

THE BLUE BERET



NOVEMBER 1981



UN MP COY FUND FOR THE BLIND

For the first time in several years the UN MP Coy organized a fund raiser for the blind children in Cyprus. This event was put together by Sgt Thompson along with Gabriella, of Families Office with the blessings of the FPM, Maj Gille Nault. A total of £C909 was raised including £C200 donated by the UNFICYP Wives Club. To cap off the fund raising a fun afternoon for Cypriot blind children, directors and associates was held at Ledra Palace on 28 Sep 89.

The children enjoyed rides in an armoured personnel carrier and were treated to lunch compliments of the Ledra Palace cooks. Mrs Lavinia Courage



wife of Brig Courage, COS,

presented a £C100 cheque to Blind institutes of both communities on behalf of the UNFICYP Wives Club. All present were treated to a sing-a-long presented by the blind children and their assistants. All-in-all a fun afternoon was enjoyed. The FPM wishes to thank everyone who generously donated not only time but prizes to this very worthy cause. Heartfelt thanks go not only to Sgt McDonald, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Kehoe who ably assisted Sgt Thompson during the fun afternoon but also to Sector 3 who prepared a wonderful lunch as well as personnel and armoured vehicles.



AUSCON MEMBER WINS FIRST DANCON MARCH



Capt Delmarco marched with his Pyla platoon at the first DANCON March through the Troodos mountains. Their marching time was about 2x5 hours.

Sgt Feller however, did not 'obey the order', broke free from the squad and walked alone. Not without reason - Sgt Feller

is to be congratulated on becoming the overall winner of the first DANCON March.

Summing up the two marches only four out of the eighty Austrian soldiers who took part in the march did not make it to the finish line.

Our thanks go to Sector One for their hospitality and excellent medical assistance!

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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

MCpl JA Kiah Lead Drummer of 1RCR Corps of Drums. He is also a member of Reconnaissance Platoon and was voted 'Special Service Force Soldier of the Year' in Canada.



Editorial

This edition will be the last that I personally will have published prior to my departure to Ireland. My family and I will leave Nicosia with many memories of the kindness and hospitality shown to us by all people here in Cyprus. We shall be very sorry to say goodbye to the many friends we have made in the UNFICYP. It was a great pleasure and privilege for me to work with so many excellent people of different nationalities, all dedicated to one aim and that is to bring a just and lasting solution to the problems of Cyprus.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the staff of the MPIO office who have endured for the past 19 months the foibles of this 'converted soldier' editor. And finally every possible good wish to my successor Commandant Pdraig Murphy in all aspects of his duties but in particular, success in his role as editor. SLAN.



QUOTE... UNQUOTE

This month's caption competition was won by a member of the QM's Department.

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NEWS FROM AUSTCIVPOL

This I promise will be my last article because as this deadline closes before going to press, the powers that be in Australia are agonizing over two worthy successors to fill my position.

In September the members of AUSTCIVPOL were sad to say goodbye to the Royal Canadian Dragoons and happy to welcome the 1st Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. The members of the 31st Contingent of AUSTCIVPOL look forward to working with you during your tour of Cyprus.

On the evening of Tuesday 12th September 1989, nine sergeants namely: Cliff Mitchell, Keith (Pincher) Martin, Rob Wilson, Adrian Gawned, Gunther Moebus, Charlie Gaughran, Trevor McNaught, Bill Rawlinson, Wayne Comyn, Dave Se-



Two veterans of the 30th Contingent of AUSTCIVPOL, Sergeant Bert Kujipers and Superintendent John Roche.

The departing members were farewelled at the Military Police Lounge by the Lounge President WO2 McNally on Wednesday, 13th September, at the AUSTCIVPOL Mess on Sunday 17th and last but not least the tradition of the newly arrived members being welcomed and

ery and British Battalion of Welsh Guards at St David's Camp.

