CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF MISSION

As 1994 draws to a close, it is the time to reconnect with our loved ones, reflect upon the events of the past year and establish our priorities for the New Year’s coming challenges.

Christmas is a time for family reunion. For most of you serving here in UNFICYP, this will not be possible. It is the fate of the soldier of peace to serve under awkward conditions, away from family comforts, observing cease-fire situations, patrolling the Buffer Zone or monitoring the maintenance of peace. However, you should take heart in the knowledge that the message of Christmas is one of peace on earth and goodwill towards men, ideas pursued by tens of thousands of peacekeepers like yourselves in more than 18 peace-keeping operations worldwide. You should feel privileged and proud of the contribution you are making. I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that your offering is recognized and appreciated.

I wish you all a safe and merry Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

GUSTAVE FEISSEL

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL IN UNFICYP

CO FINCON

Ba mhath liom bannacht air na Nollaig agus athbashnam as an chur chuig gach duine a hÉireann ata ag obair le hAn tSeachtar Chathair an Aontas.

Seán Mac Phomasaigh, Ard-Chheannfort

CO IRCYPOL


CO Sector Four

Dieses a todos los integrantes de la FTA 3 que estas fiestas cristianas que pasaremos aljados de nuestra familia, tengan toda la lealtad de la familia "adoptiva" de los camaradas que comparten esta misión con nosotros.

Que la "noche de paz" nos encuentre en paz con Dios y con nosotros mismos. No olviden elevar una oración por la solución definitiva de los problemas de Chipre, que es un país fracturado por la guerra.

Felices Fiestas!

CO Sector One

CO IRCYPOL

Fearann Nollag fe mhaise do gach bhail do Arm na hÉireann ata ag freastal le UNFICYP.

CO CANCON

Away from home, we come to realize just how important the family unit is and that we are paying a high price for peace. Hopefully, our efforts in this regard will help to make Christmas a far happier time for the residents of this troubled island.

On behalf of AUSTCYPOL, I would like to wish all our friends in UNFICYP a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope that all your dreams come true.

CO AUSTCYPOL

On behalf of the incoming Regiment of Sector Two, The Queen’s Royal Lancers, I wish all members of UNFICYP and their families a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 1995.

CO Sector Two

The multi-national Military Police Element of UNFICYP would like to wish all members of UNFICYP and their families Merry Christmas, Fritho Weihnachten, Feliz Navidad and Nollaig fe mhaise.

O'UN MP Elm

The Blue Beret is the house journal of the United Nations Force in Cyprus and, as such, is intended to provide a source of information on current events within the Force, on UN matters of general interest and on local tourist advice.

Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Photographs together with captions should accompany the articles. This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Chief of Mission. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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Front Cover

Christmas in UNFICYP
by Sgt Joe Reilhan
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
Compiled by Mrs Miriam Taylor

Christmas means different things to different people. For some, this time of year is about family gatherings, hanging decorations, lighting candles, giving gifts, making resolutions and doing lots of eating. Christmas for most people is associated with the happy, peaceful holiday during which everything is wonderful and glowing with the whole happy family sitting around the fireplace.

However, people can schedule so many enjoyable things at Christmas that these events soon become tasks. That's when you know you're doing too much! People forget to relax and enjoy themselves. These winter holidays are supposed to be a time of peace and tolerance of others and yourself. If you can reorganize things, then Christmas is really all about, that's all you need to do. And, if you can continue to do that throughout the year, that's even more wonderful.

The Blue Beret Christmas and New Year Special pages aim at providing readers with some tips, stimulating thoughts and, of course, the seasonal greetings from UNIFCYP.

CHRISTMAS — A FAMILY AFFAIR

Traditional Christmases is the one we tend to remember best, the gatherings of family and friends, parties at places of work, the atmosphere of goodwill which permeates everywhere — and Christmas shopping. Here are some tips on how to meet the resulting variety of occasions.

