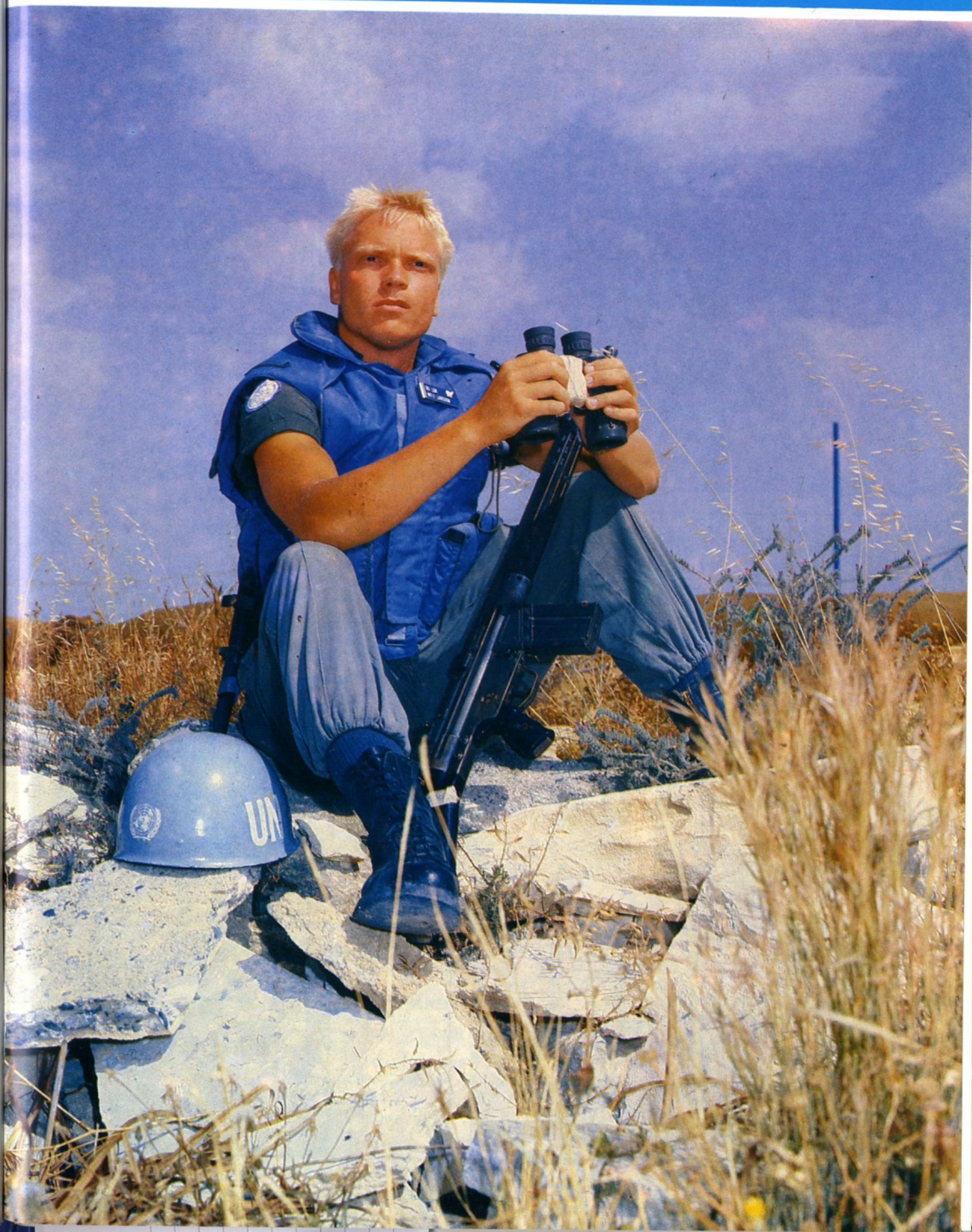


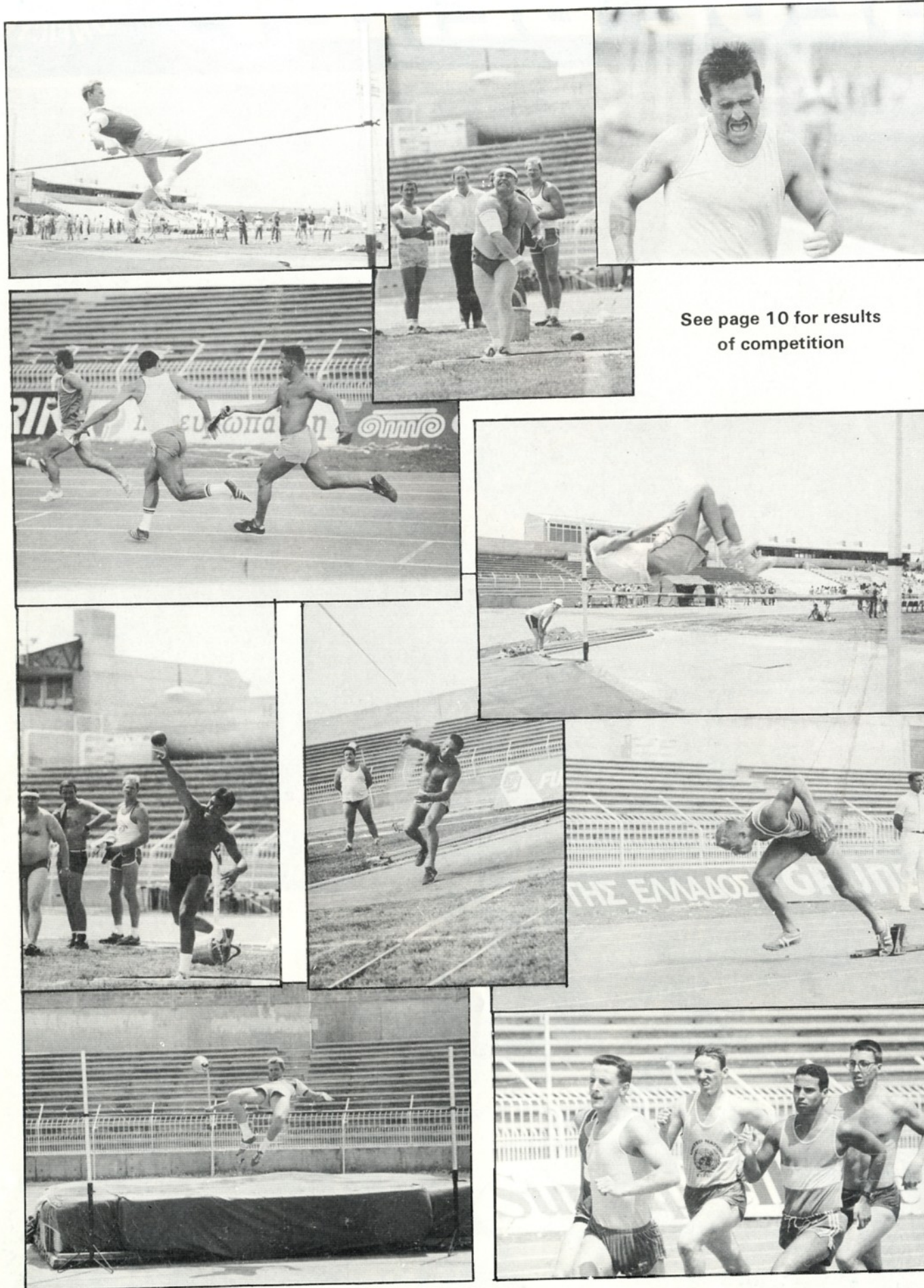
THE BLUE BERET



JUNE 1987



UNFICYP ATHLETICS COMPETITION



See page 10 for results
of competition

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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 should be in black and white on glossy paper size 160mm by 210mm. This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Force Commander. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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Front cover
A SWEDISH SOLDIER
ON THE LINE

By: S/Sgt A Beaton

THE BLUE BERET

**Editorial**

When I see the number of cameras being used by members of UNFICYP, I often wonder if some of the pictures taken could not find their way into the Blue Beret (preferably black/white). We always welcome contributions from our readers. I am also sure that many of you are hiding your lights under a bushel as far as story writing is concerned. All of you must experience something amusing, entertaining or just memorable during your stay on this island. We would very much like to hear from you. All sectors have their own Press Officers, therefore your contributions or comments/suggestions should be directed through them.

On a different note: for those of you who are getting fed up with sea, sand and sun - anyone still with me? - you might be interested to know that the City of Paphos is celebrating her 2,300 years anniversary this month. Quite some age and who can top this with his or her own home town? The locals are laying on a full and varied programme to mark this event with lectures, exhibitions and ancient and modern theatre performances.

Whilst we are on drama, there will be the annual Shakespearean play in the Roman Theatre at the Curium at the beginning of July. This year the performance will be "As You Like It". This cultural event - surely ranking as one of the highlights of the Cyprus calendar - must excite the most entrenched Philistine, as the setting alone, (the three performances are always in the evening) is probably one of the most dramatic in the Mediterranean.

