Ireland’s President McAleese visits UNFICYP
October 2006 - The Blue Beret

The United Nations celebrated its 61st anniversary on 24 October. This was Kofi Annan's tenth and last UN Day as Secretary-General. It was also UNFICYP's 42nd UN Day in Cyprus.

In Nicosia, Chief of Mission Møller reminded people of the important role a strong and active civil society could play in helping attain a firm and lasting peace and security problem. He spoke of UN system concern about recent negative discussions on past UN funding of bi-communal activities, warning they could poison "the very atmosphere within which we hope a new process can thrive."

In New York, Kofi Annan spoke of how all people should be concerned about the challenges now facing the UN and the global community. He asked that they urge their leaders to work with his successor, and make the UN stronger and more effective.

In the same month, farmers in the Kaimakli area of Nicosia sought to test the UN zone permit system by claiming the right to sow fields adjacent to the northern ceasefire line. They were stopped by Cypriot police deployed in the front zone.

As with the farmers, so it is with society. Very often, making an informed choice requires not just the ability but also the willingness to read the signs. Clearly, civil society has an important and constructive role to play in supporting the UN and the international community as they come to grips with current global challenges. The same applies to helping resolve the Cyprus problem.

However, as SRSG Møller urged in his UN Day message, rather than looking to the past, Cypriots should turn to the future and think constructively and imaginatively about the shape of things to come.

My tenure will be marked by ceaseless efforts to build bridges and close divides. Leadership of harmony not division, by example not instruction has served me well so far. I intend to stay the course as Secretary-General

-- Ban Ki-moon

Secretary-General-designate - Ban Ki-moon

On 13 October, the General Assembly unanimously appointed Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon of the Republic of Korea as the next Secretary-General. He will succeed SG Kofi Annan on 1 January. Mr. Ban becomes the eighth SG of the UN. Earlier, in the course of his 40-year diplomatic career, Mr. Ban, 62, served in his country’s Mission to the United Nations. In 2001, he was Chef de Cabinet to then-Assembly President Han Seung-soo, of the Republic of Korea.

Secretary-General-designate Ban Ki-moon spoke with media at the UN on the enormous challenges he faces at three areas in particular where concerted action is needed:

- First, to rebuild trust among all stakeholders. UN action is premised on the will of Member States, and political will cannot be forged in an atmosphere of distrust. As SG, he intended investing as much time and energy as possible to bridge the divide in order to win the trust of all delegations, through hard work and reaching out for genuine dialogue.
- Second, to stay the course with ongoing reform of the Secretariat management “so that we may build the twenty-first-century Secretariat for a twenty-first-century Organization.”
- Third, to enhance coherence and coordination since the UN is simply too overstretched for the limited resources available. There is a need for some drastic steps to reduce overlap and redundancies, to streamline work for greater efficiency and better use of resources and better service delivery.

Appraising Ban Ki-moon as “a man with a truly global perspective” by whom the world envisaged a “new world order,” SG Kofi Annan told his successor that “the UN staff represented the Organization’s ‘greatest asset’ and that he should try to make full use of this ‘unparalleled resource’.” He also recalled how more than 50 years ago, the first UN SG, Trygve Lie, greeted his successor, Dag Hammarskjöld, telling him, “You are about to take over the most impossible job on Earth.”

“Earth”, SG-designate Ban Ki-moon said, “is a planet that may be true; I would add, this is also the best possible job on Earth.”

On his appointment, the SG-designate told the General Assembly he was honored to become the second Asian to lead the UN, following U Thant, the SG of four decades ago.

Today, Asia is dynamic and diverse, and it aspires to take on greater responsibilities for the world, he said. However, there are also a region where modesty is a virtue and that modesty is about demeanour, not about vision and goals. “It does not mean lack of commitment or leadership. Rather, it is quiet determination in action to get things done without so much fanfare. This may be the key to Asia’s success, and to the UN’s future.”

“The UN is needed now more than ever before. The UN staff represented the Organisation’s ‘greatest asset’ and that he should try to make full use of this ‘unparalleled resource’.”

