THE BLUE BERET

January 1979

Editorial

Your magazine needs your contributions

The reaction to the new format of the magazine has been both encouraging and disappointing. The disappointment has been due to the comments that have been made by people who find the magazine much more interesting and enjoyable to read. The great disappointment has been that despite all the comments, the editorial staff have received only a single unsolicited contribution which is for the next issue and already on the editorial table.

The contributing editors for the contributors are all members of the Force, as is the editorial advisory board, and all have great interest in the Force. Descriptions of recent local events or visits to places of interest are welcome.

Illustrations are most welcome. Photographs should be black and white and glossy paper.

This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Force Commander. The views expressed are, however, those of the author(s) concerned and do not necessarily conform to official policy.

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on the cover

The break of dawn lights up an OP maintaining constant vigilance in the Buffer Zone.

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO UNIFICYP

I send to all the military and civilian personnel of UNIFICYP my Christmas greetings and my best wishes for the New Year. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the excellent work done by UNIFICYP during the past year. All the contingents of the Force have worked hard and have contributed to the maintenance of peace and stability in the island.

ATTENTION ALL PHILATELISTS

UN Annual Souvenir Folders

Probably the most popular single philatelic item produced by the United Nations Postal Administration today is the annual souvenir folder of United Nations stamps which is printed in two editions at the end of each year—one for New York and one for Geneva. Each folder comes complete with a single mint stamp of each issue enclosed separately in a glassine envelope. It is scarce and its popularity over the years for two very good reasons—firstly, it makes an ideal gift for philatelists and, secondly, it is the only way to buy a single stamp of every issue for the year with a minimum of effort.

The New York souvenir folder started in 1958 and in 1969 the United Nations/Geneva folder made its debut. Like the New York folder, it provides special spaces to insert the stamps and includes a short history of each issue, as well as technical information. The Geneva folder is printed in French, with an English translation; the New York folder is printed in English only.

UN Issues Four New Definitive Stamps

The United Nations Postal Administration issued four new definitives on 18 January 1979. In denominations of 10 cents, 15 cents, 20 cents, and 30 cents. The 10 cent stamp covers the new rate for overseas postal cards. The 15 cent definitive will meet the increased rates for first-class domestic postage, and 20 cent for the new rate for overseas surface rate, and 30 cent for the new rate for overseas surface rate.

The new stamps feature 29 mm horizontally x 36 mm vertically, perforation to perforation, and are printed in three colors. There are three varieties of each issue, with a different watermark in each color. The New York folder is printed in French, with an English translation; the New York folder is printed in English only.
3 LI in Sector 2

The Battalion exercising the Regiment's Freedom of the City of Brixton-on-Sea in the traditional manner 'with colours flying and bugles sounding'.

Now well settled into that stretch of country to the west of Nicosia known as Sector 2, is the Headquarters and two Companies of The Third Battalion The Light Infantry.

The Light Infantry is a large Regiment, at present of three Battalions, formed on 10 July 1958 from The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry, The Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, The Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, and The Durham Light Infantry. The traditions of these Regiments and their old recruiting areas were all passed to The Light Infantry.

The Third Battalion was formed (from the First Battalion The Kings Shropshire Light Infantry) in Malaya in 1962 and was part of the Commonwealth Brigade. Whilst there the Battalion was part of a four month tour of duty in 1965 to Mauritius, to help in the South African War, and under the supervision of the West African Council, to forestall riots and disturbances prior to Independence. In 1969 it moved to Plymouth and became part of 24 Brigade. From there in the summer of 1970 it spent six months serving with UNFICYP in Limassol, Polis and Paphos. 1971 brought a move to Minden, in West Germany, where the Battalion remained for four and a half years. The tour was that of a mechanised battalion as part of the British contribution to NATO. During this time there were training exercises in Canada, the Army's training area at Suffield and a further one to Cyprus.

The Battalion returned to Caterick in September 1978 where it is likely to stay until early 1980. The stay in Caterick has not been uneventful, punctuated by a four month Northern Ireland tour, a fire fighting for nine weeks over Christmas and New Year, and a six weeks exercise in Kenya in February and March. On completion of the six months UNFICYP tour, the Battalion will rejoin the families in Caterick only to return to Cyprus again in 1980 for a two year tour in the Sovereign Base Area at Episkopi.

A photograph taken in Kenya during the six weeks exercise there in February and March 1978.

