

# THE Blue Beret

August 1995







## Mr Charles Gaulkin, UNFICYP Spokesman

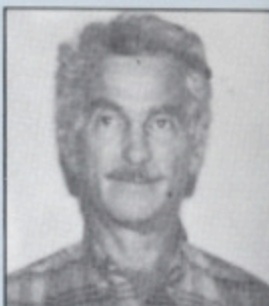
**Mr Charles Gaulkin, who is temporarily replacing Mr Waldemar Rokoszewski as UNFICYP Spokesman, served previously in this post from 1986 to 1991.**

*As a writer and editor, he covered the Security Council and General Assembly, and was responsible for publications on topics ranging from disarmament to decolonization, peace-keeping and development.*

*Among other assignments, he was the first press officer for the UN Council for Namibia, and was in charge of the UN press team's coverage of United Nations Conferences on Women (Mexico City), Population (Bucharest), Water Problems (Mar del Plata), Industrialization (New Delhi), Trade and Development (Nairobi) and the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay).*

*From 1977 to 1980, he headed the press service of the United Nations Information Service at Geneva. Returning to New York in 1980, he served as United Nations Liaison Officer with commercial publishers, arranging for publication of materials originating in United Nations studies and conferences. From December 1983 to July 1985, he was Editor in Chief of the United Nations Chronicle, the Organization's monthly magazine.*

*Before joining the UN, Mr Gaulkin worked for United Press International, Newhouse Newspapers and the New York Post as a reporter and editor.*



## ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE ELDERLY

"Music is only good when it's loud", as the saying goes, but this was not the case on Wednesday 26 July 1995 when a group of UN musicians performed for the elderly residents of the Melathron Evgyrias Old People's Welfare Home in Nicosia. The event was organised by the UN Families Social and Welfare Committee, and was an excellent opportunity for members of UNFICYP and their families to meet and entertain older citizens of the local community and to enjoy good music that was not too loud!



From the left: Takis Efstathiou, Gabrielle Philippou and Jill Powell (Chairwoman of the Committee)

performance, as Sgt Dempsey's daughter, Sharon, then gave some delightful piano solos, and the Lynch sisters, Sinead and Emily, sang beautifully in unaccompanied harmony.

In addition to the music, a variety of food was offered.

Members of UNFICYP provided a delicious selection of cakes and biscuits for the residents. Many thanks go



Musicians from the Irish Contingent, UNFICYP: From the left: Sgt Owens, John Owens, Sinead and Emily Lynch, Sharon Dempsey and Sgt Dempsey

to those who contributed by baking, or by making music, to ensure the occasion was such a success. A good time was enjoyed by young and old alike!



Residents of the Melathron Evgyrias Old People's Home

The musical programme was introduced by Mr Takis Efstathiou, Director of the Home, who welcomed everyone. Music gives pleasure to people of all ages and nationalities, and we all enjoyed the performance by the musicians of the Irish Contingent of UNFICYP. Sgt Dempsey and Sgt Owens played a variety of Irish folk music, and Sgt Owens' son, John, played some traditional violin tunes. It was an Irish "family"

## VOLUME 32 NUMBER 8 AUGUST 1995

Published monthly by the Spokesman's Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, HQ UNFICYP, PO Box 1642, Nicosia, Cyprus  
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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, together with captions, should accompany the articles. This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Chief of Mission. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned, and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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Printed in Cyprus by  
Fri-El Press  
13 King Paul Street  
Parissinos, Nicosia  
Tel: 350186

### FRONT COVER:

## THE PERMANENT FORCE RESERVE

BY CPL WILLIE QUAIN

# The Blue Beret



## EDITORIAL

After just over seven years with UNFICYP, the time has come for me to take a break - but only for a period of six months. Leaving UNFICYP is not without sorrow, although it is a good kind of sorrow, the kind you feel when you reach completion of various tasks and you are ready for a new appointment.

Thanks to you all, my experience with UNFICYP as Political Affairs Officer, Spokesman and Editor of the Blue Beret has been most enjoyable. Through the years, I have seen many changes taking place, some of them good. However it all goes down as experience, and I am leaving the job in the most capable hands of Mr Charles Gaulkin, who has previously held the post of UNFICYP Spokesman (1986-1991).

While I will surely miss colleagues and associates, I leave knowing that both the office of the Spokesman and the Blue Beret will be well looked after. Lorraine Latimer, our Secretary, will undoubtedly provide support to the Spokesman as efficiently as she has done for me. The Turkish Cypriot translator, Beraat Mustafaoglu, will also do her best to help with the smooth running of the office. The Blue Beret team will provide Charles with a lot of food for thought. I leave him in the capable hands of the Assistant Editor, Miriam Taylor, and the Force Photographer, Willie Quain, who will no doubt pester him in exactly the same way they pestered me!

