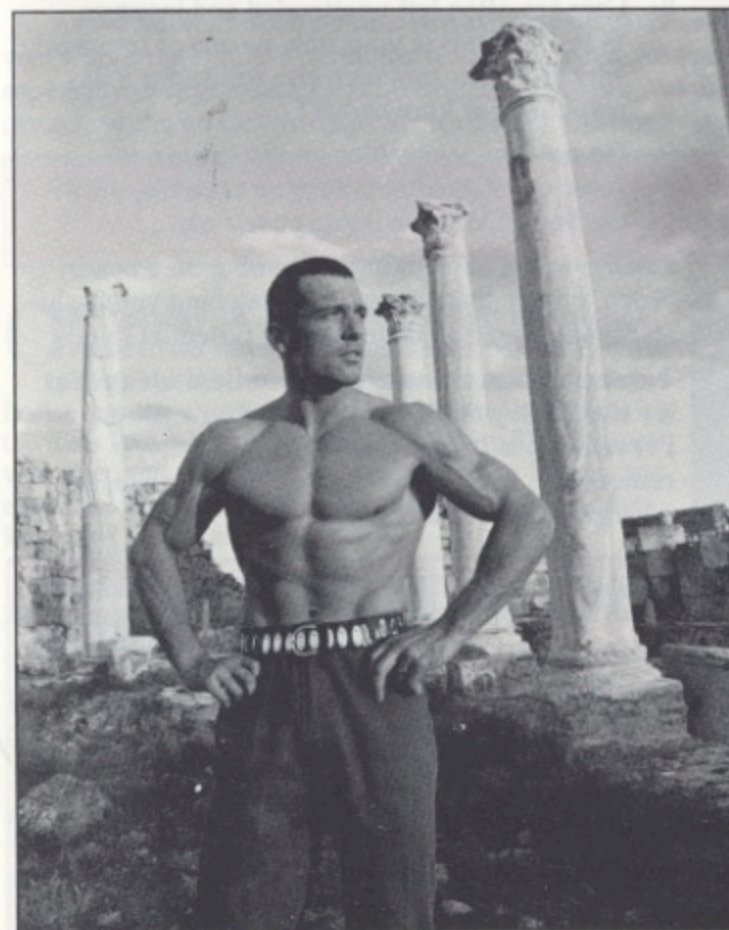
This strange headline needs a little explanation, since it is true - and there again, it isn't!

It is true that Helmuth Strebl, a 28-year-old Austrian from the Tyrol, was selected from 20 candidates and won the title of Mr Austria 1996.

It is not true that he is of Cypriot origin, but he did arrive in Austria from Cyprus after more than one year in Famagusta with the Austrian Contingent, where he earned himself an excellent reputation as a mechanic in Camp Duke Leopold V.

Off duty, Helmuth concentrated on all kinds of sports such as jogging, body building and touring various parts of the island on his mountain bike. His competitive mind and his physical capabilities helped both him and his Austrian team mates to gain success in various sporting events such as the UNFICYP Shooting and Military Skills Competitions. It is said that he also participated in a special kind of sport, generally known as "bunny hunting", where he was indeed successful!

All in all, Helmuth was much admired by all his comrades, both by the way he carried out his duties and in the way he spent his spare time.



Helmuth Strebl, posing in the ancient ruins of Salamis



CRIME PREVENTION TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE THIEF



Summer time is just around the corner and it affords many of us the opportunity to relax, sometimes in more ways than one. We all like to feel secure, both in our homes and with our vehicles, but there are times when the warm weather becomes unbearable and we often relax our usual standards of daily security. The UN MP Element, UNPA, is here to offer practical advice and ways to deter any would-be opportunist from spoiling your stay in Cyprus. Here are a few tips that we all should take on board:

AT HOME

1. When leaving your home unattended, no matter for how long or short a period, always ensure that you lock all windows and doors.
2. Ensure that valuables, jewellery, etc, are secured or hidden in places that are hard for a would-be thief to find.
3. Do not put the gas bottle money under empty gas bottles awaiting collection. If you have to do this, do it minutes prior to the collection time, but never the night before.
4. Children's toys are often seen scattered in the gardens. A quick tidy before it gets too dark prevents any possible losses.

WITHIN CAMP

5. Single servicemen in barrack style accommodation - never leave your room key under the mat or above the door frame. Someone is always watching your moves. This also applies to married personnel living in quarters.
6. You should always mark attractive items with an identification number and keep these details in a safe place.
7. Cheques, bankers cards and credit cards are



stolen very easily, and here in Cyprus, it is far too easy for them to be used without your knowledge, prior to cancellation.

VEHICLES

8. Cars are often left unattended and insecure. **WHY?** If this is your only means of transport, why give it to someone else to use for a day without your knowledge?
9. Do not leave valuables on display inside vehicles. Place items such as cameras, etc in the boot if you are leaving your car.