Turning to the reform process, the SG-designate said: “Let us remember that we reform not to please others, but because we value what this Organisation stands for. We choose to work together in the interests of human rights.”

Pillars of the United Nations, are advanced together with equal vigour, Mr. Ban said, pledging to work diligently as SG to protect the most vulnerable members of humanity and for the peaceful resolution of threats to international security and regional stability.” We should do our part in building the Millennium Development Goals, the expanding threats posed by terrorism, WMD proliferation, HIV/AIDS and other pandemics, environmental degradation, and the imperatives of human rights.”

Secretary-General - Ban Ki-moon

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Secretary-General - Ban Ki-moon
UN Day Messages Call for People’s Support

Ireland’s President McAleese visits UNFICYP

In a UN Day address to some 200 invited guests at Ledra Palace on 20 October, including the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, Mehmet Ali Talat, SRSG Møller spoke of the UN’s pride in its long-standing record of support for the efforts of Cypriot civil society organisations to promote bi-communal cooperation on the island. “A strong and active civil society is crucial if you really want to get to a firm and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem.”

Mr. Møller expressed UN system concern about recent negative discussions on past UN funding of bi-communal activities. He warned of the risk this could pose to the commitment and willingness of Cypriots from both communities to strengthen relationships and bi-communal cooperation in Cyprus.

Such developments run counter to significant efforts here serve one over-arching goal – support for the day the island’s division ends in a mutually agreed comprehensive settlement.”

Moeller’s efforts here serve one over-arching goal – support for the day the island’s division ends in a mutually agreed comprehensive settlement.”

Continuing, he said, “They risk poisoning the very atmosphere within which we hope a new process can thrive.”

Saying that the tendency of many Cypriots to look to the past when talking about their country was an obstacle to progress, Mr. Møller suggested it was time to turn to the future and think constructively and imaginatively about the shape of things to come.

The 8 July agreement signed by the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders to begin a process involving a bi-communal dialogue with the aim of reaching a comprehensive settlement provides a great opportunity for forward movement in the search for a workable solution to the Cyprus problem, he noted.

“Too many windows of opportunity have been slammed shut in the course of the last three decades. Let us keep this one open, un-shuttered and un-shattered,” Mr. Møller urged all Cypriots to do their very best to bring about the long sought solution ending the island’s division.

In his remarks, the Chief of Mission noted that the UN’s 61st birthday also marked the tenth and last UN Day in office for outgoing Secretary-General Kofi Annan. He read from the SG’s last UN Day message.

“Over the past 10 years, we have made some big steps forward in our common struggle for development, security and human rights.

• Aid and debt relief have increased, making the world economy somewhat fairer.
• At last, the world is scaling up its response to HIV/AIDS.
• There are fewer wars between States than there used to be; and many civil wars have ended.
• More governments are elected by, and accountable to, the people whom they govern.
• And all states have acknowledged, at least in words, their responsibility to protect people from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.
• But, there is so much that still needs doing.

“The gap between rich and poor continues to grow.
• Very few countries are on track to reach all eight of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.
• Many people still face atrocities, repression and brutal conflicts.
• The nuclear non-proliferation regime requires urgent attention.
• Terrorism, and the reaction to it, are spreading fear and suspicion.

It seems we don’t even agree which threats are most important. Those who live in small islands may see global warming as the biggest danger. Those who live in a city that has suffered terrorist attacks – like New York, or Mumbai, or Istanbul – may feel that confronting terrorism is more urgent. Others, again, may cite poverty, disease, or genocide.

“The truth is, these are all global threats. All of us should be concerned about all of them. Otherwise, we may not succeed in dealing with any of them.

“At this time of all times, we cannot afford to be divided. I know that you, the peoples of the world, understand this. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given me, throughout these 10 difficult but exciting years.

“Please urge your leaders to work with my successor, and make the United Nations ever stronger and more effective.


Following the mass, the Force Commander and Chief of Staff escorted President McAleese and delegation on a quick tour of the old Nicosia Airport. Then she and her husband spent almost an hour at the UNPOL Garda Club, where they mingled with UNFICYP staff and their families including the Garda Contingent.