I bid you all au revoir. Do zobaczenia ... in six months. **Editor**

*The staff of the Spokesman's Office would like to say that we shall always think of Mr Waldemar Rokoszewski with pleasure and gratitude; pleasure because of the friendly environment he managed to establish within the Department, and gratitude because of his support and understanding to each one of us during difficult times. We wish him every success and a pleasant stay in his new post.*

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## 79 (KIRKEE) BATTERY - LINE BATTERY EAST THE STORY SO FAR



To say that the first couple of months of the Battery's tour has flown by would be an understatement. It only seems a few days ago that we waved farewell to A Squadron of The Queen's Royal Lancers, after what was a first-rate handover. On that day, the main body of the Battery arrived and we assumed responsibility for Sector Two West, taking over the locations at UN 45 Bengal, UN 51 Kingston, UN 54 Mojave, UN 55 Orchard and UN 58 Irish Bridge. The CO inspected the Line, numerous visitors have toured the AOR, we have parachuted, and a few sporting events and physical challenges have taken place. It has been a hectic, challenging, fun and interesting period - nothing out of the ordinary for the Regiment.

The first two weeks were spent learning the job, the ground, the OPFOR detail and generally becoming familiar with the Line -



Third overall, the Officers' Team led the Battery to overall victory in the Duathlon

our home for the next six months. There was little time for relaxation, as a great deal of detailed information had to be assimilated prior to the CO's Inspection on 22 June 1995. This inspection was to determine the Battery's operational capability - we passed. Since then, we have dealt with the occasional demonstration, more than 100 incidents, dogs that attack Landrovers, and raging floods in July - which took even locals by surprise.



Above: Members of 79 Bty descend in tight formation under the 22ft steerable static line parachute

We have made the most of the amazing number of opportunities offered by the island. Members of the Battery have dived the sunken ferry "Zenobia", taken flying lessons at Akrotiri, free-fall parachuted, climbed everything climbable and done most things physically possible on, and in, the water. We have entered the Bay-to-Bay swim, local 10km road races and the Regimental Triathlon. Our best result thus far was in the Regimental Duathlon, a race from the coast at Episkopi to the summit of Mount Olympus, which we won.

The next few months will be just as busy. Apart from our regular meetings and work on the Line, we have another parachute programme, a 10-hour rowing marathon, a coast-to-coast bicycle race and the UNFICYP military skills and fitness tests. It will be a very challenging time, with something for everyone to work for and look forward to.



Sgt Turnbull and Capt Smith on the tailgate



## 29 CDO REGIMENTAL DUATHLON



On Saturday 22 July, the Regiment staged an inter-Battery Duathlon.

The idea for the Duathlon was hatched in March 1995 by Maj Kelly while on the Regimental recce of Cyprus as he was sitting in a bar in Limassol, peering up at Mount Olympus through a gin and tonic (tropical Officers' recce).

The race started at 0700 with one foot in the sea, and the first leg consisted of a very hard 15km run, all uphill, some enjoying it more than others! Gnr Marsh was the fastest man on the leg! Each team member handed over to their respective cyclists, who set off on a gruelling 25km cycle. The fastest cyclist was the flying chef, Sgt Fletcher. The final run was 10km, with 900m of vertical height gained: this is where the old boys came into their own with SSgt Reid being the fastest and the CO a close second.



One foot in the sea at the start - but where is the medical support?



The successful runners and riders at the summit

The winning team were the Flying Chefs (they can fly, but they can't cook!) in a time of 3 hrs, 27 mins, 10 secs. Second were the QM's empire and third were 79 Battery Officers. The inter-Battery cup was won by 79 Battery.



The victorious Flying Chefs!

We would like to thank Micromania for donating some of the prizes which contributed to making the event a great success, so much so that it is planned to be held as an individual event later in the tour.

## LT COL JORGE ALBERTO TERESO - CHIEF HUMANITARIAN OFFICER



appointed to other Tank Regiments.

Between 1983 and 1985, he attended the Argentinian Military Academy, graduating as a Staff Officer, and was assigned as Operations Officer in an Armoured Brigade.

Between 1988 and 1989 he was commissioned to the United Nations in the Middle East, where he was

Lt Col Jorge Alberto Tereso was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1949. He finished Military College in 1970 and was commissioned into a Tank Regiment, later joining the "Regimiento Granaderos a Caballo General San Martin". He was later

designated Chief of the Observer Group in the Golan, UNTSO.

In 1990, he was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel and joined the Army General Staff. In 1992, he was appointed Commanding Officer of a Tank Unit and in 1995, he was commissioned to UNFICYP HQ as the Chief Humanitarian Officer.

He is a keen and accomplished horseman and, on two occasions, was included as a member of the Argentinian Equestrian National Team. Twice he was national runner-up in these events.

Lt Col Tereso is married to Virginia and they have six children, three sons and three daughters. Two are attending primary school, two are at secondary school and two are at university.