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MOTORCYCLIST BARES ALL

You must have seen him. Daddy cool, the complete motorcyclist, fully kitted out in his shorts and shades cruising through the UNPA. Of course the really cool ones are at Ayia Napa with a helmet slung from the handlebars and a bird on the back. Ah the joys of biking in a hot climate.

Joyful indeed until he meets an oncoming car overtaking a lorry as he heels the bike over on a sweeping bend. Not his fault but lifes like that and Daddy Cool steps off his bike in bare feet, bare chest



and no skid lid at 40 miles per hour. What happens next is a good definition of pain.

Not you though is it? After all at least you wear a crash helmet and that will ensure your survival. All you need worry about is the excruciating pain that tarmac inflicts on bare skin. It will be a long time before you can focus your thoughts on how being in hospital for three months will affect your career.

So what can you do to give yourself a better chance of walking away from a spill off your

motorbike or Moped? Wear the following kit:

Crash helmet
Gloves
Long Trousers
Long Sleeved Top
Stout Shoes

But it is too hot in Cyprus to wear that lot! Maybe, but the only real protection is either full motorcycle leathers or a Barbour suit, so the list is a concession to the climate anyway. So in the interests of yourself, your family, and the UN look after yourself when riding a motorcycle or moped, after all 30 seconds to dress and a little sweat is far better than 3 months in hospital isn't it?

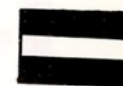
Ride relaxed, Ride covered up!



Tpr I. Cook 13/18th Hussars serving with FSC Sqn being presented with his UN Medal by L/Cpl Pashley the Regimental medical assistant, while hospitalized for a few days in BRITCON Medical Centre.



"THE AUSTRIAN MEDAL PARADE"



On 29 April 1987, the Austrian Medal Parade took place. Many VIP's and friends of the Austrian Contingent were invited to the Camp DUKE LEOPOLD V. in FAMAGUSTA.

At 1900 hrs. the Medal Parade started. Maj Gen G. GREINDL stressed in his speech the importance of peace keeping on Cyprus. He congratulated all Austrians who received the medal "In the Service of Peace". Then the Force Commander mentioned, that they have done their jobs as best as they could do and wished them a good flight back to Austria.

The Medal Parade was followed then by an invitation to the Othello Tower in the old city of FAMAGUSTA, where Austrian hospitality showed at its best. The dining hall was crammed with the best of the Austrian kitchen. Our guests enjoyed it very much and they are looking forward to the next Medal Parade in October.



UNITED NATIONS PROTECTED AREA JUNIOR HASH

On Saturday the 9 May 1987 the UNPA Junior Hash celebrated its 100th hash.

The Junior Hash was established in June 1985 and has been occurring weekly on Saturday mornings, starting from the Nicosia YMCA. The courses have been varied, depending upon the course setters choice but for the more regular hashers the bondu and the meandering tracks of the UNPA are common knowledge. The opportunity arose on Saturday 2 May 1987 for the Junior Hashers to run in the Episkopi Hash celebration of their 1000th hash. This was thoroughly enjoyed by the twenty one juniors and eleven seniors and gave an insight into



how a senior hash course is set.

The celebrations for our 100th started with the normal course around the UNPA and finished as usual at the YMCA. On completion of the course everyone was refreshed by their choice of soft drinks and a piece of the commemorative cake. Also to celebrate the 100th hash each junior hasher was

presented with a certificate of completion.

The UNPA Junior Hash have got a long way to go before they reach their Episkopi colleagues commendable existence, but with endeavor we hope we will. For those youngsters who wish to join in the fun of hashing we meet every Saturday morning at 0800 outside the YMCA.



BATTALION SWIM MEET



It was indeed quite a task to repair the Ledra Palace Swimming Pool; it actually took two months of arduous work. However, by 16th May all problems were finally resolved. It was on this very day that our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Couture officially inaugurated it.

The two weeks that followed were quite hectic. Apart from the casual swimming in the afternoon, each company had been given specific timings for training as the Grand Internal Competition was to take place at the end of the month.



The winners of the 100 meter breast stroke, 1st Sgt Bolduc, 2nd Lt Rancourt and 3rd Pte Juteau.



It was Company East that walked away with the honours that day. Here is the winning team: 1st row MCpl Lebrun, Lt Rancourt, Lt Caron, MWO Baillargeon and Sgt Bolduc. 2nd row WO Jarry, Pte

Miner, Sgt Bond, Pte Richard, MCpl Lambert, Pte Cossette and Capt Lapointe. 3rd row Capt Dionne, Pte Berrigan, Sgt Groulx, MCpl Comptois, Sgt Timchuck and Pte Gaudet.

The Annual Swimming Competition was held on the sunny afternoon of 30th May. Due to the plethora of events included therein, a lot of individuals were given the chance to participate and thus the original goal pursued by the organizers was finally met.