Children come first, for them, Christmas is a wonderland come true. For men, the holiday usually means plenty of good food and drink, and indoor games.

MEN MAY HELP WITH RITUALS SUCH AS PUTTING UP THE TREE

Wives and mothers are, in most cases, in charge of organizing Christmas. While men may help with some of the rituals such as putting up the tree and decorating the house, women invariably are the ones working in the kitchen and wrapping up the presents. Consequently, a special outfit is a well deserved gift.

SHOPPING AND GIFT GIVING

Holiday shopping can be a frustrating experience for anyone. A lot of people who are normally good about balancing their budgets overbuy around the holiday period. Psychologists suggest that excessive holiday shopping can be attributed in part to an attempt to promote a better self-image through buying multiple or expensive presents. For others, gift-giving is seen as a way of reassuring their status or making up for other weaker aspects of the relationship. Often, buying gifts can make people feel about themselves and this gives them an emotional lift.

In order to decrease anxiety and improve rational decisions, people are advised to begin their Christmas shopping early or to plan during hours in which stores typically are less crowded, such as during lunch hour or special extended hours shopping before the Christmas rush also allows more financial flexibility in purchasing presents.

When buying gifts, always remember that often, it is not the gifts people remember as much as the caring and feeling experienced. Most children's toys, select those that require the use of imagination and creativity and also provide an opportunity to provide social skills. Although practical toys are important, creativity and fantasy are equally so and help children to develop more rounded personalities because they begin to see things from a different perspective.

Psychologists point out that not having a fantasy life is an indication of a child being taken away — by being told, for instance, that there is no Santa Claus — can make it difficult to solve problems as an adult.

Probably the worst Christmas gift for a youngster is his or her own TV set. TV tends to make a child passive with the world, especially when it is in the child's own room. Outdoor toys, such as soccer and basket balls, are good because they help kids develop a sense of confidence as well as physical ability. Sports and board games teach children to abide by handmade gifts, such as a sweater, made by family members for family members, represent part of the person.

Parents who can't afford or who don't wish to buy a particular toy for their child should not feel guilty about it. In fact, adults who feel they should meet every wish their child has should ask themselves "Do I get everything I want?"

Finding the perfect present is rarely easy, especially when it's for an elderly relative or friend who seems to have acquired almost everything. Perhaps choosing "healthy gifts" is a way of indicating to older adults how much you care. Consider a box filled with items such as soups, teas, cereals and dried fruit — or any other health food. How about a juice extractor, a lightweight espresso machine or a blender that would ease food preparation? Other useful items such as clothing would be welcome, especially socks, slippers and gloves. It goes without saying that handmade presents are a joy to receive, and reflect the kind thoughts of the giver.

EATING SMART DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Wouldn't it be great if people could eat as much as they wanted? The following simple guidelines suggest how you can control calories, fat and cholesterol intake without subtracting from savoury meals.

- When shopping, read labels. This is one way to find healthier ingredients for seasonal recipes. Comparing calories and grams of fat per serving helps find good-for-you products.
- Avoid frying and instead bake and broil food. This eliminates much unwanted fat from both the food itself and the use of oil or butter.
- Remove as much visible fat as possible from meats prior to cooking.
- Use low cholesterol, low sodium and low fat foods in soft drinks, cheeses, biscuits, etc.
- Use artificial sweeteners instead of sugar, egg whites without yolks and skimmed milk or non-fat yogurt rather than mayonnaise. Fruit juices or apple sauce can replace fat and retain moistness in breads, cakes and biscuits.

TALK TURKEYS

For most of us, the turkey is part of the Christmas tradition. But how it found its way onto our table is an interesting story...