## BI-COMMUNAL YOUTH CONTACT GROUP

Following several meetings at the Ledra Palace Hotel, a group of young Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots decided to establish a bi-communal Youth Contact Group to promote better understanding and mutual confidence by building on the shared interests of the young people of both communities. The meeting was organized in cooperation with the United Nations.

Young Greek Cypriots interested in participating in these activities should contact Yiannos Katsourides at 02-422377 or Charalambos Kafkarides at 02-333988 and young Turkish Cypriots should contact Yasa Yesilada at 22 33692 or Kemal Baykalli at 36 66546.



Mr Feissel (top row, centre) with young Cypriots



## VIP VISITS TO SECTOR FOUR

### VISIT OF GENERAL CORRIERI

One of the highest ranking Austrian officers, General Corrieri, visited the Austrian Contingent from 24-26 June (see left). General Corrieri is the Chief Logistics Officer in the Austrian Army.

Sector Four prepared an extensive visit programme which led the General to Athienou, Pyla, Varosha, Camp Duke Leopold V and even to the Karpas area, including Cape Andreas. An important part of the visit programme was the office call on the Chief of Mission and Force Commander in Nicosia.

By the end of his visit, the General stated how impressed he was at the motivation shown by the Austrian peace-keepers in UNFICYP.



General Corrieri shaking hands with (from the left): Maj Salehner, Maj Wallig and Maj Wally in Camp Izay



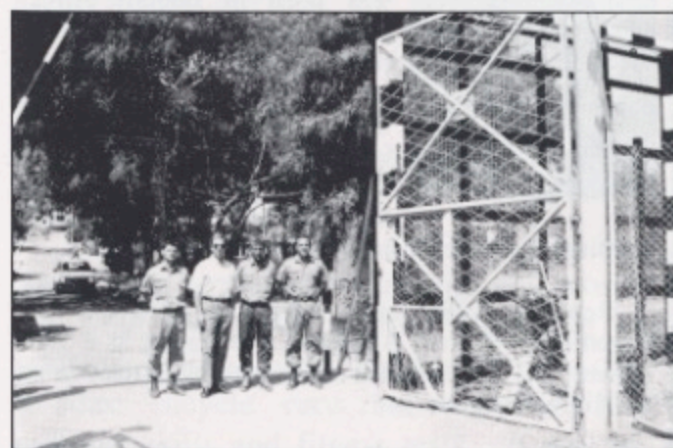
### VISIT OF MR FEISSEL

The Chief of Mission, Mr Gustave Feissel, paid a visit to Sector Four's Camp Duke Leopold V in Famagusta on 20 June.

The infrastructure of the Camp has been improved during the last few months at considerable expense. Some of the most important improvements are the:

- renewal of the briefing room;
- renewal of the fence along the Famagusta-Salamis road;
- installation of two telephone booths;
- improvement of the roads in the camp; and
- installation of a modern electric gate (see right).

Mr Feissel was pleased with all the efforts made by Sector Four personnel, and offered his support for further improvements in the Camp.



In front of the new main gate to CDL V: From the left: Capt Schagerl (Engineer Officer), Mr Feissel, SSgt Feldsperger and Cpl Friesinger



## UNFICYP PERMANENT FORCE RESERVE PLATOON

by Capt G A Woodbridge

Between 2-10 June 1995, the BRITCON element of the Permanent Force Reserve (PFR) carried out the bi-annual rotation.

Outgoing Queen's Royal Lancer personnel were replaced by soldiers from 29 Commando Regiment RA, filling 28 posts including the key appointments of OC, TSM and TQMS.

The handover completed and normal working routine established, we were initially tested on exercise practising crowd control, giving us some excellent in-theatre training.



Argentinian, Austrian and British members of the Perm FR on patrol

Variety of employment is certainly the case at the moment, with the PFR deploying to several different locations along the line in all three Sectors in support of other UNFICYP personnel facing demonstrations, as well as providing several mobile patrols to assist in extinguishing the fire on the northern slopes of the Kyrenia mountains. Additionally, we are responsible for providing the UNPA swimming pool lifeguard, and have subsequently run two courses, qualifying several personnel to silver level with the Austrian Lifeguard Federation.

Although detached for the six month period, the BRITCON element of the PFR maintain close links with the Regiment in Sector Two and take part in all the sporting competitions, including to date the UNFICYP Swimming Gala, the Regimental Triathlon and a gruelling Ironman Duathlon from the sea at Episkopi to the summit of Mt Olympus. Adventure training is another important feature, and we endeavour to get soldiers away each week to Dhekelia to complete a variety of different courses including sub aqua, sea kayaking, rock climbing and dinghy sailing.