Upon the completion of all the events, medals were awarded to all the winners and a trophy was given to the winning team. To end this glorious and auspicious day, both swimmers and spectators attended a cocktail held on the terrace.



Swimmers get ready Go!
Lt Caron and Pte Barrete battling it out in the 50 yard butterfly.

CANCON is now ready to participate in the UNFICYP Swimming Gala.

THE LYNX

The Lynx is an armoured vehicle used by a mechanized infantry battalion as a reconnaissance vehicle. Its armament consists of a 50 cal. machine gun and a 7.62 mm GPMG.

The power train is a V6 53 detroit diesel and it develops 318 HP. The vehicle can reach 40 MPH on land, 3 MPH in water and its autonomy is 300 miles.

Its weight is 10 tons with a combat load and the crew consists of 3 persons: one driver, one crew commander and one observer. The Lynx is manufactured by Ford Motor Corporation.



DANCON

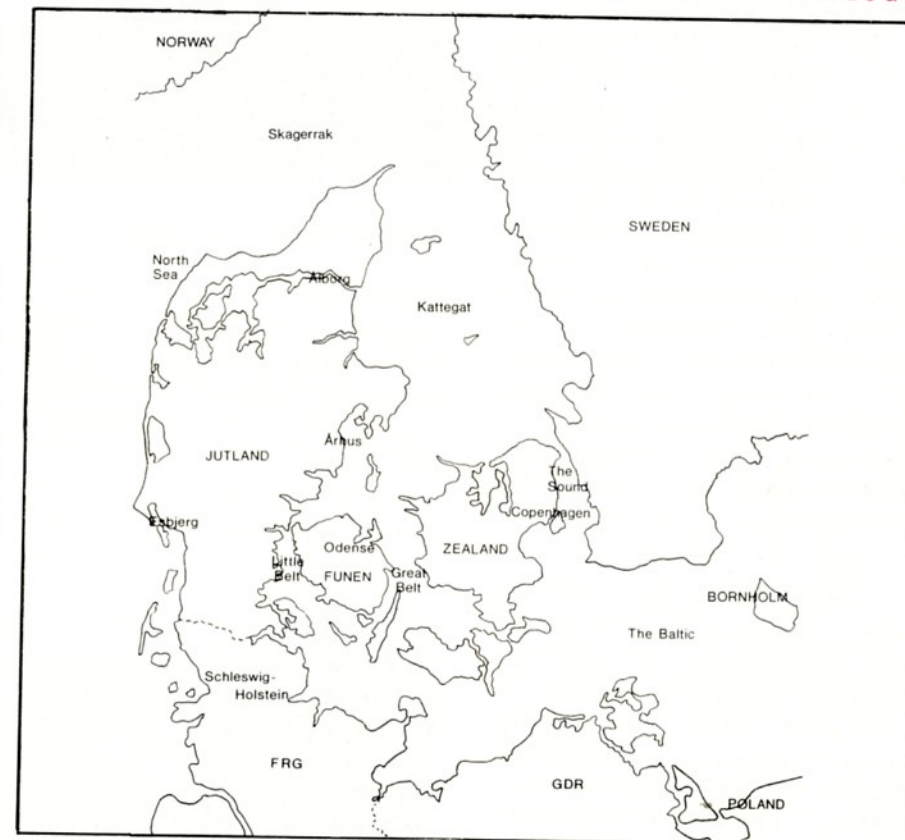
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By Capt Rinza

give a somewhat more precise impression of: our country, the Danish Defence, Danish culture and naturally how the daily life goes on in DANCON. The aim is of course to let you know how wonderful it is being a Dane!

In Denmark one also finds growing conurbations spreading out from the centre, these being dominated by single-family houses, not vertical high-rise blocks. Denmark's industry is emerging in areas that used to be farmland. The country has undergone tremendous

This is Denmark - Some 400



Who are we? - DANCON 47 is composed by personnel from all services within the Danish Armed Forces. The majority however, have gained experience from serving in the Army. During this service the wish to use the experience gained, other than in daily army life emerges. A popular choice is therefore to volunteer for service with the UNITED NATIONS. Therefore the majority of the Danish Force in Cyprus consists of volunteers who place great expectation in their future duty. Officers however, are not normally volunteers.

What do we want to achieve? - Our aim is not only to serve in sunny Cyprus, but to take an active part in UNFICYP. Having served almost one month on island, these expectations have been realised as we have seen the situation here at first hand.

