New Chief of Staff, Colonel Peter Fraser-Hopewell, signs in.

Zodhia/Bostanci Crossing Point Opens

The Blue Beret
September 2005
Zodhia/Bostanci Crossing Point Opens

On 31 August, UNFICYP facilitated the opening of the island’s 15th crossing point, intersecting with Zodhia/Bostanci in the western sector of the buffer zone.

UNFICYP had committed to opening the crossing point, however they differoured time and again, and preparatory work in this way the Erimonos crossing project cleared mines in the area to pave the way for the eventual opening.

Between the two sides throughout the process, right up to the last minute, when a short delay, the crossing route finally opened for business under agreed temporary arrangements and facilitating the launch of an end-funded road project.

Later this year, once contracts have been tendered and awarded, a UNFICYP project will upgrade and widen the existing road to accommodate two-way traffic, as well as install lighting and fences to ensure that the crossing is well defined.

Roads, to ensure the prompt opening of the crossing, UNFICYP’s Engineering Unit deployed at short notice. As the state of the road was tense of all the authorities and, to avoid serious conflicts with official policy, articles of equal interest (photographs with captions) are required from all members of the force.

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Mr. Møller is currently the SG’s Acting Deputy Chef de Cabinet, a position he took up in March this year, as well as Director for Political, Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Affairs in the Executive Office of the SG.

The Secretary-General has notified the Security Council of his intention to appoint Michael Møller (Denmark) as his Special Representative for Cyprus. Mr. Møller, 52, holds a master’s degree in Political Science from the University of Sussex, UK.

In March 1993, he became the Political Adviser to the DG, UN Office in Nairobi (UNOON). He also headed the Office of the Special Adviser to the SG from 1994 to 1995.

His field assignments include serving as head of the Unit Component in the Joint UNOMIK/UN Civilian Mission in Kosovo (MICIVIH) in 1993, head of the sub-office for Southern Mozambique, UNOMIK, from 1997 to 1998, and Political Adviser to the UN Military Inspection Team in Iran in 1987.

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EACEKEEPING
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OF
TO

World Summit - A Glass Half Full
By Kofi Annan

The outcome document, adopted at the end of the United Nations world summit, has been described as “disappointing” or “nailed down”. This is true if one takes the speech to mean a final statement. The text was adopted, without change, by consensus, and therefore represents the collective judgment of the world’s leaders. But it is only fair that I set the record straight.

The outcome document contains a series of strong, unambiguous commitments, and a call to action on a range of issues. Many states agreed on the Millennium Declaration, and others agreed on the Milennium Development Goals. Some states added new initiatives, while a few expressed reservations. In the end, as by President Bush’s personal endorsement of the goals in his speech (to the UN):

- 30 days to de-militarize key areas
- 30 days to begin peacekeeping
- 30 days to begin peacebuilding programs

These commitments to action are important, however, only if they lead to real results. And that came as welcome news, after weeks of tense negotiations. And that is precisely what the Conference achieved.

In the end, that is precisely what the Conference achieved. The outcome document, which contains, for the first time in UN history, an unqualified condemnation of terrorism that I had urged, but that others insisted that efforts to strengthen the Non-Proliferation Treaty should not be held hostage to such an approach. The new strategic framework for counter-terrorism, with more robust futures, will certainly make an impact on the UN’s historic decolonisation role. It lacks the clear definition of other real successes would then come to be remembered only for its political negotiations, and make an impact on the UN’s historic decolonisation role. It lacks the clear definition of

The Blue Beret

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FINCON Withdraws

On 16 September, 41.5 years after the first contingent of Finnish engineers arrived in Cyprus, Finland’s Contingent folded its operations.

Finland, as a founder member of UNFICYP’s peacekeeping force, has been for hundreds, if not thousands, of years.

Markus, on 16 September 2005.

Finnish Flag

In completing the exchange, Mr. Dancy paid the Force a a visit. Dancy hailed the visit as an opportunity to the establishment, UNFICYP is getting a bargain.

Sauna – Part of the Finnish Culture

UNFICYP forces have twice been led by Finnish Commanders – Lt. Gen. Arne-Olof Povirk from 1965 to 1969, and Maj. Gen. Antti Varttianen from 1994 to 1996. Since the arrival of the contingent in 1964, a “sweat” cabin (a sauna) has been retained, 1,007 men, arrived in Cyprus.

Finland was a significant tribute to all Finns who have served with UNFICYP over 41 years.