The most recent event in our calendar has been the three-day regimental military parachuting programme using the Drop Zone in Akrotiri. All parachute-trained members of the PFR were



Argentinian and British Perm FR members having completed the Argentinian-British parachute wings qualification jump

involved, including two Argentinian soldiers. The parachute descents were conducted from an RAF Hercules C-130 at a height of 800ft, using the side doors and tailgate to exit the aircraft. The hardness of the ground provided some memorable landings, but this did nothing to dampen spirits during an excellent training package, culminating in the Commanding Officer of 29 Commando Regiment RA awarding British parachute wings to the two Argentinian soldiers, WO3 Mario Paoli and WO3 Fernando Torres (see below).



Fernando (left) with Mario behind him getting ready to jump!

The PFR are gaining invaluable experience in several tasks and activities, some not usually associated with soldiering, and we are now looking forward to continuing with what is proving to be a very interesting and varied six months as UN peace-keepers in Cyprus.





## AUSCON'S SPORTS COURSES - A SUCCESSFUL PERIOD

AUSCON looks back on a successful period of sports education and courses organized at HQ UNFICYP during the period August 1994 to July 1995. In particular, it was Capt Gerhard Köstner who was the "driving force" and was able to realize his ideas concerning sporting activities.

Capt Köstner was first appointed Deputy Platoon Leader of the FR Platoon and then became a Duty Officer in the HQ JOC. In order to make good use of his spare time, and since he is a keen swimmer, he offered to start up life guard courses. He also started basic sports courses (athletics and swimming) whereby on taking an examination, the ÖSTA badge - the official Austrian Sports badge - was awarded to all participants who passed. First aid courses were also conducted by the AUSCON doctor.

In total, 12 lifeguard courses were conducted with 114 successful participants from all contingents of UNFICYP. The ÖSTA courses were attended by 83 soldiers, again from all contingents, including the UNFICYP Force Commander, Brig Gen Ahti Vartiainen, who passed with flying colours (seen below, left, on his last 60m sprint).



## AYIA MARINA - A "HOLY PLACE" IN THE BUFFER ZONE

On the Dherinia Line, approximately 1.5 km from UN 146, there is a small chapel which is beautifully located by the side of a small river. This river rarely contains water; the area is, however, humid enough for vegetation such as fig and eucalyptus trees. It is, indeed, a very nice place for meditation or simply for a short prayer in the chapel. AUSCON has celebrated many religious feasts there, in particular Christmas.

Not only do Roman Catholics consider this as an important place of worship, but so do members of the Greek Orthodox church. Every year, 17 July is celebrated as the birthday of Ayia (Saint) Marina, and the inhabitants of Dherinia make a pilgrimage there under UNFICYP escort.

Between 0700 and 1300 hours on 17 July, for the fifth time since 1991, 650 pilgrims were assisted by Sector Four personnel to visit the chapel, escorted by six cars and a number of Sector Four personnel.



The beautiful church of Ayia Marina

The rule is that only 200 people are allowed in the area of the church at one time, so a continual exchange of pilgrims was organized in order that Mass could be attended by the adults and children alike. Legend has it that there is a tree just outside the church with the power of fertility, so many pilgrims hang personal items of clothing there in the hope that their prayers will be answered.

The whole event took place with no problem at all, and Sector Four (2nd Platoon) received special thanks from the Mayor of Dherinia.



## AT THE END OF HIS TOUR, LT COL FRANZ LEITGEB LOOKS BACK - BUT NOT IN ANGER

Lt Col Franz Leitgeb was assigned to UNFICYP as the Commanding Officer of the Austrian Contingent (4 November 1994 to 31 July 1995) and also the Chief Operations Officer (12 June 1994 to 28 July 1995). In the following article, he answers some questions concerning his assignment and experiences during his year with UNFICYP.

**Q. At the end of your tour, what do you consider as the most important experience you have gained?**

A. As an officer from a neutral country, this has been one of the few chances we Austrians have to serve on an international military staff. It was, in fact, my first posting with the United Nations. To have the opportunity of meeting officers and other ranks from UNFICYP contributing nations and to see how they operate, in accordance with their national military education, was indeed a very interesting experience for me. An Austrian career officer has a classical, military education and training and, therefore, a particular way of thinking, so a posting to a peace-keeping force provides a whole new outlook on life. I also took advantage of the fact that English is the official language within UNFICYP, and therefore, my knowledge of the language improved greatly.

**Q. What are some of the important highlights of your tour?**

A. I arrived in Cyprus following the departure of CANCON and the subsequent arrival of ARGCON, ie during the period of consolidation within UNFICYP, and in particular during the planning of the Master Map Programme (the remapping of the Buffer Zone area) and the renumbering of the OPs in particular. As CO/AUSCON, my personal highlights were the Medal Parade in Dherinia (May 95) and the visit of the highest ranking Austrian officer, Chief General Staff Majcen to Sector Four (April 95).

**Q. Can you provide any guidelines for future Chief Operations Officers within UNFICYP?**

A. In my opinion, the most thorough knowledge of the status quo, both past and present, is of the utmost importance. Continuity and patience in



Lt Col Leitgeb with his daughter Marietta at the AUSCON Medal Parade in Dherinia

dealing with the forces on both sides is also necessary to carry out this significant role effectively.