Future contributions - As time has passed, the knowledge of Denmark has advanced approximately like this: Hans Christian Andersen, Denmark is a town in Sweden, the little mermaid, pornography, shipment of arms and finally football. Therefore DANCON 47 will try to

islands, more than 7,000 kilometres of coastline: bays, coves, inlets sounds and straits - this is what many, both Danes and foreigners associate with Denmark. Apart from the Jutland peninsula, Denmark consists of a multitude of islands, connected by bridges and ferries, from sailing supermarkets to small craft, hardly capable of carrying more than one car and a couple of bicycles. No Dane lives more than fifty kilometres from the sea and if he or she travels lengthwise or across the country, the journey ends almost inevitably in a harbour and continues on a ferry.

transformations during this century. Perhaps it might help illustrate the size and topography of Denmark by realizing that when a Dane talks about landscape, he or she is usually thinking of cultivated land encircled by woods, glittering lakes, plantations, hedgerows and again - the sea.

The ideal is what many tourists in Denmark look for and find - until the sea one day foams and is whipped to a froth. Then the tourist realizes that the often dramatic, always changing skies, are a crucial part of the landscape of the low lying country, Denmark.

UNFICYP ATHLETICS COMPETITION

18 MAY 1987

The UNFICYP Athletics meeting took place on a very hot windless day in the Makarios Stadium, Nicosia. In front of an enthusiastic and partisan audience the athletes competed in friendly rivalry. The first race was the 100 metres in which the two Support Regiment Strings, Cpl Watson and L/Cpl Winship, came first and second with the same time. The 5000 metres race was undoubtedly the most exciting event; Pte Birkwist Sector 5 and Sgt Anderson, Support Regiment quickly pulled away from the main pack and for the first 4000 metres it looked as if they had the race in their grasp. However in the penultimate lap Lt Erskine Sector 2 broke away from the back markers and stormed on to overtake both Birkwist and Anderson and win by almost 100 metres.

Sector 2 dominated the field events, winning them all except the High Jump which was very closely contested. Sector 4 produced some outstanding allround athletes, Capt Jamet, Sgt Hector, Pte Poirier and Pte Caron. Sector 5 did well in the middle distances, Anderson winning the 400 metres and Borg third in the 200 metres. The Ferret Scout Car Squadron, choosing from a much smaller number of men than other sectors did well to produce two second placed athletes, Snaith in the 400 metres and Kerry in the 800 metres. However the overall results show that Support Regiment had the most depth to their team. The results were:

1st Support Regiment	165 points
2nd Sector 4	158 points
3rd Sector 2	151 points
4th Sector 5	117 points
5th Ferret Scout Cars	90 points



The Winning Team - Sp Regt

Detailed results were as follows:

100 Metres

1st Watson - Sp Regt	11.19
2nd Winship - Sp Regt	11.19
3rd Hector - Sect 4	11.20

200 Metres

1st Caron - Sect 4	24.41
2nd Merson - Sect 2	24.42
3rd Borg - Sect 5	25.00

400 Metres

1st Anderson - Sect 5	55.00
2nd Snaith - FSC	55.01
3rd Taylor - Sect 2	55.09

Discus

1st Taylor - Sect 2	36.33m
2nd Poirier - Sect 4	31.57m
3rd Whitehead - Sp Regt	29.63m



Field Event Official

Javelin

1st Charlton - Sect 2	46.27m
2nd Poirier - Sect 4	46.20m
3rd Townsend - Sp Regt	43.03m

Shot

1st Brown - Sect 2	11.30m
2nd Holmes - Sect 2	10.84
3rd Calder - Sp Regt	10.66

800 metres

1st Garside - Sp Regt	2.12.9
2nd Kerry - FSC	2.13.2
3rd Lee - Sp Regt	2.14.5

1500 metres

1st Berger - Sect 4	4.32.00
2nd Barton - Sp Regt	4.43.20
3rd Dickson - Sect 2	4.43.72

5000 metres

1st Erskine - Sect 2	17.02.00
2nd Birkwist - Sect 5	17.12.06
3rd Anderson - Sp Regt	17.42.69

High Jump

1st Jamet - Sect 4	1.70m
2nd Lorenzen - Sect 5	1.70m
3rd Jones - Sp Regt	1.70m

Long Jump

1st Charlton - Sect 2	6.22m
2nd Needham - Sp Regt	6.07m
3rd Desrochers - Sect 4	5.95m

4X100 metres Relay

Winners Sp Regt



A NEW WEAPON IN SECTOR TWO

By Capt Cotterill

By the time you read this the First Battalion of the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters will have taken over operational control of Sector 2 from the Third Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. As neither the Fusilier Hackle or the Lincoln Green badge backing of the Worcestershire and Foresters are worn on the ubiquitous blue beret, how will this changeover be apparent to spectators? The answer is easy. WFR are making history by being the first ever battalion to carry SA 80, the British army's new small arms system, on the UN Buffer Zone. As illustrated by the accompanying photographs SA 80 is a weapon that differs radically from the old SLR (Self Loading Rifle) with which we have been equipped since the 1950's. The SLR fired the heavy 7.62mm