The turkey originated from the American Continent and the American Indians hunted it for food and used the feathers to decorate their hair-dresses, but the Mexican Aztecs were responsible for domesticating it. It was imported into England in the 16th century, and Henry VIII was so enthralled by the taste of the delicious bird he ordered a constant supply, which by the time of Edward VII it had become a traditional Christmas dinner. Although Edward VII made it fashionable to eat at Christmas, the origin of the word "turkey" is not so easy to trace, but one story suggests that its name may have come from the use of the bird to provide a "turbulent" noise at the dinner table. Another story attributes the name to the Spanish word for the curious gobbling noise of the bird which sounded rather like Arabic. Up until the 1850s, turkey remained a luxury food, available only to the rich.

SEASON'S TIPS

An orange a day keeps the ophthalmologist away, so new research suggests. The vitamins in oranges and other fruit and diet rich in vitamin C can help to prevent the development of cataracts, which frequently afflict the elderly.
While children under seven need full-fat milk because they are still in the early stages of development, older children should preferably have skimmed or semi-skimmed milk.

**SERVING WINES**

Most wines contain between 8.5% and 15% alcohol. Liqueurs or fortified wines such as port and sherry are given a higher alcohol level (15.5% upwards) by adding grape spirit during or after fermentation. Wines can be red, white or rose, and still or sparkling - where the natural carbon dioxide from fermentation is trapped in the wine. They can be flavoured with herbs and spices - vermouth is an example. They can also be classified according to their sugar content, ie dry, medium or sweet. In dry wines, no sugar is left after fermentation.

Whites: light whites should be served cool but not cold, otherwise you cannot taste the delicate flavours: 10-15°C is perfect. Full-bodied, sweet or sparkling wines can be drunk at a cooler temperature.

**Reds:** room temperature (15-20°C) is fine. Don't warm wine by placing it next to a radiator or open fire, as this will cause it to taste coarse. Open full-bodied reds about two hours in advance, and lighter ones about an hour beforehand. Letting a wine 'breathe' is not just part of its mystique - it allows oxygen to enter, which releases flavours and softens harsh edges so you can appreciate its flavour. However, some reds - such as Beaujolais - can be chilled.

**SAFETY AND ACCIDENTS**

The joyous and festive feelings of the holiday season often are offset by accidents, injuries and medical emergencies. Holidays are stressful and, with the crush of activities, people become careless.

Military Police statistics give us some enlightening information regarding accidents involving UNFICYP personnel.

**TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS**

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<th>Classification</th>
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<th>Jan-Nov 1994</th>
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<td>Hired vehicles</td>
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</table>

Many images come to mind when people recall Christmas in Australia. These vary from frantic shopping, congested roads, loads of drink and parties, pet minding for holidays, long queues in banks and shops to tinSEL, mistletoe, wrapping presents, family, Santa photos, twinkling lights in parks, window displays and, of course, presents. Throughout all this chaos, people still recall images of Bethlehem, the Three Wise Men and the birth of Christ.

Contrary to an opinion held by our northern hemisphere friends, we, in Australia, do not celebrate Christmas in winter on 25 July - rather in the height of summer on 25 December!

Christmas Day starts early with children opening their presents in the wee hours. Santa enjoys visiting Australia because there are no fires alight when he slides down the chimney to deliver the presents! Customarily, Santa is left a cool can of Fosters, a slice of homemade Christmas cake and a carrot for Rudolph. A sleigh is rare indeed. Our country cousins have even sighted Santa riding a horse or often riding on the back of a bush fire brigade truck.

Traditionally, lunch is the main meal: seafood, salads and cold meats are popular, although some cling to the tradition of roast turkey with all the trimmings, including, of course, the Christmas pudding. Quite often, this feast is packed into an esky, and the family heads to the local beach for lunch. Lunch is then generally followed by a game of backyard cricket and an afternoon sleep. When tea-time comes around, the 'left-overs' from lunch are consumed.

The holiday festivities do not end as they continue into the next day (Boxing Day) with a day in front of the television to rest our sore bodies and heads... The largest yacht race in Australia commences on this day, with over 150 competitors vying for the coveted trophy. The Australia Cricket side also commences its test series on this day, with many country areas also holding major sporting events.