**Q. What is your special message for UNFICYP and AUSCON in the future?**

A. I would say that it is everybody's duty to try and fulfil the duties assigned to you to the best of your ability. The fact that the Force manpower has been reduced to a lower level than ever before and that it will stay that way means that use of modern technical observation devices will play an even more important role.

**Q. What about your personal future?**

A. I am a family man, and I am looking forward to seeing my Austrian relatives and friends again and to continue my life at home as it was before I left.

As regards my career, I will begin a new assignment as Chief of Staff of the 9th Armoured Infantry Brigade, close to Vienna.

I wish all members of UNFICYP all the best in the future.







## ATF 4 SAY GOODBYE AND ATF 5 SAY HELLO

Having completed the rotation of Sector One in the middle of this month, Argentinian Task Force 4 is now back home. All of us returned to our country



Outgoing crew of OP 18

very proud of the fact that we have served with UNFICYP, and sure that we have given the best of ourselves in fulfilling our mission.

During the last six months, we were given the opportunity to demonstrate our skills and our lifestyle, and we were lucky to have had the opportunity to increase our cultural knowledge, learning about the different nations within UNFICYP and their customs and, of course, the chance to make a great number of new friends we would like to meet again one day.

This is the time for reflection, time to say goodbye, but above all, time to say "thank

you" to all those members of UNFICYP who made our tour in Cyprus easy, comfortable and full of new and unforgettable experiences.

Argentinian Task Force 5 have now taken over, comprising 370 professional officers, NCOs and men. Before their arrival, they spent a great deal of time learning about the Cyprus problem and receiving instructions on their mission with UNFICYP. They will undoubtedly be welcomed and treated in the same warm and friendly manner as the Argentinian Contingents before them, and will, of course, do their utmost to fulfil their mission on the island in a professional and competent manner.



Officers of Task Force 4



Outgoing crew of OP 25

by Lt (Navy) AR von Wernich

## Good Luck, Eleanor O'Kelly

In July 95, members of IRCIVPOL, the Irish Civilian Police in Cyprus, got together to wish their colleague, Eleanor O'Kelly, good luck on the occasion of her forthcoming marriage to Mr Sean O'Toole. To mark the occasion, a barbecue was held at Pergamos, and a monetary present was made, Cypriot style (see right), by Comd Patrick Culhane. A great night was had by all.

The revellers were joined by the stalwarts of "the Dhekelia Hash House Harriers". This group has recently recruited

some of the younger and more adventurous members of IRCIVPOL for their intrepid cross-country runs.

Eleanor and Sean both hail from County Cork and have known each other for a number of years. We wish them well for the future and look forward to welcoming the blushing bride back to Cyprus after her short honeymoon in Ireland.

While Eleanor resumes her role as one of the three sheriffs of Famagusta, Sean returns to his cabinet-making business. We know he will be counting



the days until his delectable, demure and lovely bride returns to him in November.



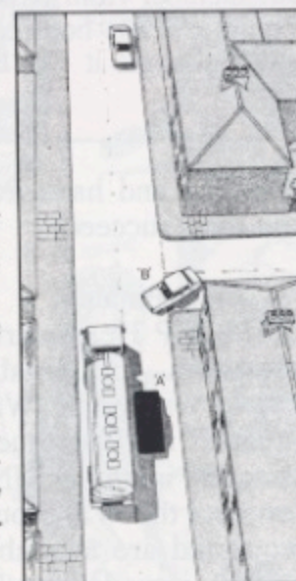
## SAFE DRIVING IN CYPRUS

by the Force Provost Marshal



This month, the safe driving article features overtaking. Quite a few of the traffic accidents reported to the UN MP occurred whilst overtaking measures were being carried out. It goes without saying that thoughtless overtaking is highly dangerous.

When overtaking, the driver must have a full and constant view of the road ahead and an understanding of the possible hazards. Position your vehicle to obtain the best possible view ahead, and remember in doing so not to inconvenience or endanger approaching or following traffic. Take into consideration obstructions on the nearside of the road that may cause the vehicle you are overtaking to move out, quite often without warning, and also bends, hill crests, junctions, traffic lights, etc. Be aware of no overtaking areas, indicated by continuous white lines or 'no overtaking' signs.

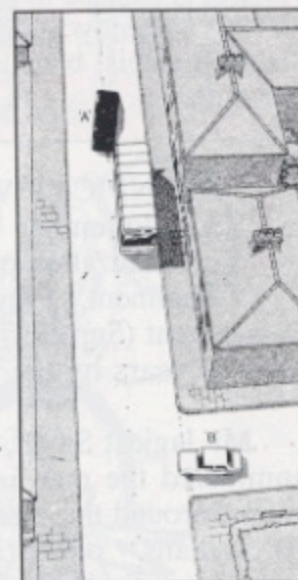


When overtaking, never cause the overtaken or an approaching vehicle to alter course or speed. Always be able to move back into the nearside in plenty of time.