The Chief of Staff, BGEN J A Cotter CD, inspecting the Bugle Guard on arrival at St David's Camp for his first visit to the Battalion after taking over Sector 2.

The age-old heathen ceremonies

Saint Lucia visits Sector 5

0Ps before the break of dawn

The Lucia Day coincides with the day on which the annual Nobel Prize ceremonies are held, as a result many Nobel Prize winners are woken early in the morning by the Lucia at their hotels in Stockholm.

How and why the Lucia tradition started in Sweden no one knows for certain. The only thing we do know is that is started in the twelfth century.

Saint Lucia is in fact a Roman Catholic Saint, although very few people in Sweden belong to the Catholic faith. However, the Lucia tradition in Sweden does not really have a religious back ground. In fact, it is all about the long winter nights and the many hours of darkness. In December daylight lasts only a few hours and the night is dominant.

Lucia, dressed all in white and with her bright candles, comes to light this darkness. In view of the purpose of the festival it would seem more likely that it has a Heathen rather than a Christian source.

Not only is it not known how and why the tradition started but also why an Italian Saint should have been chosen. However, the Saint having been adopted so also was the old traditional song about her, although in fact it is only the famous tune that is used, the words are quite different.

Once a year, on 13 December, Sweden celebrates the festival of Saint Lucia. It is not celebrated in the evening as many festivals are but early in the morning. Before dawn lights up the sky, Saint Lucia, dressed all in white and wearing a crown surmounted with burning candles, walks around to visit friends and neighbours. Accompanying her is her court: men and boys, also dressed in white, singing her personal hymn.

When she and her court visit a home it is normal for them to be offered something to eat. More often than not it is a special bread, specially baked for the occasion.

The Lucia celebrates go on throughout the very early morning hours all over Sweden. It is one of the more popular treats of the year, despite that the day is not a holiday. Because it is a working day in many offices and factories the staff appoint their own Lucia and have a little party to start the working day.

Normally the Lucia Day coincides with the day on which the annual Nobel Prize ceremonies are held, as a result many Nobel Prize winners are woken early in the morning by the Lucia at their hotels in Stockholm.
DANCON XXX

Takes Over

The takeover of DANCON XXX which began in Sector One in December, marks the existence of a Danish Contingent in Cyprus for 15 years. The soldiers of each Danish Contingent are volunteers, with the exception of the officers who are posted here for their tour of duty. The soldiers are recruited from all services, including the Home Guard, so it is a very mixed company which forms the team carrying out the tasks in Sector One.

The UN training for the Danish soldier lasts for two months and this is in addition to his normal military education. After his training every soldier has to serve with the Danish Standby Force for at least one year. It is from here, of approximately 1000 men, that the various UN contingents, including that in Cyprus, are formed.

However, DANCON XXX does not consist entirely of "Green" UN soldiers. Approximately half of the 365 men in the Contingent have served in several previous contingents in Cyprus. This is because a Danish soldier is allowed to serve in a UN contingent for two years, only returning to Denmark for short periods of leave. After completing a 2-year tour of duty in Cyprus he has to return to Denmark for six months but after that can start a further 2-year tour of UN duty. Several soldiers in DANCON XXX are volunteers for such extended periods of UN service. The longest serving "Cyprus Soldier" has just started his 10th tour of duty; he has, therefore, completed a total of more than 7 years service in Cyprus.

Lt Col W Elsberg hands over the emblem of command of Lt Col G E Scharrling, Commander DANCON XXX.

Cpl R H M Rasmussen, known as "Mahmut" of C Company has served for more than 15 years in DANCON.

The veteran in B Company is Cpl H V Jensen, known as "Tjuk", who has served for 6 years.

The record holder for HQ Company is S/Sgt H Jacobsen with a total of 41 years in DANCON.

Austrian Special:

"Krampus Night"

The 6 December is the night when all Austrian children hang up their stockings near the fireplace to receive gifts from St. Nicholas. But unfortunately, St. Nicholas is accompanied by the "Krampus", a kind of devil. Children who have been naughty during the year are afraid of the Krampus, as they expect to be beaten by him instead of receiving presents and sweets from St. Nicholas. However, this year in Cyprus, there were only good children and St. Nicholas was able to make presentations to them all with a big beaming smile when he visited Camp Duke Leopold V.