L Cpl MESZAROS and Cpl PARKIN of 1WFR displaying the new SA80 individual weapon outside St Davids Camp.

weapon is the LSW (Light Support Weapon) which is basically the same as the individual weapon differing only in having a bipod and strengthened barrel to allow sustained automatic fire.

of the British soldier), with the added advantage that the new bayonet incorporates wire cutters, a sharpening stone and even a bottle opener!

No doubt the short barrel and light plastic thirty round magazines of the SA 80 will be appreciated by the Worcester and Foresters on long, hot August patrols through the dense foliage of the OVGOS Valley. The magnification of the SUSAT sight will also facilitate the all important task of observation within the Buffer Zone.

Equipped with this revolutionary new weapon WFR confidently expect to sweep the board in the United Nations shooting competition.



A mixed patrol of 1 WFR/3 RRF carrying the SA80 and its Self Loading Rifle predecessor.

round and was complemented by the belt fed 7.62mm General Purpose Machine Gun (GPMG). The SLR was semi-automatic where as SA 80 will equip every British soldier for the first time with a fully automatic weapon. It fires the lighter 5.56mm round, thus allowing the carriage of twice as much ammunition and is equipped with the highly accurate SUSAT optical sight. The section

A new and much shorter rifle has revolutionised the Army Drill manual as the SA 80 cannot be 'grounded' like its much longer predecessor but must be carried at all times so the British Contingents Medal Parade in September will present a very different appearance from all previous ones. Despite its lack of 'reach' SA 80 is still equipped with a bayonet (the favourite weapon





"WEDDING BELLS IN THE UN"

When two people meet and decide to marry it is a very important step in their lives. If this occurs whilst serving with the UN it can be supposed that they have a good understanding of the role of peace-keeping.

The marriage of Major Rainer Epple, S00 of AUSCON to Miss Gerlinde Klepatsch had all the flair of an International Wedding when it was celebrated on 21 May 1987, and a lot of preparation had to be done before this event could take place. Firstly the civil authorities at Paralimni and then a British priest in the Camp Duke Leopold V. chatted informally to the happy couple. They were then congratulated by UNFICYP members, Austrian visitors as well as by Greek and Turkish Cypriots.



Major Rainer Epple & Miss Gerlinde Klepatsch

An excellent dinner, prepared by Austrian cooks in their best tradition, was held after the formalities in the Camp Duke Leopold V. Officers'

Mess. It was enjoyed immensely by all the guests who contributed in making this memorable day special for the newlyweds.

BRITCON CALLS IN THE RESERVES



Auger Drilling



Surveying

Reserve and part-time soldiers are not usually associated with the British Contingent of UNFICYP, but for the period 5-13 May 87 a specialist team of Royal Engineer Reservists has been working in Camp Duke Leopold V, Famagusta.

During their stay they produced new plans and drawings of the camp and carried out maintenance tasks.



Pump Maintenance



And of course lots of admin.

AN OP WITH A TRADITION



By Capt Ulf Wallin

Have you visited the OP S-40 yet?

If not, then you can't call yourself a real UN-soldier.

Sierra-40 is situated a few kilometres outside Athienou - on a big hill.

The view from the top is fantastic. But I'm sure that you don't care about the scenery on your first visit. When you have reached the top and dashed your hand against the sentry-box, you

are probably so exhausted that you can't see anything else but spinning stars.

For it's a tradition that the first time you visit, you have to run to the sentry-box at the top.

From the ground, the running slope doesn't look so dangerous - but just wait and see. The beginning is okay but the last 30 metres is not a game for children. More than one person has vomited after the short but very tough race. Further more, the

personnel at the OP S-40 are waiting like vultures to see what happens to every new victim.

The worse the runners feel the happier the OP personnel are, of course.

The nearly 200 metre long race takes between 50 seconds and two minutes, depending on the fitness of the runner, or walker. The over-all record was set by an Englishman, but this time can be beaten any day. Would you like to try?



Here it is, the start of the short but hard race. In the background you can see the top of the S-40 and the finish.