Always be aware of the vehicle you are about to overtake slowing down and making a right turn across your intended path, very often without signalling its intentions to do so, and very often unaware of your presence. Try and read the tell-tale signs and anticipate what may happen - this can only be achieved if you are concentrating and alert. If in doubt when overtaking, hang back. There will be another opportunity if you are patient - rather than becoming a patient!

Safe driving until next month.

PS: Don't find yourself in the position of car 'A'.



## FIRE IN THE UNPA

The ever present danger of fire became a reality when on Thursday 27 July, a fire occurred in the Radio Room. It was discovered at 1437 hrs when one of the technicians, responding to a report of loss of power in the Telex Room, went to the Radio Room to collect the keys for the generator.

The alarm was raised and the Fire Piquet responded immediately. Great credit must go to the members of the Fire Piquet who, despite their inexperience, brought the fire under control and confined it to the building where it started.

Although the equipment destroyed in the fire was expensive and represents enormous financial loss, NO human life, which is irreplaceable, was lost.

Prophetically, an article published in the June



edition of *The Blue Beret* dealt with how to handle such a situation.

We repeat that **Ext 777 is the Fire Emergency telephone number**, which should be used in all emergencies.





# THE UNFICYP WAREHOUSE

Mr Jagjeet Singh was born in Malaysia, and joined the UN services in HQ New York in 1978. His first mission was in UNTAG, Namibia, as Admin Assistant/Field Service Assistant from May 1989 to June 1990, after which he was posted to Haiti for the period covering the verification of elections. In December 1991, he was assigned to UNFICYP as Accommodation Officer, and took over responsibility of Supply Officer in November 1994.



Jagjeet is married to Cécile Blanchet, who is also a staff member from New York, currently assigned to UNFICYP in the CAO's office. His hobbies include tennis, badminton, volleyball and swimming. You name it - he'll be there.

**T**he UNFICYP Warehouse was set up on 15 November 1994 as part of the new civilianization of the former UK Support Regiment. Previously known as Supply Detachment (Sup Det), it was administered for over 30 years by the British Contingent.

Mr Jagjeet Singh, the Supply Officer, was nominated the man in charge. Jack, as he is known around the Headquarters, has a staff of 10 civilians - one Briton, six Greek Cypriots and three Turkish Cypriots. There is one Senior Storekeeper (Mr Fatih Mehmet), four General Storekeepers (Mr Steve Ferrigan, Mr Ploutachous Georgiou, Mr Thomas Nicolaides and Mr Stathis Efstathiou), one Admin Clerk (Mr Michalakakis Evanthis), one Accounts Clerk (Mr Evrikos Demetriou) and three Semi Skilled Labourers (Mr Turgay Shevki, Mr Andreas Demetriou and Mr Moustafa Kemal). Moustafa may be listed last, but there is more to him than his abilities as a Semi Skilled Labourer. Moustafa is a very talented sketch artist, who has previously produced cartoons for the Blue Beret. Yet another of his masterpieces is shown right!

The UNFICYP Warehouse stocks range from pencils to defence stores - almost every single item required for the running of the Force. Since the Warehouse is the logistical lifeline of UNFICYP, it is as well for all members to be aware of the procedure for obtaining what you want, when you want.

Read on and have a go - with a bit of luck, you may succeed.

All demands - from personnel within UNFICYP Headquarters to Contingent Quartermasters - are initially processed through the Force Ordnance Warrant Officer's office, situated in Personnel & Logistics Branch, using the infamous UN 900 form. The FOWO contacts the Warehouse to verify if the items requested are available on stock. If so, that item is issued directly from the Warehouse. However, if not in stock, the request is processed through the CGS, vetted and the Purchase Order sent for final approval to the CAO. When authority is obtained, items are purchased through the Procurement Section and delivered to the Warehouse.

These items then arrive at the Warehouse Holding Area, where they are inspected by the Receiving & Inspection Unit to check that what was actually ordered has been received. This is the first point of entry in the Warehouse building.

The goods are then moved into stock, or to the CDP - Central Distribution Point - and segregated into areas allocated for each Sector/Unit for collection. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are issuing days for Contingents and Units to collect their stores, with Tuesdays and Thursdays being set aside for the receipt of stores from the vendors.



Naturally, all transactions are documented and records kept on file. The Unit is currently in the midst of computerizing warehouse operations, which will undoubtedly reduce paperwork and speed up transactions.