President McAleese was welcomed by Deputy Commander UNPOL, Comdr. Col. Stanislaw Zbyszewski, then by Supt. Noel Galwey. She was also presented with bouquets by Auveen O’Neill and Caomhine Crowley, daughters of Srgt. Conor O’Neill (SCAT Pyla) and Garda John Crowley (Pyla). UNPOL’s Chief of Operations and his wife Anne gave President McAleese and her husband an Irish perspective on the mission.

The President paid tribute to the role of Irish peacekeepers have played in UNFICYP and saluted the police contingent for their commendable record of service with the mission.

Subsequently, President McAleese was driven to Ledra Palace via the buffer zone enabling her and her party to see first-hand the island’s division. Like many VIPs before, she exclaimed how seeing the buffer zone made a reality of the Cyprus problem, providing an insight and an understanding beyond the printed word.
UN Staff Day – An Innovative Celebration

In a new departure from past UN Day practices, UNFICYP celebrated UN Staff Day on 26 October, devoting an afternoon to recreational activities, otherwise known as fun and games.

Leading the festivities was Chief of Mission Michael Møller. As the man responsible for bringing this new initiative to the mission, he thought it only appropriate that staff in Cyprus should have the same opportunity to get together and let their hair down, as do colleagues in UN Headquarters New York at this time of year.

UNFICYP staff, national and international, uniformed and civilian, rallied to the recreational cause. They were spurred on by the organisational skills of Hala Barbar and her stalwart team of assistants including Maria Wilkins, Christine Botejue-Kyle, Ersin Oztoycan, Anne Bursey, Rick Demetriou, Stacey Worthington, Anastasia Neocleous and countless more.

Staff members brought prepared food from home for an UNFICYP family al fresco lunch at the UNPOL club. The culinary array on display was mouth-watering and enticing. Between mouthfuls, appreciative staff members sang out the praises of individual dishes. (Incidentally, the Blue Beret would very much like to have the recipe for the potatoes au gratin that someone prepared!)

Sated but mobile, staff adjourned to the nearby playing field to test their skills at Pictionary, backgammon, tug-o-war, volleyball, and five-a-side football. The competition was fierce but good-humoured against a background of foot-stomping music, laid on by DJ Erjon Latifi.

For the less competitively inclined, there were the distractions of face-painting, karaoke singing (or croaking, depending on your point of view), and the opportunity to get up nice and close to a reptile (in this case, a liloo and live whip snake). The children were especially fascinated by "Snake George"’s collection. Not so some of the pets staff brought along with them!

Rick refereed 16 games of soccer before the "Slovakstars" emerged as winners, beating MFR’s Team A on penalties. Stacey Worthington kept an eye on the volleyball proceedings, won by MFR’s C-Team. Ersin ran a raucous Pictionary tent with Derya, Kyrakos, Michelle and Hasan victorious, while Anne Bursey hosted an afternoon of backgammon where many staff had the chance to test the Chief of Mission’s board game skills, with George Stavrinou coming out as winner and Yannis Kamertas as runner up.

The day was blessed with good weather. Everyone agreed it had been a delight and all look forward to it becoming a regular feature in the UNFICYP calendar.
Ombudsman Conflict resolution via diplomacy

The Office of the United Nations Ombudsman was established in October 2002 to make available services of an impartial, independent person who would address the employment-related problems of staff members, as an alternative form of dispute resolution to the existing formal process.

Patricia Durrant, a seasoned diplomat with an intimate knowledge of the workings of the United Nations Organisation, having served her country, Jamaica, at the UN for some 15 years, both as Deputy (1983-1987) and as Permanent Representative (1995-2002), was approached by the Secretary-General to undertake the role of Ombudsman.

“An Advocate for Fairness”

People become familiar with our office and the services we offer to complement the formal system, the number of requests for assistance increases,” she says. There is now an average of 42 requests per month.