It was only later in the morning that the Krampus, assisted by St. Nicholas, handed out punishment to some of the troublesome grown ups!

"When the rains came"!!!

Wintertime in Cyprus does not bring the icy winds and snow that we have in Austria but sometimes it does bring rain and then more rain - as we had in early December. Austrians are a happy breed of men and little things such as a perforated roof do not worry us during the summer but we do not appreciate waterfalls suddenly descending on our beds in the middle of the night. Unfortunately, there were no cameras ready to shoot our Supply Officer, Major Wenzl, when he was literally washed out of his bed, or to snap all the soldiers using their helmets upside-down to collect all the water pouring through the ceilings.

When the storm was over the doors were opened cautiously and hands appeared slowly to find out whether the ground was still there outside or whether the whole camp had "joined the navy"!

December is normally a sombre month with only Christmas to look forward to. But sitting in front of the fire for a whole month waiting for this festival becomes very boring and so we have film shows and camp parties or trips to the Goethe Institute in Nicosia. However, this year on 11-12 December, with the encouragement of our Welfare Officer, the first Austrian "One Man Show" took place, with sketches of usual Austrian Seamstresses including Rosa, Dodi, Mietl and Quchingler. The photographs on the right show the Austen Press Officer reading the script and on the right two typical Viennese inhabitants - the fat one Mr. Travrev, animated by the Press Officer, always grumbling and his new friend, who always sees the world through rose tinted glasses.

One man review: A taste of cabaret
WE DO IT
HEADQUARTERS

First off, for those of you who have been following the exploits of Cdn Conv in the past, you may wonder, what is Headquarters Squadron? Perhaps it is easy to see if you realize that other Canadian Contin- gent members normally call this outfit Logistics Company. If you are still confused, then maybe we can shed a little light on the subject.

The word "headquarters" in Headquarters Squadron (HQ Sqn) to many people conjures up an immediate image of the Commanding Officer and all of his staff. This is not so. HQ Sqn is a supply and services organization. The soldiers in Section Four who man the observation posts look to us for the material and manpower to keep them fed, warm and happy. Our job is to ensure that they have everything that they need to do their job.

WO Wedlock, Cpl Manchurek and Shaw, and Tpr Reid of HQ Sqn Stores. "Happiness is never having to chase lost laundry."

WO Bruce Oakley and Cpl Paul Rawding contemplating life.

At "Uncle Douglies"!

The soldiers who man the OP look to HQ Sqn for the material.

HQ Sqn in Cyprus is considerably larger than the HQ Sqn that we know back home. In Canada, HQ Sqn is a sub-unit of the Regiment. Here in Cyprus, we are still a Regimental sub-unit, but we also have the added responsibility of functioning as something called Cancon Base. In effect, what this means is that HQ Sqn, in addition to its normal duties, acts as a Base Headquarters. In order to do this, we expand our normal organization to include such elements as the Comptroller, the Pay Section, a Message Centre, a Food Services Section, an Engineer organization, a Dental section, a Post Section, a Warehouse Section and a Movements section. We also get involved in new and different types of services which are indigenous to a UN tour, such as Welfare and Civilian Labour.

Taking on all of these new services has its own rewards.

WO Wedlock, Cpl Manchurek and Shaw, and Tpr Reid of HQ Sqn Stores. "Happiness is never having to chase lost laundry."

One illegal gathering of the "Purple Pig" Gang.

ALL FOR YOU
SQUADRON

We get to meet and work with a lot of fine fellows who are normally members of other units back in Canada.

I would like to make a point of mentioning the "heart" of the Squadron. The heart of HQ Sqn is those troops and sections that make up HQ Sqn no matter what we are or what we do. These include our vehicle fitters, better known as Maintenance Troop (or the "Purple Pig Gang"). We also have Transport Troop ("Scotty's Little Softies"), the Unit Medical Station ("The Boys"), Squadron Stores ("Uncle Brian's Section"), the unit Orderly Room ("CC and Company"), the Pedras ("Good Squad") and the Regimental Quartermaster ("Mungo's Men").

The Doc and his boys. - "This crew could save your life!"

Some of "Scotty's Little Softies" of Regimental transport.

CANCON

The Canadian Contingent's primary function in Cyprus is keeping the peace on "the line." The soldiers who man the line have a difficult task, and we feel that they do a first class job. HQ Sqn is not a line unit. Therefore we seek our personal satisfaction in different terms. Our pride is derived from the services that we provide to the line troops. The Squadron's motto is "Achievement Through Service."