Finally, whilst sunbathing/swimming on a nearby beach, ensure that someone is watching your valuables, and that someone is not a potential thief!

These are just a few of the practical ideas that we should try to fit into our daily routine. Prevention is better than cure. Finally, remember, most thieves are opportunists, so why give them the chance?

THE PRESIDENT OF FINLAND MEETS UNFICYP FINNS

The President of Finland, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, stopped over in Cyprus on 9 March, the first visit ever made to the island by a Finnish Head of State. During his short stay at Larnaca International Airport's VIP Lounge, he met Brigadier General Ahti Vartiainen, Maj Henry Malkki and WO1 Henry Perttula, the Finnish personnel in UNFICYP. The atmosphere was warm and friendly, as always among UN veterans.

The President himself has served at HQ New York and in many UN missions, including Namibia and Geneva.



12 REGT RA BUFFER ZONE CHARITY RUN 1996

Last year, 29 Cdo Regt RA threw down the gauntlet by running the Buffer Zone in 18 hours 41 minutes. 12 Regt RA could not resist the challenge, so in the early morning of 7 March 1996, its team found itself at UN OP 08 at the start of the 223 km run. This sponsored run took the four runners across the BZ from UN 08 past every UN position and ending up at the east coast and UN 146. The runners, Sgt Pedge, SSgt Codd, Sgt Mathews and Lt Smith, ran 40 min relay stages and at the end of the run, each had done at least 50 km.

Heavy rain in Sector One threatened to cancel the attempt on the record of 18 hrs 41 mins, but after an early morning recce, we set off down the patrol track at 0700 hrs, guided through the mountains by Capt Alessiou from HQ Sector One.

The first 40 kms were the hardest, and at times, the support vehicles had trouble keeping up with the runners. To estimate progress, we compared against times 29 Cde Regt RA had done and on arrival at Nicosia, we were 90 minutes ahead of them, with over half the run done.

As we entered Sector Four, it was clear that this was where the runners' strength would be tested, especially as it got dark at 1800 hrs. Capt Korak organised the guides through Sector Four. At one



The team pose in front of Micromania, the shop which donated the bicycles for the day

point on the north road past Dhekelia there was a convoy of five police cars, all for the one runner! At each change of runner, it was clear that cramp was the main problem, but they all put in a massive effort towards the end and it was an enormous relief to arrive at the coast and finish in a time of 17 hrs, 4 mins, breaking the existing record by 1 hr, 37 mins. To add to that, over £400 was raised towards local charities in the north and south. We would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity towards this event, especially the members of UN 08 who looked after us in such style!

TURKISH CYPRIOT AUSTRALIANS VISIT AUSTCIVPOL

On Thursday 18 April 1996, 18 Turkish Cypriot Australians living in the northern part of Cyprus from north Nicosia, Kyrenia and as far west as Lefka met together with members of the Australian Civilian Police serving with UNFICYP. The visitors were met and welcomed by the Australian Police, and enjoyed a traditional barbecue at the Australian Mess, known as the "Kangaroo Club".

The Australian Police have served in Cyprus for 32 years, and this was a rare opportunity to host their fellow Australians from northern Cyprus. The Australian High Commissioner, Mr John Sullivan, Mrs Sullivan and all members of the Australian High Commission were also present at the function.

The Police Commander, Comd Barry Carpenter, said: "This function comes about because of the friendship and goodwill that has developed over many years between the Australian Police serving with the United Nations and all Cypriots and made possible by cooperation and understanding from both the northern and southern authorities. This is the first time we



Some of the Aussie Turkish Cypriots outside the Kangaroo Club

have had our Cypriot Australian friends from the north visit us for a social occasion. I hope it will be the first of many visits. We have had our Greek Cypriot Australian friends visit us on previous occasions, and we look forward to the day that we can invite Cypriot Australians from across the whole island to a joint function at the Kangaroo Club. It was a good night."

THE FEMALE ELEMENT IN SECTOR ONE

by Lt (Navy) Marcelo Alessandri

The year 1981 marked a significant change in the history of the Argentinian Army. It was the first year that women took part in active service. At first, hardly any of the Argentinian (male) military believed that female soldiers would ever be in a position to take on the responsibilities of their male counterparts. It has now been proven that not only are they more than capable of undertaking any task allocated to them, but their presence in missions such as UNFICYP has most definitely improved the performance of the Argentinian Contingent. Today, women in the Argentinian Army are a reality. What was a big change a few years ago is now naturally accepted as a successful one.



SEE FRONT COVER!



Maj (Doctor) Cristina Marichiolo joined the Army in 1981. She is a medical doctor and has carried out courses in endocrinology and sanitary planning. Before joining the UNFICYP mission, she was stationed in the Central Military Hospital and has also served in the 26th Mountain Infantry Regiment, the "Campo de Mayo" Military Hospital and the 9th Mountain Infantry Regiment. Maj Marichiolo is 41 years old, and is currently stationed in Xeros.