I remember my first meeting with the then Mukhtar of the village the late Michael Krasias, soon after I arrived as the Deputy Commander of the 14th Contingent of AUSTCIVPOL. I didn't realize at the time that it was an official call by the Mukhtar because he was so warm and friendly, but then that was Michael. The strength of this quiet and unassuming man with the big hands was infectious. He was always accompanied in the early days by another life time friend-Stellios. In April 1979 I returned to Cyprus this time as Deputy Commander of the 16th Contingent. By this time Michael had really made the Australians



Commander Mills, Andreas and Stellios with the painting by Aboriginal artist Jack Wunuwun.

nior and Jeff East arrived at Larnaca Airport after an arduous trip from Australia to replace Sergeants Mal Holst, Curtis Drewett, Bert Kuipers, John Love, Les Lambert, Garry Kirkpatrick, Grant Kinkoad, Adam Fitzpatrick, Shaun Bennetts, Paul Kerr-Laslett and Michael Jackson.

the departing veterans farewelled by the villagers of Kokkino Trimithia.

This tradition started as a result of the cease-fire in 1974 when the members of the 12th Contingent, the last to contain police from all States and Territories in Australia, were moved from their previous bases around Limassol to Kokkino Trimithia. The Australian police, were stationed above the mattress factory opposite the bak-



The present Mukhtar of Kokkino Trimithia, Andreas and Mr Mills enjoying the kleftico.

feel welcome, and the team of Michael and Stellios had been strengthened by Andreas Papanicolaou.

The coming and going of Australians to Michael's village was something that he found difficult to comprehend but was determined to do something about. Hence the annual party in the Lemon Grove of Kokkino Trimithia.

So on the evening of Thursday 15th September, 1989 ap-

CAMP WARMING PARTY IN AUSCON

On September 30th OPT A20 became 'Camp Marie Therese'. The name was chosen in honour of Maria Theresia who was important to the Austrian Army when she introduced conscription and founded the famous Austrian Military Academy in 1752.

During the ceremony, the FC, Maj Gen Milner presented Cpl Thomas Kreiner with his commendation. The AUSCON soldier rescued an injured Turkish Cypriot from an already burning car at the risk of his own life.

After the ceremony, a 'funny' competition was held where the guests enjoyed competing in such tasks as holding an egg with a spoon in the mouth whilst surmounting an obstacle course and so on.

During a well deserved lunch the soldiers of OPT A20 - or should I say - Camp Marie Therese, invited their guests to a well prepared and delicious buffet. Everyone remained in good spirits until the early hours of the following day!



Maj Gen Milner and Mrs Dallinger unveiling the Marie Therese emblem.

ANOTHER WAY TO SPEND A HOLIDAY

28 08 0530 ATHIENOU. The sun slowly rises. One lonely man puts on his shoes in order to take them off five days and 120km later.

Sgt Rott from 1st Coy, AUSCON walked through the Buffer Zone from Athienou in the Austrian Sector to reach his final destination on the fifth day - OP D11 in the Danish Sector through Nicosia, OP B25 and OP D31 Sgt Rott was glad to



reach the "most beautiful area on this island" where he was welcomed by Maj Krabbe.

Sgt Rott expressed his thanks to the men who treated his blisters along the way - we have heard that there were a lot of thankyou's to be said!

proximately 70 Australians and their friends were treated to a rare feast of kleftico by the citizens of the village. In appreciation of this Commander Mills presented the chairman of the organizing committee Mr Andreas Papanicolaou with a framed print of 'Barnumbirr the Morning Star' a painting by Aboriginal artist Jack Wunuwun.

The painting is divided into three panels representing the different elements. The left panel represents water, the central panel air and the right

panel represents earth. The left panel depicts fish, in an around a woven fish trap. These fish refer to souls of the dead entering the sacred waterhole to be born again. When a person dies the Aboriginals believe they become like fish living with, and in the totem like emblems of the spirits.

The second panel represents the world of humans. Spirits of the dead are caught up by the Morning Star which lights their way to their sacred country. The poles in the central panel are hollow log coffins which are

used to hold the bones of the dead.

The right hand panel, Earth, is a representation of plants through their various stages of growth. This is indicated by the transformation of caterpillars to butterflies and seed to flowers. The painting is a celebration of the cycle of Life, Death and Regeneration.

Everybody present enjoyed the evening and wish to thank the people of Kokkino Trimithia.

MEMORIES...

Many if not all will have their own memories of Cyprus. The very same place that puts inches on your waistline and produces a wash off suntan. One thing is sure no one will forget the effort other nations in the UN Role put into the British way of doing things. Friendships were cemented and hands shaken over long complicated conversations about the way things should or could be done.