The UNFICYP warehouse is currently situated in an old hangar next to the Nicosia International Airport. This vast area is segregated very neatly into "what we need", "what we have" and "what we have to lend" areas. There is a sizeable stock of a number of items UNFICYP might need in the case of breakdown or any kind of emergency - from a heavy duty stove for one of the Contingent kitchens, to plastic chairs for medal parades. Even spare beds are available, although we are

now talking about collapsible beds - NOT the luxury type. Occasionally, there is some confusion, since there is a rumour that in the past, one of the ex Quartermasters did stock water beds, and an inquiry was received to borrow one. The answer given was "yes, we can supply a water bed, but you will have to buy a water mattress first!"

All stationery is, of course, supplied through the Warehouse, and there are weekly checks on stock contained therein.

There are, as in any office, disappointments and frustrations, but these usually come with solutions and satisfaction at the end of the day.





Over the years, a number of intergovernmental agencies in the economic, social and related fields have become a part of the UN family and are known as "specialized agencies", a term used in the United Nations Charter. They report annually to the Economic and Social Council.

In the following paragraphs, we present a brief description of the main specialized agencies, together with their history, aims and activities. In Part One, we shall cover the ILO, WHO, World Bank, IMF, ICAO and UPU.

## 1. International Labour Organization (ILO)



**1.1 History of Establishment.** The ILO was established in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles as an autonomous institution associated with the League of Nations. An agreement establishing the relationship between the ILO and the United Nations was approved on 14 December 1946, and the Organization became the first specialized agency associated with the United Nations.

**1.2 Aims and Activities.** The ILO works to promote social justice for working people everywhere. It formulates international policies and programmes to help improve working and living conditions; creates international labour standards; carries out programmes of technical cooperation; and engages in training, education and research to help advance these efforts. The ILO is unique among world organizations in that workers' and employers' representatives have an equal voice with those of governments in formulating its policies. The Organization is responsible for the adoption of standards in such areas as freedom of association, wages, home and conditions of work, workmen's compensation, social insurance, vacation with pay, industrial safety, employment services and labour inspection.

**1.3 Administration and Headquarters.** Between the annual sessions of the International Labour Conference in which all members are represented, the work of the ILO is guided by the Governing Body, comprising 28 government members (14 worker and 14 employers). The ILO has its Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

## 2. World Health Organization (WHO)



**2.1 History of Establishment.** The WHO came into being on 7 April 1948 in Geneva, when 26 UN Member States ratified its constitution. The date is observed annually as World Health Day.

**2.2 Aims and Activities.** The WHO has proved successful in promoting disease control and improved health services through research and medical training. WHO's objective is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. WHO helps countries reinforce their health systems and promotes the research

required to develop appropriate technologies related to all aspects of health. WHO is leading a world campaign to provide effective immunization for 90% of all children by the year 2000 to prevent major diseases such as diphtheria, measles, poliomyelitis, tetanus, tuberculosis and whooping cough. The WHO also directs and coordinates a global programme of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

**2.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The governing body of the WHO is the World Health Assembly, on which all member states are represented. It meets annually to review the Organization's work and decide on policy, programme and budget. The Executive Board has 31 members, designated by as many countries; it acts as the executive arm of the Assembly. WHO's Headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.

## 3. World Bank



**3.1 Year of Establishment.** The World Bank is a group of four institutions, namely the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), established in 1944; the International Finance Corporation (IFC), which is a separate legal entity established in 1956; the International Development Association (IDA), formed in 1960; and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), which was formally constituted in April 1988.

**3.2 Aims and Activities.** The principal purposes of the World Bank set forth in its Charter are briefly to assist in the reconstruction and development of territories of its members by facilitating the investment of capital for productive purposes; to promote private foreign investment and to supplement private investment (when not readily available) by providing finance for productive purposes; and to promote the long range balanced growth of international trade and the maintenance of equilibrium in balances of payment by encouraging international investment for the development of productive resources of members.

The Bank, whose capital is subscribed to by its member countries, finances its lending operations primarily from its own borrowing in world markets, as well as from retained earnings and the flow of repayments on its loans. Loans may be made to member countries directly or to any of their principal subdivisions or to private business. However, governments must guarantee the loans. In the case of the IDA, a country may be granted a loan provided it meets certain criteria, such as it must have sufficient economic, financial and political stability to warrant long term development lending; it must have an unusually difficult balance of payments problem; and it must have a genuine commitment to development, as reflected in its policies. The IFC's aims are: to assist in financing private enterprise which could contribute to development; to bring together investment opportunities, domestic and foreign capital, and experienced management; and to stimulate the flow of private capital, domestic and



## UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AND RELATED AGENCIES: PART ONE

by Mrs Miriam Taylor



foreign, into productive investment in member countries. Finally, MIGA's basic purpose is to facilitate the flow of private investment for productive purposes to developing member countries.

**3.3 Administration and Headquarters.** All powers of the Bank are vested in the Board of Governors appointed by the member countries. The Board normally meets once a year. There are 22 Executive Directors. The President of the Bank is selected by the Board of Governors of which he is *ex officio* Chairman. The World Bank has its Headquarters in Washington DC since June 1946.