Sgt (Nurse) Dora Castro was born in Buenos Aires and joined the Army in 1983. She is 30 years old and has undergone basic courses in general health. She has served in the "Campo de Mayo" Military Hospital, Central Military Hospital and "Maldonado" Military Hospital. She has one son and one daughter, and is currently based in Xeros.



1/Cpl (Nurse) Maria Diaz was born in Buenos Aires and joined the Army in 1987. She is 27 years old and has one daughter. 1/Cpl Diaz has undertaken courses in General Medicine and, before arriving in Xeros, was at the Central Military Hospital.



Pte Yleana Maggiolo joined the Army as one of the first female volunteers in 1995. Her first Unit was the 10th Armoured Regiment in the Azul District of Buenos Aires. She is 20 years old, single and currently based in Skouriotissa.

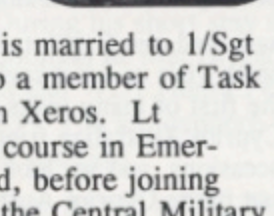


Pte Cristina Vasquez is also a volunteer and was born in Santa Fé, a state in the north-east of Argentina. Pte Vasquez joined the Army in 1995 in the 121st Construction Engineering Battalion, located in her home state. She is 20 years old, single and is currently based in Skouriotissa.



1/Lt Maria Chocobar was born in Buenos Aires and joined the Army in 1990. 1/Lt Chocobar works in computer systems and holds a diploma in computer studies. Before arriving at Skouriotissa Camp, she was stationed at the National Military School and also in the Army's General HQ. She is 29 years old and single.

Lt (Nurse) Adriana Fernandez was born on 31 December 1968 in Tucumán, a state in the north-west of Argentina. She joined the Army in 1987 and is currently posted to Skouriotissa. Lt Fernandez is married to 1/Sgt Dario Fernandez who is also a member of Task Force 6, currently serving in Xeros. Lt Fernandez has carried out a course in Emergencies and Catastrophes and, before joining UNFICYP, was attached to the Central Military Hospital.



NEW ARGAIR ARRIVES

by Lt (Navy) Marcelo Alessandri

On 6 February 1996, a new contingent of the Argentinian Air Force arrived in Cyprus for a six month tour with UNFICYP. The new contingent consists of 20 men, drawn from Air Brigade VII whose home base is in the city of Moreno, Buenos Aires.

The Commanding Officer is Lt Col D Oscar Crippa and the 2IC is Capt Jaime Antich. There are five pilots, one technical officer and twelve NCOs who will carry out regular maintenance of the helicopters within UN Flight. Prior to their arrival in UNFICYP, these personnel also formed part of 2 Tactical Squadron and have worked together for the last two years, gaining invaluable experience in order to carry out the operative demands of this mission.



The Officers and Men of ARGAIR 6

Within the ranks, there are men with prior experience in UNFICYP, for example Capt Daniel Russo and 1/Lt Fernando Valentich who arrived with ARGAIR 1 and four NCOs, three of whom participated in ARG-AIR 1 and one in ARGAIR 2.

There is no doubt that this new group of Argentinian Air Force personnel will continue to complete their tasks within UNFICYP in an efficient and competent manner, as their predecessors have done before them.

CANCON MEDAL PRESENTATION

There was 'Moose Milk' in abundance at this year's CANCON Medal Presentation. The event was held at the UNFICYP International Mess on 3 April. The reduced but nonetheless effective Canadian Contingent now consists of Capt Beauvais and Sgt Wilson. Over 100 guests witnessed the Force Commander's presentation of the UNFICYP medal. Also in attendance were both members' respective parents, Mr and Mrs Jean-Paul and Paulette Beauvais, and Mr and Mrs Ron and Cora Wilson, vacationing from Canada.

Capt Mike Beauvais arrived on island in July 95 and will be leaving this summer, making this a one year tour. Born in Ottawa, Ontario on 20 February 1961, he joined the Armoured Corps of the Canadian Forces in September 1980. He is accompanied by his wife Kathy Secord and has two children, Alex and Andrea. He received a number "3" pin to add his UNFICYP medal that he previously received in 1983. Sgt Wilson also arrived last July and will be serving for two years until July 1997. Born in Kingston, Ontario on 17 October 1956, he enrolled in the Canadian Air Force in 1978. He is accompanied by his wife



Capt Beauvais and Sgt Wilson stand to attention with Brig Gen Vartiainen on the left and Mr Feissel on the right

Louise and his son Jeffrey. Both members are currently working in Ops Branch, HQ UNFICYP.

The Canadian Contingent wishes to pass on its appreciation to all those who attended the ceremony. Canada was one of the first contingents to form UNFICYP in 1964 and has maintained a proud history of service with the mission. Capt Beauvais and Sgt Wilson intend to continue that legacy.

12 REGT RA BUFFER ZONE CHARITY RUN 1996