Perhaps one final element may help to put things in perspective if you are still wondering about our organization. Headquarters Squadron is commanded by Major Doug Hamilton and the Squadron Sergeant Major is Master Warrant Officer Bruce Oakley.

"Regi Porisoequa Fidelle"

Mungo and his gang get together to solve a few pressing problems (such as where to obtain a uniform for a 9'6" giant as well as a pair of size 16 shoes).
On the 12 November 1974, Senior Sergeant Ian Donald Ward and Sergeant John Woodcock, both members of Auscypol and stationed at Paphos, were detailed to escort five Turkish Cypriots from Avroviki to Lefka. During their journey on the Pedoulas to Lefka road their vehicle struck a landmine resulting in the death of Ian and the wounding of John and the Turkish Cypriot one of whom died sometime later.

Maj Gen H G Woods, General Office Commanding North East District in UK visited the Force to see 3 LI in Sector 2, who in the UK come under his command. He is pictured when he made a courtesy call on the Force Commander on 7 December.

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The Fincon Medal Parade took place on Finland's Independence Day, 6 December. The Force Commander is shown at the Medal Parade which was held in his office.

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An UNFICYP Christmas Carol Service was held in the Holy Cross Church at Paphos Gate Nicosia on Monday 16 December, which was attended by all contingents. During the service each contingent provided a reader for the Bible lessons and national carols were sung in their native language.

As in the British custom the soldiers of the Support Regiment were served their Christmas dinner by their Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants.

In Sector 6 the Austrian soldiers went to great deal of trouble to create a Christmas atmosphere in the OPs. The picture shows some of the decorations at OP A30 in Varosha.

So you want some milk?
There you go cat.
Show me the way to go into the snow. I'm tired and I wanna go to bed.
There's an empty flask. I'll fill it with beer.

Wooly Blue Cancon

part 1 of 2
CASTLES
THE FORTIFIED CITY OF NICOSIA

Nicosia was originally fortified by the Lusignans, but when the Venetians took over it was realigned for the inhabitants to guard and defend the city against the threat of straggling walls. Therefore, in 1560, the Senate of Venice dispatched Ascarsale Saporano to report on the fortifications. His report was not encouraging. "All the walls that he then, even though it was in other respects suitably situated, the inhabitants of Nicosia would be exposed to the various attacks."

However, two years later the pressing fortifications were begun from Savorano's designs, under the superintendence of Francesco Barbieri. Their form when completed was very much as we see them today. The original medieval walls were pulled down and the old circumference reduced by three miles. Everything outside the new circumwall was destroyed so that a free field of fire would be left for the artillery mounted on the bastions (not on the walls between the bastions). In this general destructiveness nothing was spared; churches and palaces alike perished of their interest or beauty.

Nicosia was turned into an up-to-date fortress and the work was hardly finished before the last attack burst. In 1658 the siege of Nicosia was raised by the besiegers of Pafos and after only seven weeks the city was taken by assault.

It is not easy to explain exactly why and how it was possible to capture such a modern fortress, but at least one factor may have played a part. If we study the many books of the 17th century, we shall find that many engineers were of the opinion that too high walls were a disadvantage to the defence. The walls of Nicosia are not very high and their original height, if stone half way up their height forming a resisting wall for the lower portion, above this the sloping face was only intended to form a grizzly spike. It is not easy to imagine that a wall was an effective defence of such bastions were erected, as they should have been according to the plan, with 200 men, and had they had the artillery required. The Venetians could only muster about 200 men per bastion and also they were very short of artillery and powder.

The bastions are named after the committee of officers who built the fortifications. Some of them are very high and had foundations of stone half way up their height forming a resisting wall for the lower portion, above this the sloping face was only intended to form a grizzly spike.

After the Venetian period the walls of Nicosia were completed and it also serves as a monument both for the Venetian fortress and for the use of stone castellations of the period.

OUT & ABOUT IN CYPRUS

A view of some of the furniture and household items that are exhibited.

ARCHAEOLOGY EXCAVATIONS IN 1978

Curius — Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates

Excavations were conducted in the northeast area of the site produced few structures but suggest the hypothesis that this area might have been a sacred grove or woodland dedicated to Apollo Hylates as a holy grove.