Chief of Staff Handover

As Capt. Markus said, “It was a great honour to serve as the last Finnish peacekeeper here in Cyprus. My tour has been a rich and rewarding experience, and leaving the Finnish flag on 16 September is a significant tribute to all Finns who have served with UNFICYP over 41 years.”

During 2004, when reunification of Cyprus was a serious prospect under the Annan Plan, he was required to prepare the way for transition to a new mission. Had a settlement been achieved, the Force would have been well prepared and ready to take on the most demanding challenges presented by the new scenario.

When the Contingent moved to Finn Eagles Camp in 1994, a new building was added to the camp and converted into a kitchen and attached to the new building. This involved the construction of a new roof and the addition of a veranda. Work was carried out by the Finnish Engineers from UNIFIL, based in Lebanon.

Military and civilian elements here in UNFICYP, more than a decade, and a significant contribution in the operational environment.

More recently, Col. Sinclair oversaw the UNFICYP Force 860, with headquarters in Nicosia, during his tour as Force Commander.

Sinclair has helped to execute the most extensive changes seen in UNFICYP in more than a decade, and a seamless transition was achieved. The result is a new, highly professional and efficient force.

Sinclair oversaw the deployment immediately to Northern Ireland for just six months. After service in Germany, he was posted to Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command, later returning to UNFICYP in 1994. He commanded the British Guard at Balmoral Castle and during his previous tour in UNFICYP, he was awarded the MBE in 1995 and received the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service in 1996. He is promoted to Major General, which is his final posting in the Royal Scots as a Rifle Company Commander in 1993. After service in Germany, he was posted to Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command, later returning to UNFICYP in 1994. He commanded the British Guard at Balmoral Castle and during his previous tour in UNFICYP, he was awarded the MBE in 1995 and received the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service in 1996.

Deputy Commander 3 October 2001, on promotion to Brigadier, he left the Royal Scots as a Rifle Company Commander in 1993. After service in Germany, he was posted to Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command, later returning to UNFICYP in 1994. He commanded the British Guard at Balmoral Castle and during his previous tour in UNFICYP, he was awarded the MBE in 1995 and received the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Service in 1996.

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“Honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the United Nations Protected Area, Nicosia, and thank you for attending the combined military medal parade for the United Nations Force in Cyprus.”

So began Maj. James Phillips, OC MFR, as he introduced the summer 2005 UNFICYP Medal Parade on the evening of 8 September. It was the second combined UN medal parade in the last eight months. This time the event was held directly in front of the terminal building of the former Nicosia International Airport. The location, setting sun and a great deal of hard work in organising the parade ensured that it was a truly memorable occasion, not only for those being decorated with their medals, but for everyone present.

That evening, over 200 UNFICYP soldiers were presented with their peacekeeping medals, joining more than 160,000 blue berets who have served on the island since the inception of the Force.

The first to march on parade were the troops from Sector 1, led by Maj. Ezedel Cantori. Presenting the medals were Chief of Mission Zbigniew Wlosowicz, Force Commander Maj. Gen. Hebert Figoli and CO Sector 1, Lt. Col. Federico Sidders.

The British Contingent, led by Maj. Howard Wilkinson, received their medals from the Chief of Mission, the Force Commander and the British High Commissioner, H.E. Mr. Peter Millet. The final contingent to march onto the parade square was Sector 4, led by Lt. Col. Miroslav Dobrodenka. The Slovak and Hungarian soldiers were decorated by the Chief of Mission, the Force Commander, Ambassador Jan Varso of Slovakia and Ambassador Janos Kisfalvi of Hungary.

That evening, the Mobile Force Reserve, commanded by Lt. Alex Markwick, carried out some “cracking” general salutes. All the hard work put in by the MFR in setting up the parade, the time spent on rehearsals and the “behind the scenes” preparation resulted in a first-class parade, followed by a wonderful reception hosted by the three contingents.

Thanks to the kind permission of the Commander British Forces Cyprus, the band of the Royal Irish Regiment provided some wonderful musical accompaniment to the parade, as well as entertaining the guests at the reception.

A memorable occasion for all. The standard for the next parade has been set.
Bosnia and Italy join UNPOL

Four members of the Senior Staff Group were among the 20 British and Italian staff from the UNPOL who swapped desks at HQ UNPOL, where they met with UNPOL and Sector 2 representatives. The exchange was hosted by the CM and the EU Special Representation. The presentation was presided over by FC Maj. Gen. Hebert Figoli, Chief Administrative Officer Frank Cansy, Spokesperson Brian Kelly, and Chief Integrated Support Services Commander, coordinated the HQ UNFICYP parade.