To increase awareness of the Ombudsman’s role, Ms. Durrant has been visiting UN missions across the globe, explaining that her office is available to provide assistance on work-related problems to all staff regardless of location, category or type of contract. Ms. Durrant visited UNIFCYP from 1 to 5 October where she had the opportunity to introduce herself and the work of her Office to all staff at a Town Hall meeting held at the International Cafeteria. Staff were also able to meet her in person and discuss any issues they may have.

At the Town Hall gathering, Ms. Durrant stressed that her Office provides a service that is “impartial, objective, neutral, independent and fully confidential. It does not reveal the identity of anyone who visits it, and does not keep records for the United Nations or any other party. Therefore, all communications with the Ombudsman’s Office are absolutely confidential!”

Any kind of complaint, no matter how big or small, is appropriate, she said. “The Office of the Ombudsman specializes in interpersonal conflicts, misunderstandings, and issues of civility and ethics – problems that fall in grey areas not covered by rules or procedures.”

In an interview with the Blue Beret, Ms. Durrant reiterated her key message to UNIFCYP staff: “Our office is a zero-barrier office and staff can approach us on any issue at any time. We are there to help staff to resolve workplace-related problems. Whatever we can do to help them at whatever level they are at in the organisation they have the exact same access to our office,” she said.

“We are always available and we have been able to make very good use of the time difference. If someone is in Europe, for example, we can deal with them when they go home in the evenings while we are still at the office. Also, that gives us extra hours. So anyone who is at home in the evening says please call me at home, we can call while we are still at work and he or she is comfortable at home.” It is also possible to ask to see the Ombudsman outside of the office.

Ms. Durrant says she found people here were very interested in the Office and many sought appointments. Also, a random sampling from the staff list ensured that a broad spectrum of views from a wide cross-section of staff was obtained. “For us, it is important whether there was any kind of interaction cannot be done at long distance. It is good for us to get a good understanding of the work environment. The concerns that are peculiar to different categories of staff are not the same. Therefore, if we are able to talk, as we do, to staff representatives as well as management – in addition to the individuals we see at the end of the day, we get a very good picture of the situation in the mission.”

The success of the office did not go unnoticed when the redesign panel on the administration of justice system submitted its recommendations to the Secretary-General and subsequently to the General Assembly. “That panel conducted a comprehensive review of our Office. They looked at our role, at our functions and our activities. Out of that came recommendations, many of which we fully support, about expanding the outreach of the office. Right now, that is probably the most critical area that we have to deal with, ensuring that every staff member has equal access to our office. The best way of doing this is by having regional offices where staff members in the major duty stations have someone they can contact easily and in the major peacekeeping missions.”

Ms. Durrant notes that her office’s services have expanded to include more mediation than in the past. “Also, where a whole office is involved, we can intervene in a structured way to help improve the relationship at the workplace and identify systemic issues that have arisen during the course of our intervention. Then you make recommendations to all concerned as to how to move forward.”

Charlotte Netha Kreouzos

Nobel Peace Prize – Yunus and his Grameen Bank

Bangladeshi economist Muhammad Yunus and the Grameen Bank he founded have won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday. This grass-roots effort to lift millions out of poverty has earned Yunus the nickname “banker to the poor”.

In awarding a prize more traditionally given to those who forge treaties and fight for human rights, the five-member Norwegian Nobel Committee said that eliminating poverty was a path to peace and democracy. “Lasting peace cannot be achieved unless large population groups find ways in which to break out of poverty. Microcredit is one such means. Development from below also serves to advance democracy and human rights”, the Committee added.

Yunus’s achievements had already won wide recognition. “Everyone is talking about microcredit. It was started by Yunus, one man in Bangladesh”, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said in a 2002 interview.

Yunus had previously expressed his delight at the news that Yunus had received the Nobel Peace Prize.

“IICIC says thank you UNIFCYP”

When the security situation in Beirut made it inevitable for us to leave Lebanon, UNIFCYP offered us immediate assistance. The kindness which we have received from UNFICYP over the past years has played a significant role in relieving the pressures we faced in resuming our work once we arrived in Nicosia. That could not have been possible without your support.