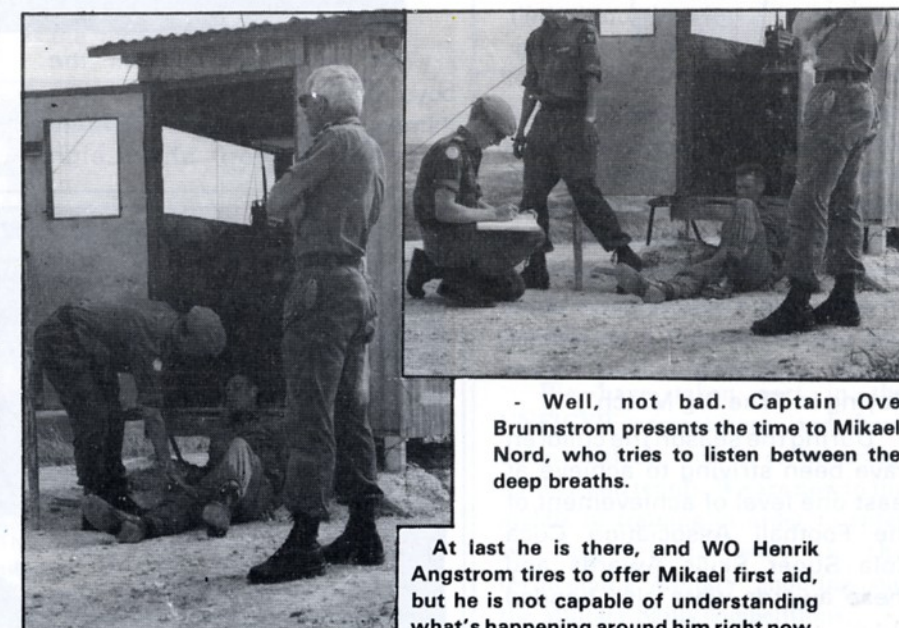
And here he comes! Warrant Officer Mikael Nord has started beautifully and already reached the half way point. The speed is still rather good...



... but here the difficulties start. Suddenly the slope is steeper.



The photo is lying. The speed is not so fast as it looks. WO Mikael Nord is dragging his feet behind him and is puffing and blowing.



- Well, not bad. Captain Ove Brunnstrom presents the time to Mikael Nord, who tries to listen between the deep breaths.

At last he is there, and WO Henrik Angstrom tries to offer Mikael first aid, but he is not capable of understanding what's happening around him right now.



AUSTCIVPOL WINS THE ASHES

On Saturday 30th May, 1987 the eight ASHES cricket match was contested between AUSTCIVPOL and AAC FLIGHT on the hallowed turf of the UNPA. AUSTCIVPOL won the toss and sent the Pommies into bat.

After 20 overs the Pommies had amassed the grand total of 54 runs for the loss of nine wickets leaving the Aussies the almost impossible task of scoring runs at the rate of 2.75 runs an over.

However all was not lost. The Aussies master tactician, once again pulled a rabbit out of the hat and came up with a surefire combination with which to win.



The victorious AUSTCIVPOL Cricket Team pose for photographers after retaining the coveted "Ashes".

A revised batting lineup and the knowledge that most of the Aussies would not bother to protect their wicket gave him, what turned out to be a brilliant tactic. After losing two quick wickets a can of FOSTERS was placed in front of the wicket. As no

self respecting Aussie would fail to protect his FOSTERS this tactic proved to be a master stroke.

The Aussies won the match with the loss of only two wickets, and once again the ASHES rest in their rightful place.

UNITED NATIONS PROTECTED AREA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Throughout the 1986-87 football season the children have been taking part in Saturday morning football training sessions, on the bondu pitch of the UNPA.

The season ended for these children on Saturday 2 May 87 when parents were invited to view their children's acquired skills during a final session on the grass pitch.

The session started with the boys and girls going through their usual practices of trapping, dribbling, shooting and ball control and finished with "The Big Match" when parents were allowed to participate. Many potential Bobby Charltons of years goneby were embarrassed by their more skillful offspring.

After the session each child was presented with a certificate which commemorated them playing in "The Big Match".

During the season the children have been striving to achieve at least one level of achievement of the Football Association Coca Cola Super Skills Awards and these awards were also handed out.



The photograph shows the boys in the senior group, Jason James, Trevor Hall, Colin Hannah, Matthew Barton and Leigh

Browne with the club officials, Sgt Hughes and WO2 Browne, after the presentation of the boys silver award.



UNFICYP Sp Regt are organizing a dinghy sailing course for a week off the beautiful beaches of Cyprus.

FROM THE COMMANDER OF SWEDCON

The Swedish UN Contingent consists of 395 soldiers including 10 women. The battalion is responsible for maintaining the status quo within the buffer zone between Nicosia and Dhekelia. This is approximately 60 km long, with 18 permanently manned OPs. The most sensitive areas are the three villages of Pyla, Troulli and Louroujina.