MFR – Multiple Skills on Call

With low-key, freshly-squeezed orange juice, and Italian engines running, Force Commander Maj. Gen. Hebert Figoli welcomed the 2IC, Chief Administrative Officer Frank Cansy, Chief Administrative Officer, Chief of Mission Zbigniew Wlosowicz, and Senior Staff Group Swaps

Senior Staff Group Swaps Desks for Dinghies

Kaying saw the HQ UNPOL members undertake a series of confounding challenges. Participants were divided into teams of three and were encouraged to follow a number of instructions, including a walk over the knees of their team members' backs and back along the stems to the other end. Each group reliance proved to be a beneficial experience.

On 21 September 2005, marking International Peace Day, the Blue Beret members were presented with medals. The presentation was supervised over by FC Maj. Gen. Hebert Figoli. Also in attendance were the Australian High Commissioner and the Italian Police Adviser Carla van Mari. Also in attendance were the Australian High Commissioner and the Italian Police Adviser Carla van Mari.

UNPOL Medal Parade

On 21 September, a combined UNPOL medal parade was held for the 82nd Australian Contingent, the first Croatian Contingent and the French Contingent.

International Peace Day – 21 September 2005

September 2005 – The Blue Beret

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Goodall and Elie Weisel.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan rang the Peace Bell at 9:30 a.m. in a ceremony at UN Headquarters New York, which was attended by UN officials, Secretary-General Kofi Annan, US Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, former Peace Nobel laureates and representatives of the Office of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Following the presentation, a reception was held at the newly named UNPOL club.

September 2005 – The Blue Beret

International Peace Day – 21 September 2005

This more International Peace Day – 21 September 2005

September 2005 – The Blue Beret

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Departures from HQ UNFICYP

Mike, the Irish Legend

After a career spanning some 35 years in the service of peace with the United Nations, Field Service Officer Mike Moriarty reached mandatory retirement age and he and his Irish wife Christine have now retired. He left the UN FICYP with a fond farewell, but not before a surprise farewell event in Mike’s honour. (now retired), who flew over from Ireland especially for the occasion, presented Mike with a statuette of Cuchulainn, the legendary warrior from Ulster.

This in turn was reciprocated by the Irish officers, to whom Mike was presented on behalf of the organisation he helped establish in 1975 and which he continues to support, the Irish Contingent Commander, Supt. Eamonn Lynch, with a statuette of Cuchulainn, the legendary warrior from Ulster.

Mike was an end joigger and completed numerous marathons around the world. He took up in his retirement a career as a professional tango dancer that he established a tango club in UNFICYP which flourishes to this day. As a former member of the Irish Police (An Garda Siochana), Mike has a special affinity for the Irish people and this is reflected in his dedication to the Irish soldiers of Sector 2. Mike is highly respected and held in high esteem in which he is held. They are not only a Padre of UNFICYP’s British Contingent. Mike returns to his home in Cork where he will reside with his lovely wife Christine (who also happens to be a professional dancer). Mike is very proud of the improvements made to St. John’s Church, the former Yugoslavia), Padre Lee Gandiya. Padre Lee ministered to our multinational flock with understanding, devotion, effectiveness, and a wonderlust for people to see a good match!

LEO, the Understanding Minister

With five years of experience as an Army padre, Michael was well known for his forthrightness and commitment and compassion, given much needed support. He has conducted funeral and memorial services, and conducted wedding services for members of the force of unit or another for many years. He is a strong supporter of Equality Now, the International Human Rights committee of the NYC Bar, Amnesty International USA and a variety of US civil rights organisations.

Arrivals at HQ UNFICYP

Senior Adviser

Ms. Allee, a native New Yorker, has recently taken up the position of Acting Senior Adviser to the UNFICYP’s Wlodek OIC Civil Affairs, a position that was vacated by the previous OIC who has been reassigned to UNFICYP’s Wlodek, a one-year appointment as the Desk Officer for Bandit GSF 1200S). Ms. Allee has been active in community work seeking over the years on behalf of Equality Now, the

OIC Civil Affairs

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We now know what the how did it originate and what it was called...

In the 1840s, the British Army provided hardly any recreation and social life for the soldiers stationed in Cyprus. The clubs were used less and less by servicemen. They had more money in their pocket and better food and conditions in their quarters. But some officers still needed somewhere to go for peace and quiet, but this facility never had more than a hundred members.

In the years that followed the Second World War, the social needs of the soldiers were taken into account. The officers could still have their own club, but it was opened to the personnel of the Armed Forces, military and police – and their dependants.

It became an ideal training environment. There are not only conditioning to offer, but also audio-visual equipment to entertain you during your workout! The UNFICYP is tops!