Boxing Day is also renowned for the annual migration of people from their homes to their favourite holiday destinations by the beaches. This is the main holiday period during the year for children, with six weeks off school.

The Christmas period in Australia, like the Christian world over, is a time of sharing with families and friends. So to all our friends in Cyprus, a Happy Christmas from the Australian Civilian Police Contingent, 1994.
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Interview

AUSTRIAN CHAPLAIN


1. What is your stand on the issues of large families and of abortion?

A. I myself have a brother and a sister, but I consider that generally, the standard of living (e.g. general acceptability, social conditions, political support) for larger families has worsened. Due to the parents’ pros-

essions/careers, the education and career of their offspring is often delegated to institutions. This is a typical Western European problem. From a world-wide point of view, a huge popula-
tion explosion is hanging over us, and therefore, population control is necessary.

Q. How would you explain religion and peace-keeping to strangers who have never experienced such a combination?

A. This is particularly true for United Nations peacekeepers who rely on the consent of the parties in conflict and do not take the initiative in using force. It is only the last resort when self-defence is necessary. The effectiveness of peace-keeping forces derives from a combination of factors, such as the physical presence of armed soldiers who will return fire if they are fired upon, the moral authority of the UN and the pressure of world public opinion.

Q. What changes or reforms in our society would you most like to see?

A. There would be space and food enough for all of us, if the dispensation of goods was more just. However, it appears that when one reaches a certain standard of living, he/she does not want to share it with others. This is the great problem of our society today.

Q. Do you think that young people demand too much?

A. Religion, particularly in a military environment, must have its place as a matter of principle. Every person and every soldier has the right to be taken seriously in respect of his/her religious feelings. Consequently, I cannot imagine the military, including UNIFCYP, without a chaplaincy.

Q. Did you always want to join the UN peace-keeping force?

A. At the International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1991, I was asked to serve as a UN chaplain. I accepted because this task meant a new challenge for me.

Q. Do you have some unforgettable experiences in your life with UNIFCYP?

A. Yes, I do. The common divine services in the Buff Zone afford a great feeling of fellowship. When these services take place at sunset, this is especially gratifying to me.

Q. Is there a certain message you wish to pass on to members of UNIFCYP?

A. Peace begins with the little things in life. It begins with yourself, at home. I hope that all members of UNIFCYP will, especially in this festive season, realise this spirit of fellowship, and that they will be blessed with lasting peace for the rest of their lives.

NB: The views expressed in this article reflect the personal opinion of the author, and are not necessarily those of the editorial board, and may contain some controversial issues contained therein.
CHRISTMAS IN ARGENTINA

by Lt (Navy) Alejandro Di Tella

Preparations for Christmas in Argentina usually start on 8 December, when the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is celebrated. This is when most families set up the Christmas tree and the rest of the house with holy, inside and out, on doors and window sills. Although in our country, it is summer on 25 December, with temperatures way up in the 30°Cs, a lot of families take every chance to captivate the “snow” effect with families using snow sprays or cotton wool on the Christmas tree inside the house, anything that can be decorated in red and white – the colours of the “Carnaval de invierno”, for instance: table cloths and tea cloths, is changed.

Two weeks before 25 December, parents go out on their Christmas shopping sprees for the rest of the family”s wants and needs as most parts of the Christian world, a very hectic time.

The Christmas festivities in Argentina actually start on the morning of Christmas Eve, 24 December. In the larger cities, it is traditional that families living reasonably near each other join up and celebrate together, Christmas being a family affair with strong religious connections. Starting in the late evening of Christmas Eve, the lady of the host family usually does the round house with last minute preparations. The family has a quick, simple lunch, and then children go to bed very early to prepare for the night. They have a long, hard afternoon ahead of them! During this time, final touches are put to the house and the preparations for the evening.

In the afternoon, everyone gets dressed up and in the evening, Mass is celebrated in the Roman Catholic church and most Argentines attend the service. This is where the families meet up, and once Mass is over, they all return to the home of the host family. It is quite common for each family to prepare one special dish, so that when everyone sits down to eat, there is something new for everyone to taste, including the lady of the house!