Curius — Early Christian Cathedral

The main purpose last year was to complete the excavations of the buildings around the cathedral, where both the basilica and the adjoining churches are still being investigated. The finds include a variety of coins, among them a gold issued around 690 A.D. By that date, the city of Chio, which is the coastal site of Lefkara, had become a priory of the monastery, and it is probable that some score of years later the bishop and his flock had already moved out to the area of Episkopi.
UNIFICYP Squash Competition

This year's Squash Competition took place between Monday 4 December and Thursday 7 December. This was later than it has been in previous years, when it was normally held in November. The decision to run the competition later was taken when the organizers realized that it was not convenient for participants to travel to the competition. The decision was made to run the competition later, but it was still successful and saw a large number of participants.

The Team Plate final was held on the Wednesday afternoon between 3 LJ B team and the Force Reserve team. After some very close matches 3 LJ emerged victorious. The original plan was to play the final plate matches at 1400 on Thursday 7 December, but unfortunately the 3 LJ A team were committed elsewhere and so had to concede the match to SWEDCON. This meant that the team final between HQ UNIFICYP and Support Regiment could be brought forward. This was by far the most exciting match seen. The HQ UNIFICYP number 4 seed, Major Condor, was delayed and so the number 1, 2, 3 and 5 seeds played their matches. These were all hard fought and when Major Condor arrived he was greeted with the news that his match was the deciding match. The number 4 seed, Major Condor and Cpl Danida, took the court and played a most thrilling match. In the fifth game with the score at 2 games all, Major Condor was 3-2 ahead at the break. The game went on to 1-2 in the final game. The match was very competitive and never gave up hope.

Following this, COMS Butler and Sqn Ldr Situnayake played for the individual title. Once again we were privy to witness some very good squash and finally COMS Butler took the title. The prizes were presented by the Force Commander, Major General J J Quinn and the organizers would like to thank him very much for supporting the competition in this way. It was most unfortunate that, with the exception of the tankards presented to the winning team, the individual cup and the Plate medals had to be returned to the organizers as there had been an engraving error on those trophies. However, by the time these errors were corrected, the trophies were engraved, correctly engraved, will be in the hands of the respective winners. Finally, I would like to thank the various members of Force Reserve who helped by sweeping out the courts every evening and transporting the refreshments to and from the courts.

AUSCON's Centre Court thrills

The AUSCON Tennis Competition, organized by the Sports Officer, Capt. Birkett, took place from 3 to 10 December on the courts at Ayios Nikolaos in ideal weather conditions.

The competition was very popular — 34 competitors took part in the singles and there were 10 doubles teams, all fighting for victory. The photos were taken of the prize giving ceremony at Camp Duke Leopold V on 11 December.

UNIFICYP ORIENTEERING COMPETITION

It was by no means nice weather when the competition started at Cape Greco one day a week before Christmas. The weather did not, however, deter the 43 sportsmen who entered the competition and they ignored the rain coming in from the sea.

It was a fine race over hills and down valleys. Swedcon Sports Officer, Lasse Bjornsson, had laid two excellent courses starting at the temple at Saramis and finishing near Fig Tree Bay. Swedcon won the team competition whilst the individual winners in each class were Ivarsson from Swedcon and Schrammel from AUSCON.

WET BUT EXCITING

Sgt Dolan from Support Regt. trying to find his way down a cliff.
UN NEWS
SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MESSAGE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

"This past year has seen an intensification of the struggle for peace in many regions of the world and in many fields of human activity. We have witnessed, for example, a great effort to mitigate the dangers of nuclear confrontation, to achieve a settlement of problems of southern Africa, to make a significant step for peace in the Middle East and to adjust vital relationships of the powerful nations. Strenuous efforts to devise a new international economic order have continued. Human rights and other social problems have been the subject of sustained international debate and plans for action. Never before has the human race been so conscious of its problems or of the many dangers of injustices of its condition. Never before has it been so active in trying to remedy them. This new awareness, however, has given rise to a widespread sense of uncertainty and frustration, which nowhere can be seen more clearly than in the workings of the United Nations. While we have made a much better picture of what needs to be done, we lack, as yet, the will or capacity to do it. In dealing with complex international or global problems we cannot expect to achieve easy or quick results. We must beware of premature discouragement or disillusion over the possibility of achieving the objectives we have set. We must not be dismayed by the prospect of a long struggle. Indeed there is no serious alternative. When we look back, we can measure how far we have advanced towards many of the objectives which seemed unattainable only a few years ago. Our problem is to harness our energy and wisdom for an attack on dangerous and intractable international problems which still defy our efforts. The fabric of world peace which we are attempting to create still has many holes and many gaps. It is here that we must concentrate our skill, our experience, our determination and our growing capacity to co-operate.