The men of UN Sector 2 have put their all into the job and will remember a job with thousands of DS solutions. The job is and was complex with funny twists along its uncharted road. When a soldier analyses, he will always pull out the good bits as potential grand-fathers do, prior to the big story for his grandchildren.

Memories do fade but the achievements remain to shape an island whose complexities are larger than the island itself.

We depart this island in the hope that some of the scratches have been treated and that the larger wounds will heal.

This is a thinking man's land and plenty of time to reflect, dwell on and create an over complex solutions to a simple problem. Our resolve is our asset, we still have it no matter what the island or task ahead.



Friendships are made SSgt McClatchie Sect 2 enjoys a joke with Sgt Grant Kinhead AUSTCIVPOL.



Adjutant 4RTR in a jovial mood.



Doing things the British (Scottish) way — LCpl Hunter.



Cpl Perkins and LCpl Warnock — dance formation team.

UN MP COY MINI MEDAL PARADE



A Mini Medal Parade was held in the Force Commander's office on 11 Sep 89 where the Force Commander presented UN Medals to (from left to right) Sgt Thompson, Sgt Neilson, Sgt MacDonald, FC, WO2 McNally, Sgt Mitchell and the CCWO, CWO Clifton.

FROM LCPL FSC SQN TO WO1 (RSM) SP REGT



LCpl Taylor, 1974.



Sgt Taylor, 1984.

In 1974 LCpl Taylor, 16/5L completed his first tour with the UN as a member of the Force Scout Car Squadron. He returned in 1984 as a Sgt and appeared on the front cover of July 1984's Blue Beret in his scout car. Having reached the highest non-commissioned rank in the British Army he has again arrived in Cyprus, this



WO1 (RSM) Taylor 1989.

time as RSM Sp Regt and as (Garrison) GSM.

Can any other contingent match this record of success?

BRITCON MEDAL PARADE



29TH SEPTEMBER 1989





FSC SQN NEWS

The Force Scout Car Squadron is now into the last half of their six month tour.

October saw our Commanding Officer, Adjutant and RSM visit as well as the Regimental Band.

The Commanding Officer spent his first weekend trekking through the Troodos mountains. Unfortunately the Kykko Monastery had over-booked so

Force Scout Car Squadron held their WO's and Sgt's Mess Dinner Night on 30th October 1989.

he spent the night in a brush wood bivvy on the Troodos mountainside. The remainder of the week was spent visiting the troops in the outstations.

The Regimental Band had a very successful visit playing at the BRITCON Medal Parade as well as AUSCON and DANCON. The highlight of their visit was a combined band concert with the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment

Band at Curium amphitheatre in Episkopi.

The Force Reserve was also deployed on exercise Pandora's Box which was very successful and many lessons were learnt.

Finally, all the ferrets managed to get through the BRITCON Medal Parade without breaking down which was not the case in rehearsals!!

EX BLUE BLAZER



Spr Simpson shows Maj Gen Friedberger how to 'fly' a D6.

62 Cyprus Support Squadron RE have been repairing the Buffer Zone tracks in DANCON again. EX BLUE BLAZER 89/2 took them to Skouriotissa, from there they worked as far east as the Box Factory (B32) and as far west as D35. This EX BLUE BLAZER was more diverse than usual with Corporal Webster's Field Section supporting Plant Troop's reinstatement of the track. His Section erected a series of Irish Bridges (Fords) and inserted two culverts whilst Plant Troop, using a series of bulldozers and graders levelled and smoothed out the track.

On Friday 7th September Maj Gen Friedberger, CBF Cyprus, visited the Squadron. He travelled the communications track from D35 to Skouriotissa meeting all the soldiers taking part on EX BLUE BLAZER.



A D6 driven by Spr Grafham seen here levelling the track.