“The spirit of professionalism, the prompt support and the friendly approach we could take in helping staff as a whole to resolve some of these problems! So it’s important for us to have a bird’s eye view across the system from the informal to the formal to see whether interacting with persons at any point in time. But I am actually going to bear some of the same skills. I am trying to ensure that I bring my diplomatic training and background to help resolve problems informally, as we do in diplomacy. We use all the elements reflected in the Charter, whether it is shuttle diplomacy or whether you are personally bringing people. All of those skills are very important to the function of the Office.”

A career diplomat, Ms. Durrant concedes that initially, when appointed to the position, it appeared very different to what she had done up until then. However, she soon came to realise that the major feature of the Ombudsman’s function is to resolve problems informally, as we do in diplomacy. We use all the elements reflected in the Charter, whether it is shuttle diplomacy or whether you are personally bringing people. All of those skills are very important to the function of the Office.

Ms. Durrant’s tenure is approaching its end. Her warm smile and articulate approach to issues have set a high standard for her successor. Her future plans are to return home to Jamaica.

“At the end of this I will return to Jamaica. I don’t want to make any hasty plans. After five years in this post, and having served as Jamaica’s Permanent Representative from 1995-2002, I think it is time to return home and enjoy the qualities and pleasures of living on a small island.”

Netha Kreouzos

Safety Note for Runners

With the onset of winter and the closing of evenings, the Force Military Police Unit have secured a number of reflective items to enhance your visibility when moving around within the UNPA on foot.

The items include reflective badges, key rings and snap sticks. For the more active, there is a limited amount of reflective items available for runners. These can be collected free of charge from the FMPU.

Bank he founded have won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday. This grass-roots effort to lift millions out of poverty has earned Yunus the nickname “banker to the poor”.

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Gordon Highlanders Visit Wayne’s Keep

You don’t have to be a Scot to feel a shiver run up your spine when the pipes play that saddest of laments “Flowers O’ The Forest”. So it was on 16 October when veterans of the Gordon Highlanders who served in Cyprus during the EOKA campaign of 1955-56 gathered for a 50th commemoration ceremony.

Over 30 veterans had assembled to mark the occasion and, together with families and friends, made their way from St. Columba’s Church to Wayne’s Keep British Military Cemetery. There, together with members of UNFICYP and representatives from the British Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus, the veterans carried out a simple ceremony of remembrance to their fallen comrades.

It could have been seen as a Scottish or even British event, but the commemoration of fallen comrades is thing common to military men of all nations. It is the link that joins soldiers of this generation with those who went before, and it is an opportunity for us all to think of, and acknowledge, the sacrifice of all soldiers who have given their lives in the service of their nations and of peace.

The wind ruffled the ribbons on the distinctive tartan-banded Glengarries of the veterans and the standards lowered in salute, the lonely skirt of the pipes faded over the dry and dusty ground and we asked, as Siegfried Sassoon asked, “Have you forgotten yet? Look up, and swear by the green of the spring that you’ll never forget.”

Never, is the answer. Never will or could we forget.

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Sending Back the Usual Suspects!

UNFICYP Chief of Staff, Col. Peter Fraser-Hopewell’s residence was the venue for the “Big Brew” on 5 October, when catering staff from the British Contingent based in the Ledra Palace laid on a delicious selection of delicacies, together with tea, coffee and cold drinks throughout the morning.

The event was in aid of SSAFA, the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, the leading national charity committed to helping and supporting those who serve in the British Armed Forces, including those who used to serve and their families.

Many of the staff from UNFICYP HQ dropped in for a break, and mothers and toddlers attending a regular Thursday morning music group also joined in. Everyone donated generously and a total of just over £200 was raised, thanks to the support and generosity of all who took part.

Roald Dahl Book Competition

A small, prize-winning ceremony was held at the Nicosia Library located in the Married Quarters on the UNPA on 14 September 2006 for the lucky winners of the Roald Dahl quiz for children aged 12 and under.

Mrs. Clare Fraser-Hopewell, who organised the quiz and compiled the questions, was delighted to present the first and second prize-winners with a book token each, courtesy of the Solonion Bookshop in Nicosia.