## 4. International Monetary Fund (IMF)



**4.1 History of Establishment.** The IMF was founded in December 1945, and was assigned three main functions: firstly to administer a code of conduct regarding exchange rate policies and restrictions on payments for current account transactions; secondly to provide members with financial resources to enable them to observe the code of conduct while they are correcting or avoiding payments imbalances; and thirdly to provide a forum in which members can consult with one another and collaborate on international monetary issues.

**4.2 Aims and Activities.** The IMF is an inter-governmental organization whose purposes are:

- ▶ to promote international cooperation on international monetary issues;
- ▶ to facilitate the balanced growth of international trade;
- ▶ to promote exchange stability and orderly exchange arrangements;
- ▶ to foster a multilateral system of payments;
- ▶ to make the general resources of the Fund temporarily available to members, under adequate safeguards, and
- ▶ to shorten the duration and magnitude of payments imbalances.

**4.3 Administration and Headquarters.** Each of the Fund's 171 member countries is represented on the Board of Governors, the Fund's highest authority, which meets annually. The daily business of the Fund is conducted by an Executive Board of 22 Executive Directors, chaired by the Managing Director, who is also the chief of staff of more than 1,950 international civil servants from 110 nations. IMF's Headquarters is in Washington DC.

## 5. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)



**5.1 History of Establishment.** The ICAO was established on 4 April 1947, after 26 States had ratified the convention on International Civil Aviation, drafted three years earlier at the Chicago International Civil Aviation Conference (1944).

**5.2 Aims and Activities.** ICAO's objectives are to: ensure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation; encourage the design and operation of aircraft for peaceful purposes; support the development of airways, airports and air navigation facilities for civil aviation; and meet the needs of the international public for safe, regular, efficient and economical air transport.

ICAO works to facilitate the movement of aircraft, passengers, crews, baggage, cargo and mail across international boundaries by reducing procedural formalities involving customs, immigration and public health authorities. It also meets requests from developing countries for help in establishing or improving air transport systems and training for aviation personnel.

**5.3 Administration and Headquarters.** ICAO has an Assembly, comprising delegates from all 166 member States, and a Council of representatives of 33 nations elected by the Assembly. The Assembly meets at least once every three years, decides ICAO policy and examines any matters not specifically referred to the Council. The Governing Council is the executive body of ICAO and carries out Assembly directives.

The ICAO has its Headquarters in Montreal, Canada.

## 6. The Universal Postal Union (UPU)



**6.1 History of Establishment.** The UPU was established on 9 October 1874 by the Berne Treaty, which was approved by 22 nations at Berne, Switzerland, and came into force on 1 July 1875. UPU became a specialized agency of the United Nations under the terms of an agreement which became effective on 1 July 1948.

**6.2 Aims and Activities.** UPU forms a single postal territory of countries for the reciprocal exchange of letter-post items. Its objectives are to secure the organization and improvement of the postal services; to take part in postal technical assistance sought by the member countries of the Union; and to promote international collaboration in postal matters. Every member State of the UPU agrees to transmit the mail of all other members by the best means used for its own mail.

**6.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The Universal Postal Congress, composed of representatives of all member countries, is the supreme authority of UPU. It meets every five years to review the Universal Postal Convention. The Executive Council, composed of 40 members elected by the Congress with due regard for equitable geographical distribution, meets annually to ensure the continuity of the work of the Union between congresses.

UPU's Headquarters is located in Berne, Switzerland.



**COMMANDANT EAMONN LYNCH  
OUTGOING OFFICER COMMANDING, IRISH CONTINGENT**

Photograph by Cpl Willie Quain

**O**utgoing Officer Commanding Irish Contingent, Commandant Eamonn Lynch, departed UNFICYP on 14 August 1995 and retires from the Irish Defence Forces on 15 September 1995.

Comdt Lynch arrived in Cyprus on 6 March this year to take up the post of Camp Commandant, Camp Command, a 12-month appointment. However, during his tour, he received news that he had been successful in his application for the position of Chief Executive Officer with the Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland.

Comdt Lynch was born in Cork on 20 February 1952 and entered the Military College as a cadet in 1970. After being commissioned, he was posted to the Infantry Corps, was promoted Captain in 1977 and Commandant in 1986. He served with the 28th Inf Bn for most of his career, which also included service with UNIFIL, UNTSO and finally UNFICYP.



Married to Trish, they have two daughters, Emily and Sinead, both of whom are presently in Cyprus.

To mark the occasion of Eamonn's departure from the island and also the Defence Forces, a function was held in Club Hibernia by members of the Irish Contingent. Comdt Doyle and Capt Maughan paid tribute to Comdt Lynch for his long and loyal service

with the Irish Defence Forces and, indeed, for his service with the United Nations.

Eamonn will be greatly missed by all his friends in the Army, not least by those who have served with him in Cyprus.

To him, Trish and his two daughters we say farewell, every success and, most of all, happiness in the future.