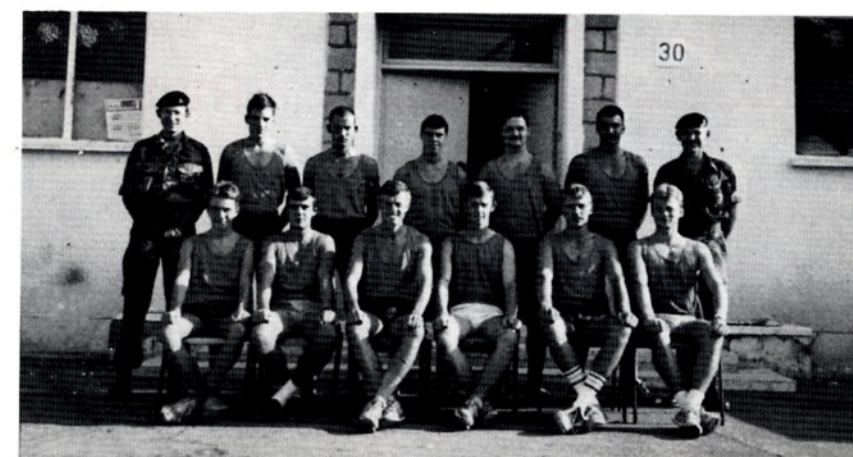


Under direction from LCpl Shute CBF gets to grips with a grader.

UNITED FOR CHILDREN

On Sunday 15 September a team of United Nations soldiers from BRITCON ran the complete length of the Buffer Zone west to east, coast to coast, in aid of the international charity 'Save the Children Fund'.

97 Field Battery (Lawson's Company) Royal Artillery part of the Royal Tank Regiment had come to the end of their tour of UN duty at the Box Factory (B32) just north of Astromeritis. Sad though they were to be leaving, they decided to mark their departure by the first ever continuous relay run of the



From left to right: back row: Maj Weldon, Gnr's Baker, Besford, Mercer and Buckingham, Cfn Jayesingham and W02 Bond. Sitting: Gnr Stoddart, Bdr McKenna, Capt Fox, Gnr's Izzard and Batey and 2Lt Jones.



Children join Cfn Jayesingham for a short distance.

whole Buffer Zone. The eleven runners and their support team set off at 0445 hours to drive to the coast west of Morphou Bay in the Danish Sector. At precisely 7am the continuous relay run began. The initial going was even harder than expected. By the time they were met by the Ferret Scout Car Squadron guides half way through Sector 1, they were over an hour behind schedule. The route through Sector 2 was much easier and of course the Western Sub Unit area was familiar territory; time was quickly made up. The twisting

route along the Nicosia Green Line in Sector 3 was quite an eye opener for everyone. Darkness fell before they reached



Gnr Izzard lends a helping hand.

the east coast in Sector 4. The last watering hole was A28 where everyone was treated to some very generous Austrian hospitality. In fact they then ran back into Dhekelia making the total distance covered over 200 kms in 15 hours.

Save the Children Fund, whose patron is HRH The Princess Royal, was chosen as the particular charity because of its universal appeal knowing no boundaries. Sponsorship was generously provided by Turkish Cypriots, Greek Cypriots and UN soldiers, as well as British military and civilian personnel. It seemed that all concerned united in this worthy cause and certainly the fund is richer by the efforts of these runners.



THE END.

Left to right: Standing: 2Lt Jones, Gnr's Bedford, Stoddart and Mercer, Bdr McKenna, Gnr's Buckingham and Baker and Capt Fox. Kneeling: Gnr Izzard, Cfn Jayesingham and Gnr Batey.

SECTOR 3 - REGULARS AND RESERVISTS

The composition of UNFICYP is a unique force. It is made up of soldiers from different countries with varied military backgrounds. While one would normally describe Sector 3 as made up of soldiers from regular Canadian units, upon closer inspection this is not entirely true. In order to meet UN manning requirements and to fulfil a national policy most of the Canadian units are augmented by soldiers from the Canadian reserve. Currently the First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, now the Canadian Contingent has 71 reservists serving with us, composing 10% of the battalion strength.

These reservists come from units throughout Canada, such as the Royal Westminster Regiment in Vancouver British Columbia, the Grey and Simcoe Foresters from Owen Sound Ontario to the Nova Scotia Highlanders from Cape Breton, to name just a few. All totalled, Canada has 50 reserve infantry regiments, all of whom are eligible to have their people apply to become augmentees.

In addition to infantry, 1 RCR has augmentees from reserve

service battalions, helping us in the Quarter Master stores, in Movements, in our kitchens or as clerks.

The reserve soldier is a volunteer and in most cases has obtained a leave of absence from his regular civilian employer so that he can do a UN tour. In all cases the reservists undergo a period of pre-Cyprus training and a selection process, administered by the first Battalion, in order to guarantee that all soldiers, regular and reservists are trained to the same high standard. There are normally two reservist augmentees to a section, in order to allow that soldier the best opportunity for cross training with his regular counterpart.