At the stroke of midnight, we toast the birth of Christ and after this, presents are given, especially to the children. Each family makes its appearance.

Partying goes on until all hours of the morning, depending on the numbers and ages of party-goers. Traffic congestion is at its peak at this time of the night, since once one party is over, there is usually another one going on... For instance, with this occasion being generally a family-oriented one, if you attend a party organised by your parents, you may wish to continue on to a brother, sister, parents-in-law or whoever was not present at the previous party. A week later, on New Year”s Eve, similar gatherings take place, but on this occasion, friends are taken more into consideration. Once the meal of the evening is over, partying continues in other people”s homes with visitors being welcomed, whatever time they turn up. The younger generation stay with their families until just past midnight, and then leave to join up with their own company.

The festive season in Argentina is a very big celebration, as it is in most parts of the world. It takes a lot of time and a lot of hard work to get ready for, but before you know it, it”s over. Money has been spent, weight has been put on – however everyone looks forward to the same again next year!

The traditional Christmas meal in Argentina starts with ham and various salads (for instance Waldorf or Russian), followed by turkey, chicken or red meat, usually served cold, seeing as it is very often still, even help is needed at this time of night. A good and fattening time is had by all. Dishes are then cleared, and the dessert, the traditional one being “pan dulce” (translation = sweet bread) is then served – outside in the garden, if you are lucky enough to have one. This is accompanied by champagne and all drinks suitable for the occasion.

Each year, with the arrival of Christmas and the departure of the last Austrians, the Austrians are becoming more and more Austrians, so Austrians become shopping-crazy. Market places and shopping centres are very active and people carry on buying until there is practically nothing left on the shelves, ending just about at Christmas Eve. However, tradition dictates that during the days leading to Christmas Eve, there is also a plethora of habits and customs which unfortunately these days are only practised by small groups of society. This short article attempts to give you a brief idea of these dying customs. Let”s start with Advent.

On 4 December, St Barbara”s Day (4 December) is celebrated by people to break spirits off a cherry tree. These spirits are then placed in water in the hope that they will blossom. They are a symbol of human life and if they shoot on Christmas Eve, you can expect fortune and good health for the coming year. For unmarried people, a blossom means a prosperous marriage.

The origin of this custom derives from the Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, who died in the year 350 AD. Many stories are centred around this person. Legend tells us that once he saved innocent officers from the death sentence, another says he revived three dead pupils, and yet another says he saved the honorable weddings of three poor girls. He is also venerable as a patron of marriages.

On 21 December, the shortest day of the year, Austrians celebrate the feast of St Thomas. To rid the farm of evil spirits, the farmer, together with his goat or his eldest son, walks through the living quarters and finally around the farmhouse to the utmost edge of the farm. Then they sprinkle Holy Water and incense in the fields, and the other inhabitants of the farm pray for the blessing of the Holy Water.

There are countless other customs, for example in the Tyrol, where cowbells, made of bronze, are hung from the cow”s neck, and with each step, the cow makes a sound, which is supposed to warn of danger.

The peak of Advent, Christmas Eve is celebrated by cribs of various shapes which will be set up throughout the time, most households and churches. Cattle, especially horses, are washed in warm water and salt on St Stephen”s Day, 26 December.

During the festive period, the last celebration takes place on 6 January. Children, dressed as the Man - Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar - walk through the streets with the initials letters C-M-B on the street doors in blessed chalk. This custom is aimed at the little children to protect them from the fight against invisible demons.

"Customs are linked to men and nature. With the loss of this connection, customs too are more and more neglected." (Statement of a German ethnologist)
AUSTRIAN ACTIVITIES IN HQ UNFICYP

On 6 December every year, the Austrians celebrate the Feast of St Nicholas, a Bishop, who represents the good in the world. While he awards the good deeds to his benefactors, the Krampus (or Lucifer) punishes them for their bad ones. It is, of course, just for fun, but with a pinch of salt.