Judging by the happy faces present, the prizes and numerous goodies kindly provided by our generous hostess, Anthe Yiannoulou, were much appreciated by all.

From the left: Anthe (librarian) with Abbey Potter (second prize), Maisie Moon (first prize), Mrs. Fraser-Hopewell and Zina her daughter. In the foreground and cheering her sister, younger Miss Potter!

Ayias Trias Wedding

Ayias Trias, located in the Karpas area, welcomed a large gathering at its church, Ayia Triada, on 10 September for the wedding of Kyriakos Christodoulou Frangou and Christina Philippou Fokas.

Kyriakos was born in 1937 in Ayias Trias. After the troubles in 1974, he and his family moved to the village of Oroklini in the Larnaca area. Approximately five years ago, his wife died.

Christina, born in 1940 in Ayias Trias, has always lived there. She has never married, but lived with her family. Her sister died about a year ago, and her mother not long before that.

Since the opening of the checkpoints on 23 April 2001, Kyriakos has been spending more and more time in the village of his birth, while Christina visited her brother who also happened to be a neighbour of Kyriakos in the village of Oroklini more frequently. The two families had always maintained close ties over the years.

Kyriakos was friendly with Yiannakis, Christina’s brother, and knew that Christina was still single. He decided to take the plunge and ask Yiannakis for his sister’s hand in marriage. Yiannakis replied that it was the decision of his sister, but that he would very happy to have Kyriakos as a brother-in-law!

And so it was. The two decided to “tie the knot” in the first wedding held in Ayias Trias in the last 21 years – and only the fourth wedding since 1974.

There are approximately 85 Greek Cypriots living in Ayias Trias, the overwhelming majority of whom are over 60 years old. There are only two Greek Cypriot children of school-going age. Nevertheless, around 700 people attended the ceremony, including 60 Turkish Cypriots.

Many relatives and friends of the couple travelled up from the south of the island. It was a magnificent affair, culminating in a grand reception held at “Yiannakis” taverna at Ayios Therisos along the sea front.

Kyriakos is now living in Ayias Trias with his bride. UN police and Civil Affairs personnel joined in the wedding celebrations.

Sending Back the Usual Suspects!

Sending back the usual suspects: UNFICYP lost six familiar faces from its routine line-up with the departure of (left to right): Maj. Róbert Magyar, 1/Lt. Ján Hučala, Maj. István Kisborsó, Lt.Col. Guillermo Vignolo, Capt. Jozef Sventek and Lt. Col. Tibor Krajcsi. All were “mugged out” on 21 September.
Kofi Annan the Welsh Gunners

Lt. Col. T.N.J. Wordsworth (left) takes command of Sector 2 for the Battle Axe Parade of the Ledra Palace Hotel on 4 October 2006. The parade marked the start of the Battle Axe Company’s tour of duty in Cyprus.

All in all, it was a well taken parade – the battery marched on to the "make-shift" Ledra Palace parade square in true 74 fashion (smart as hell). Once halted, it was clear that the battery had grown, and that it would be a tight fit on the square.

The Battle Axe Parade of the Ledra Palace Hotel

The whole Regiment will be adopting Welsh customs and looks forward to displaying its loyalty on the feast day of Saint David, the patron saint of Wales. This falls on 1 March, the day he died in the year 589 AD. Daffodils are worn, leeks are eaten and sweet Welsh brewed beer is drunk to celebrate this saint. Alongside is the UN logo rendered with a Gunner flavour.

The Battery will be celebrating the capture of Martin-Axe, a tradition dating back 196 years to when the Battery gained the Axe trophy at the Battle of Martinique in 1809. The custom is documented as having been estab-lished by the time the Company returned to Britain’s shores in 1822.

Meantime, on a glorious Cyprus morning of no wind, no rain and no snow – a vastly different weather system from Northumberland, the usual site of our Battle Axe Parade – the battery marched on to the "make-shift" Ledra Palace parade square in true 74 fashion (smart as hell). Once halted, it was clear that the battery had grown, and that it would be a tight fit on the square.