There are three companies in the battalion:

The first rifle companies' area can be recognised by their road sign, which says "Relax, you are now in the GOLDFISH area".

The second rifle company can be recognised by the familiar white POLAR bear.



The Swedish Supreme Commander General Bengt Gustafsson during his visit at OP S-52.

The HQ Company is situated in Camp Victoria by the Salt Lake in Larnaca.

The soldiers serve for six months and are volunteers from all over Sweden.

Recently there have been many prominent visitors here in SWEDCON:

The Swedish Minister of Defence, Roine Carlsson.

Force Comd UNDOF, General Gustaf Welin.

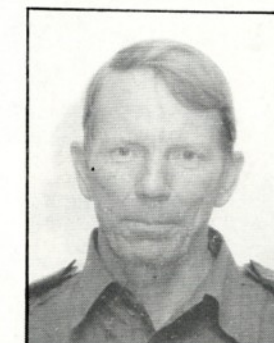
The Supreme Commander of the Swedish Armed Forces, General Bengt Gustafsson.

The Swedish Ambassador in Israel and the Swedish UN Ambassador.

The Swedish Foreign Minister, Sten Andersson.

During these visits we have tried to explain exactly what our tasks are and the way in which we deal with them. Our visitors have also been interested in how good the Swedish soldiers are on an international basis. So far they have been impressed by the way our soldiers are carrying out their tasks. "We are very satisfied with the skills we have been shown". Is the normal farewell greeting.

Commander SWEDCON



Lt Col Bo Hultin



Sports activities are considered an important part of the Swedish UN soldiers recreation. Physical fitness is necessary to be able to carry out your duties properly, particularly when considering the heat here in Cyprus which of course we are not used to in Sweden.

We have taken part in the UNFICYP competitions and have done relatively well in orienteering, football and tennis. We are now in the middle of training in order to enter and participate well in the forthcoming Military Shooting and the Military Skills competitions.

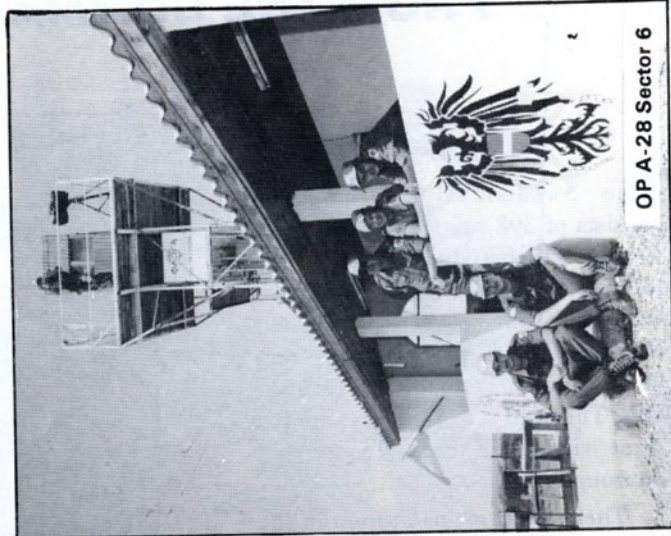


The Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Anderson is being briefed by the Commander of SWEDCON, Bo Hultin before take off.



OP D-13 Sector 1

Pictures by S/Sgt Angus Beaton



OP A-28 Sector 6

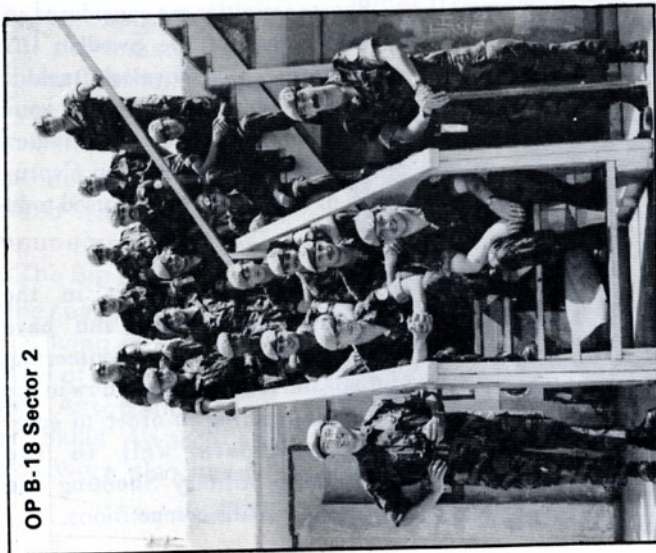


FSC On Patrol

IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE



C-78 Friezenberg House - Sector 4



OP B-18 Sector 2



OP S-21 Sector 5