We must continue to gripe with poverty and economic injustice. We must define problems which perennially threaten world peace. We must achieve significant progress in disarmament. We must steadily advance towards a world where the rights and dignity of each human being will be respected. We must constantly renew our determination not to be put off or discouraged by the immense difficulties of solving such problems.

This past year, for all its frustrations and disappointments, has also witnessed some encouraging signs of statesmanship and leadership and a new sense of realism and of what is achievable. There is also, I believe, a growing sense of international solidarity based on the realization of what we can gain by cooperation and what we will inevitably lose by conflict.

I hope that in 1979 we can strengthen these positive trends and bring at least some of our efforts to fruition.

The world in which we live, and which to some extent we have created, urgently demands benevolent order and a greatly increased sense of community. Survival is not enough. We urgently need to develop a new and global civilization attuned to the realities and needs of all peoples of the world.

That is what, by slow and arduous steps, we are trying to build in the United Nations. Let us redefine ourselves to this present of tasks in the coming year."

SECURITY COUNCIL EXTENDS UNIFCYP MANDATE FOR SIX MONTHS

The Security Council, on 14 December 1978, voted to extend the stationing of the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNIFCYP) for a further six-month period, ending 15 June 1979, and requested Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to continue, in his good offices mission. The Council acted by adopting a draft resolution which the President, Richard von Weizsäker (Federal Republic of Germany), said had been drawn up in the course of consultations among Council members. The vote on the draft resolution — which became Council resolution 443 (1979) — was 14 in favour to none against, with no abstentions. China did not participate in the vote.

DOMINICA JOINS UN

Dominica became the 151st member state of the United Nations. The admission of the Caribbean Island nation — which recently gained its independence from Britain — was approved by the Assembly by acclamation.

SECRETARY-GENERAL TO VISIT SE ASIA

It was made known before Christmas that at the invitation of the governments concerned, Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim will pay official visits to six Asian countries between the end of January and mid-February.

Mr. Waldheim will visit Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

RESOLUTIONS ON NAMIBIA.

Before the Christmas recess three resolutions on Namibia were approved by the General Assembly. The first resolution, condemning South Africa for unilateral holding elections in Namibia, was adopted in defiance of the Security Council. It stated that South Africa’s non-compliance with Security Council decisions threatened international peace and asked the Security Council urgently to consider the imposition of sanctions. Should the Council not be able to act effectively, the Assembly would step in.

The vote on this resolution was 133 in favour to none against with 17 abstentions.

Another resolution stated that sanctions should include embargoes on trade, oil and arms. It also reaffirmed that Namibia was the direct responsibility of the United Nations and that SWAPO — the South West Africa People’s Organization — was the sole and authentic representative of the people of the territory. This resolution also provided, among other things, for a reconvening of the Assembly at a time to be declared in consultation between the Assembly President, the President of the UN Council for Namibia and the Secretary-General to consider the implications of South Africa’s continued defiance of the UN.

The vote was 120 in favour to none against with 19 abstentions.

The third resolution endorsed the work of the Council for Namibia as the legal administering authority and condemned Namibian independence and the South Africans of the movement for Namibian independence. It also reaffirmed that sanctions against those who continued to resist efforts to come to an agreement with South Africa were not alone insufficient.

The vote was 165 in favour to none against with 5 abstentions. Among those abstaining in the vote were the five western powers which originated the Namibia settlement proposals which were subsequently endorsed by the Security Council. The United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and The Federal Republic of Germany. Speaking on their behalf, William Barton of Canada said the five remained fully committed to early implementation of the Council’s declaration on a UN transitional civilian and military operation leading to genuine Namibian independence. But as the five’s initiative was now at a crucial stage, he said, they did not want to complicate matters by taking a stand on the three resolutions. South Africa had indicated to the Secretary-General that it would give a definitive answer on the UN elections project by the end of this month. In a communiqué issued earlier, the five Nordic countries said they were prepared to back sanctions against South Africa if she continued to refuse to cooperate with the United Nations.