In contrast to previous occasions, this year’s festivities, much to the disappointment of the fans of this event, were organised at the tiny United Australians’ Club and not at the traditional venue at HQ UNFICYP’s International Mess.

However, on 5 Dec 94, at least 80 people showed up for the event, even though the Club was cramped for space. After undergoing initial corporal punishment at the entrance, visitors were rewarded with good entertainment, including an air gun shooting competition and mouth-watering Austrian goodies like "gulasch" and "linzertorte". This was an opportunity for everyone to share in the spirit of St Nicholas.

ST BARBARA’S DAY AT SECTOR TWO

St Barbara is the Patron Saint of the Artillery, and, therefore, it was only proper for the Officers and Soldiers of Sector Two to celebrate that fact with a service on St Barbara’s Day, 4 December. This was the last service conducted for the Regiment by Padre Joseph Lovelady (see left). Before the service, the Force Commander took the opportunity to thank the soldiers for their contribution to the mission during their six-month tour. The Officers then entertained Brig Gen and Mrs Vertairen to dinner.

St Barbara was the daughter of a third-century pagan king. He was so jealous of her beauty and so incensed when she converted to Christianity, that he locked her in a tower until she renounced her faith. Her refusal to do so caused him to report her to the authorities who condemned her to execution. Long afterwards, God sent down a bolt of lightning which killed the king instantly. This early use of indirect fire is the inspiration for the adoption of St Barbara for the Artillery. Interestingly, despite the advance of technology and the array of modern aids for the current generation of artillerymen, it is still impossible to reproduce that degree of accuracy.

REMEMBRANCE DAY AT SECTOR TWO

Sector Two held a Service of Remembrance for BRITCON and guests on Sunday, 13 November at the Ledra Palace Hotel. The Service followed the traditional format of wreath laying and the observance of two minutes silence. The Band of the Royal Irish Regiment provided the music, and a particularly poignant moment by the playing of an Irish lament immediately before the silence.

Among those organisations represented were the Royal British Legion, the RAF Association and the former Cyprus Regiment, which provided a bearer from each community who jointly carried the wreath. Wreathes were also laid by representatives of all the participating nations within the Mission. Following the Service, the Officers’ Mess of Sector Two hosted a traditional curry lunch.

On 14 October 1994, the medal "in the service of peace" was awarded to 191 Austrian soldiers of UNFICYP at an impressive ceremony. The parade itself took place in an historic place indeed, namely the Salamis amphitheatre which was built under Roman rule and which made very suitable surroundings for such a solemn occasion.

The medal presentations were conducted by the CM, Mr Gustave Feissel, the FC, Brig Gen Abs Toimi Piavali Vertairen, the COS, Col John Powell and Col Alfons Kloss. Col Alfons Kloss is the father of Lt Col Andreas Kloss, the previous CD of Sector Four. He was also the first CO of AUSCON in Cyprus from April 1972 to April 1973.

AUSCON MEDAL PARADE

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A reception was held at the Othello Tower, where many fine examples of Austrian culinary art were on display, accompanied by a very professional performance by the band. Undoubtedly, this Medal Parade will be remembered by many - yet another successful AUSCON event.

On 19 October 1994, AUST-CVPOL held a United Nations Medal Parade for the 41st Contingent at Australia House. Present among the guests were the Chief of Mission, Mr Feissel, the Force Commander, Brigadier-General Vertairen, and the Australian High Commissioner, His Excellency Mr Stevens.

This day was especially significant to all members of AUST-CVPOL as it represented 15 years since the formation of the Australian Federal Police.

After Mr Feissel presented the UN medal to each of the recipients, a large birthday party was held in traditional style at the Aussie Mess.

From the left: Sgt Tony Prior, Sgf Des O’Dwyer, Sgf Lindsay Guthrie, Sgt Damian Reeves, Sgpt Bob Gray, Sgr Kathy Rauch, Sns Sgt Rod West and Sns Sgt Brian McGarvey.