Cpl Kier Smith of 4 RCR on patrol.

The reservists are highly motivated people and have integrated quite well with the soldiers of the First Battalion.

If ever you're in Sector Three, read the soldiers epaulettes, you're bound to see a few that don't read RCR.



Sgt Maloney demonstrating that there is nothing part-time about his batting ability.

"NON NOBIS SED PATRIAE"
Captain Jeff Cairns



Last light at CS 52 (a reservist).



Capt Cairns of the Lincoln and Welland Regt.



MCpl Darryl Birch of the Grey and Simcoe Foresters.

THE 3RD AUSCON PATROL MARCH



Members of AUSCON during the patrol march.

On 3rd October the 3rd AUSCON Patrol March took place in the area of 2nd Coy. Nineteen teams had to prove their skills in kit recognition, map reading, signals, shooting and throwing hand grenades, on the 15km route from Ayios Nikolaos to OP A28. A medical station was set up at Ayia



A welcome break.

Marina, where soldiers were tested on their knowledge of first aid.

During the prize giving ceremony, Lt Col Dallinger, CO Sector 4 emphasized the fighting spirit and excellent march performance of the soldiers. The final winners were a team from the Pyla Platoon headed by Capt Delmarco with Sgt Tabernig, MCpl Angerer, MCpl Haberl and MCpl Schütz.

SPORT IN DANCON

When I arrived in Cyprus at the end of May this year I took up the new position of Sports Officer of DANCON. Previously there had been several officers appointed to every sport and competition involving DANCON.

The Danish contingent are made up of soldiers on active service and those who are demobilized from the Danish Army, Navy and Air Force and I soon realized that in general they are very fit.

Each company partakes in three lessons of sport a week, two of which involve either interval or long distance running and the third in weight training. In addition to this they are also involved in a great deal of march training which for some, is useful preparation for the DANCON March where around 90% of Danish personnel participate. Furthermore many of the soldiers use their spare time training. All of the companies have a work out room and more or less all of the OPs have some kind of weight training facility.

This year we have participated in the UNFICYP Swimming Gala and Volleyball Competition as well as local competitions in football and march and shooting.

The UNFICYP Military Skills and Shooting Competition are eagerly awaited by most Danes and we hope that with all these competitions we not only increase the fitness of the soldiers but improve friendships and understanding among UNFICYP athletes.

By: 1Lt J E Rasmussen.



The start of the DANCON March.



The DANCON team in the UNFICYP Swimming Gala.

UNFICYP WKSP WIN SP REGT MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION



Mrs John Smedley presents the winners shield to the Wksp team on 22nd Oct 89. Seen here from left to right are Sgt Watson, LCpl Burnett, Cpl Lint, LCpl Haugvik, Capt Frendo and Cpl Geddes.

SP REGT SKILL AT ARMS COMPETITION



Left:
Maj Anderson receiving his medal as best individual shot -pistol match, from the CO Lt Col Smedley.

Right:
Maj Jerry Peck - OC UNFICYP Sig Sqn. Best Individual Rifle Shot. Maj Peck was also the Best Individual Rifle Shot in the UNFICYP Skill at Arms competition on 5th Oct. 89.

Below:
The winning team - REME Wksp receiving the trophy from the CO Sp Regt Lt Col Smedley.



The 1989 Terry Fox Run

The 7th October 89 dawns bright and clear the start of another Terry Fox Run in aid of cancer research. Runners, walkers, bikers, skateboarders, roller skaters and many more begin arriving at the Nicosia Airport terminal at around 0700 hrs. At 0800 and 0810 hrs, the timed runners begin the 10 km route followed by the fun runners, walkers etc. Approximately 850 participants and over £2,100 of \$4,893 Cdn collected or pledged, both surpassing even last year's record totals. The work of many coupled with the generous donations of many more will eventually fulfil Terry's dream of ending the devastating toll that cancer takes from us each day. The organizers thank you for your participation.



Some did it with their eyes closed.



Some did it in-pairs?



Some "putted" around.



The winner of the timed race Capt Norman Fox, 97 Battery.



...and they're off!



254 Sig Sqn did it in a squad.



Nicosia Scouts led by SSgt Mark Thompson.



AUSTCIVPOL walked it.

DANCON

MEDAL
PARADE

23rd September 1989