Parade Commander Capt. Adrian Pugh requested permission from the Battery Commander Maj. Sean Grant for the citation to be read and the Battle Axe to be trooped. Permission was granted and the parade continued.

Parade Commander – the battery marched on to the parade square in true 74 fashion (smart as hell). Once halted, it was clear that the battery had grown, and that it would be a tight fit on the square.

The Battery Axe was trooped through the seemingly endless ranks of fine Axe Persons. Then, once the Battle Axe party was front and centre, the citation was read... Battery Commander Maj. Sean Grant for the citation to be read and the Battle Axe to be trooped. Permission was granted and the parade continued.

The start of my proposals is the recognition that the Secretariat has one global workforce, which has to be more efficient. If we are to provide the services the world asks of us, and if we are to become an employer of choice for the world’s best people.

Harmonized conditions of service for field staff will help us to attract and retain high-quality people who have gained valuable experience from their duties from 1997 to 2007 at the Ledra Palace Hotel in Nicosia. We hope that some of our veterans and friends will be able to join us.

Now that 39 Regiment Royal Artillery has arrived, they will be bringing a distinctly Welsh flavour to the proceedings since its recruiting ground is now amongst the green valleys of Wales. This will balance the Regiment’s existing population of hardened soldiers from the North-East of England.

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Alongside is the UN logo rendered with a Gunner flavour.
The Blue Beret – October 2006

Liverpool/Greater Manchester and the other from Hertfordshire, were accompanied by 12 adult instructors. They were taken on a tour of the UNPA, including a stopover at the old airport, by MPIO Capt. Štefan Zemanovič. Fifty British Air Cadets, aged between 13 and 18 years, visited the UNPA on 6 October. The two groups, one from the north east of England. He was born in 1956 and commissioned into the Royal Corps of Transport in 1975. From 1988 to 1990, he commanded 35 Transport Squadron supporting 6 Armoured Brigade before moving to Bielefeld as Deputy Chief of Staff Bielefeild Garrison and SQO Personnel and Logistics for HQ RCT for the period of the first Gulf War. In 1998, after postings to the US and South Conew, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, assuming command of 157 (Wales & Midland) Transport Regiment RLC (Volunteers) in Cardiff. In 2001/2, he was appointed Chief Logistic Support. In 2003, he was SOI G1/G4 Adviser to Kuwait Land Forces, a time during which he also supported UK and USA forces in Iraq.

Lt. Paul Warwick hails from the north east of England. He was born in 1980 at the age of 16 and, after graduation from Sandhurst, joined 39 Heavy Regiment Royal Artillery in 1983. From 1988 to 1990, he commanded 35 Transport Squadron supporting 6 Armoured Brigade before moving to Bielefeld as Deputy Chief of Staff Bielefeild Garrison and SQO Personnel and Logistics for HQ RCT for the period of the first Gulf War. In 1998, after postings to the US and South Conew, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, assuming command of 157 (Wales & Midland) Transport Regiment RLC (Volunteers) in Cardiff. In 2001/2, he was appointed Chief Logistic Support. In 2003, he was SOI G1/G4 Adviser to Kuwait Land Forces, a time during which he also supported UK and USA forces in Iraq.

Lt. Col. Paul Warwick

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Lt. Col. Paul Warwick hails from the north east of England. He was born in 1956 and commissioned into the Royal Corps of Transport in 1975. His previous appointments have included command of 35 Transport Squadron, 39 Heavy Regiment Royal Artillery, and as Staff Officer (Logistics) in the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in former Yugoslavia. In 2001, he was appointed Chief Logistic Support for the then UN Transition Assistance Group in Kosovo. In 2003, he was appointed Chief Logistic Support for the new UN Multinational Battle Group in KFOR. In 2004, he was appointed Chief Logistic Support for the new UN Multinational Battle Group in KFOR. In 2005, he took over as Commanding Officer of the UNPA, and has been instrumental in developing the UNPA's role as a training centre for UN personnel serving with the UN in Iraq.
UN Day Reception at Ledra Palace