As with most birthday parties, it continued into the wee hours and was enjoyed by all.
AUSCON IN POSSESSION OF ALL UNFICYP TROPHIES

The last UNFICYP Shooting Competition took place on 5 October in Nicosia. Although we don't like to boast, it is a fact that the Austrians did exceedingly well - yet again! The participating teams won the rifle and pistol matches, as well as the Falling Plate Competition. The Austrians are, therefore, entitled to call themselves the overall winners.

However, it was always the aim of the Austrians to win the trophy of the Military Skills Competition, considered as the most important of all trophies. Until this year, this had always been a British domain, and the fact that AUSCON had never won it before provided the motivation for very hard training!

On the great day, 19 October, all teams started full of optimism and self-confidence. AUSCON entered three teams, all competing with the others in the recognition test, the obstacle course, the tunnel dig, the first-aid station, hand grenade throwing and shooting techniques. After all these tortures, they had to wait a while until all teams had finished the course and the marks were added up.

The Austrian Contingent ended with one team in 1st place, one in 3rd place and the last in 5th place, and are justifiably proud that this year, they have won all UNFICYP trophies. Congratulations!

WO1 Pinzella, the 45-year-old veteran of the winning team, need not feel shy of his age!

En passant... Changes within AUSCON's Command

Lt Col Ernst Eder, our "old" DCO, has changed to his new appointment of CO Sector Four. In previous UN tours, he served with UNDOF in the Golan Heights (1985/86) and with UNTSO in Lebanon (1987/88).

Maj Heinz Huffer is the new DCO of AUSCON. His previous appointment was SOO since July 1994. His UN experience is based on two UNDOF missions in the Golan Heights and one UNAFHIR mission in IRAN.

Maj Edgar Wallig, who was CO 2nd Coy for one year, has commenced his new appointment as SOO AUSCON. As this is his third tour on the island of Aphrodite, he knows almost all the secrets of UNFICYP!

THE BLUE BERET FUN AND TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE PAGE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE: BB No 05

Well, readers, this time you have really excelled yourselves! So many entries have arrived this month that the Editor's helmet was overflowing! This is very encouraging, so the competition will continue. The lucky winner of BB No 04 was Miss Doreen Karmanoukian, who is invited to collect her prize from the Spokesman's Office.

For the next puzzle, yet another bottle of transparent liquid will be won by the lucky person whose name will be drawn from the Editor's blue helmet on 15 January 1995. The festive season is upon us, but don't forget to submit your replies quickly.

Clues:

Across:
1. Seasonal wish (5, 3, 4)
2. Biblical person (6)
3. Powerful anaesthetic gas (7)
9. County of south east England (8)
12. First name of late charismatic leader of modern India (5)
14. Holy place for Jews, Christians and Moslems (9)
15. Historical period (7)
19. Directing (6)
21. Rescued (7)
22. Men of outstanding qualities (9)
23. Major South American mountains (9)

Down:
1. Place or state of spiritual joy (8)
2. Absence of war (6)
3. Entangle (5)
4. Festival of Christmas (7)
5. Attacks of difficult breathing (6)
6. Where Christ was born (7)
10. Celestial object (8)
11. Short for Christmas (5)
13. Grave, vault (6)
14. Husband of Mary (5)
15. UN agency based in Paris (7)
17. Force Engineer (8)
18. Celebrated in church (7)

BLUE BERET TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. What is the approximate length of the Buffer Zone?
   - a) 180 km
   - b) 180 miles
   - c) 120 km

2. What is the highest number of all ranks ever to serve in UNFICYP?
   - a) Over 15,000
   - b) Over 10,000
   - c) Over 7,000

ANSWERS TO BB 04

* * *

December 1994

The Blue Beret

December 1994

The Blue Beret
CHANGE OF COMMAND IN SECTOR FOUR