WOMEN POLICE OFFICERS AT SWEDCIPOL

As you will have read in May’s edition of the Blue Beret, the SWEDCIPOL rotation took place on 19 April. The incoming Unit consists of 18 Police Officers, two of whom are women. Insp Anette Poppen (left) and Insp Helen Gortzen (right) are the first two female Swedish Police Officers in Cyprus.

Anette started her career in 1983 and is concerned withB patrolling and investigations in Hambra, 20 km south of Stockholm.

Helen Gortzen in the Swedish Police Force since 1982. After patrol duties in Stockholm, she decided to try something else, and is presently a recruiting officer in the City.

Both Anette and Helen Gortzen competed with 105 applicants for their jobs. In Sweden, there is nothing unusual about seeing two policewomen on patrol together. Women make up approximately 11% of today’s Force, and more are becoming interested in this profession all the time. 400 recruits were admitted into the Police Academy last January, 33% of whom were women.

After four weeks in UNIFCYP, Helen Gortzen said “You cannot find anything similar to this job back in Sweden. It is a challenge and an experience. We are learning to adjust to different cultures, to eliminate as many problems as possible, but most of all, we are given the opportunity to see how the ‘Blue Berett’s work’. There is no doubt that when she and Anette return to Sweden in the middle of October, they will have a lot more to add to this comment!”

Both Anette and Helen Gortzen have been welcomed by their colleagues as well as local police and UN staff here in Cyprus.

Caption Competition

They said that I would need broad shoulders for this job...

The winning caption for last month’s competition was submitted by LCpl Hele, RCT.

Can you put a suitable caption to this picture? Submissions to MPLO by 15 July.

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Your prompt response to our pleas for new contributors and more submissions to the Blue Beret has been most gratifying and we would like to record a well done to all of you who took the trouble to send articles, features or photographs for recent editions. A steady monthly input from each contingent will enable us to ensure maximum representation for every unit and produce a vibrant and interesting magazine. Your Unit Press Officer will be happy to offer assistance, or you may call the Blue Beret office for advice. See you in print.

The Force Commander regrets to announce the death on 21 May 1991 of Trooper Stuart McGhee, Queen’s Own Hussars.

CONTENTS

Women Police Officers at SWEDCIPOL/ Caption Competition .............................. 2
Editorial ........................................ 3
BRITCON Medal Parade ............................ 4/5
UNIFCYP Spring Fair .............................. 6
Anzac Day ..................................... 7
Local Diplomat Comes Calling ............... 7
Blood Donations at the Larnaca Police Station Visit of Brigadier Parker-Bowles ............................. 10
Visit of the Blues and Royals' Regimental Band Farewell from the Queen's Own Hussars ............................. 12/13
UNIFCYP Skills Put To The Test ............... 14
CANCER News - UNIFCYP MI Skills Competition Commander 1 CBG Comes To Visit ............................. 15
En Passant ................................ 16

Front Cover

UNIKOM - The Beginning by Ssgt Kev Capon
The BRITCON Medal Parade was held outside the Airport Terminal Building on Friday 26 April. The Bands of the Blues and Royals, QOH and WFR joined to form the basis of the parade. Officers and soldiers of all BRITCON elements were on parade, comprising:

C Sqn Blues and Royals (No 1 Guard)
Queen’s Own Hussars (Nos 2 & 3 Guard)
UNFICYP Support Regiment (No 4 Guard)

The finale of the parade was the bugler of the QOH sounding “The Charge”. This was followed by the Scout Cars of C Sqn, vehicles from the Tpt Sqn, 2 x Gazelles and finally a Wessex from 84 Sqn RAF driving at speed and flying past the guests and spectators.
UNFICYP SPRING FAIR

Photos by SSgt Kev Capon

The annual Spring Fair was held in and around the Airport Terminal Building on 13 April. Sideshows, stalls and entertainments made approximately 27,500 for charity. All elements of UNFICYP participated as well as civilian traders.

ANZAC DAY - 25 APRIL 1991

On 25 April 1991, members of AUSTOIPOL and their families were joined by dignitaries and friends from UNFICYP and diplomatic missions for a Dawn Service at Wayside Keep Military Cemetery, followed by a traditional Gunfire breakfast at the AUSTOIPOL Mess. The remainder of the day saw other activities at the Aussie Mess, including the traditional game ‘Two-up’, which was invented in the trenches of Gallipoli by the original Anzacs. The members of AUSTOIPOL would like to express their thanks to all who helped to make Anzac Day 1991 such a memorable event.

AUSTOIPOL officers with the Australian High Commissioner and ex-servicemen

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning, we will remember them.
The memorials stand lest we forget.

Cecil Mills laying a wreath

LOCAL DIPLOMAT COMES CALLING

On 16 April, Sector Three was visited by the Canadian High Commissioner to Cyprus, Mr Bell. Mr Bell is also the Canadian Ambassador to Israel and lives in Tel Aviv. During his visit, Mr Bell was brought up to date on UNFICYP and the current situation of operations in Sector Three.

Mr Bell was preceded by a few days by Col Minnis, the Canadian Forces Attaché to Cyprus and Israel. Col Minnis briefed both the Senior NCOs and Officers of Sector Three on the various military and political situations in the Middle East and how they were affected by the recent conflict in the Persian Gulf. Col Minnis, a fellow Patrician, left us all better informed and in high spirits.

Mr Bell, the Canadian High Commissioner to Cyprus, accompanied by LG Col Romano during his inspection of the Quarter Guard on his arrival at Walsley Barracks.
UNIKOM
UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVER MISSION

On 6 April 1991, the world was informed that a new UN mission - UNIKOM - was about to start operations. Their main tasks are:
- supervision of troop reductions;
- erecting and installing OPs along main roads;
- control of traffic within the demilitarized zone and in special selected areas;
- conduct of land and air patrols; and
- accident investigation

All in all, UNIKOM will collect some 1,400 troops for fulfilling these goals, 300 of whom will be military observers.

A C-130 Hercules from the Swedish Air Force took off on 25 April carrying 35 Austrian and 35 Danish soldiers from UNIFICYP. Within three days, AUSCON and DANCON had deployed approximately one third of their Contingents to assist in the initial operations of this new Force.

The workload for the remaining Austrian and Danish soldiers within UNIFICYP has, therefore, increased substantially. However, with a little "tightening up" within these Sectors, and also with assistance from Sector Two, Sector Three and the Force Scout Car Squadrons, regular UNIFICYP duties continue despite the shortage in personnel.

The Austrians and Danes are very proud of their contribution to UNIKOM, and await the return of their lads serving in the Gulf.

REPORT FROM OPERATION DESERT PEACE

by Major Hasse Ekstrom
Comd Gof Coy/DANCY, UNIKOM

On 25 April, the troops from UNIFICYP descended into Kuwait through a thick layer of smoke, after a five hour journey. The City was marked by war and pollution - houses damaged by fire and explosions, and streets covered in trash. However, the people greeted us with smiles - the Blue Berets were undoubtedly among friends.

It was a mammoth task organising the mission from scratch. 115 Danes and approximately 600 other UN soldiers were accommodated in one warehouse in UN Camp Doha, 30 km north west of Kuwait City - that was no joke in 30-50°C with no privacy whatsoever! The average working day included 15-20 hours of operational tasks. Daily duties included cleaning, constructions, repairs, loading and unloading of trucks and transport. There was unavoidably a lot of heat and smoke stress, with incidents of small arms fire and mines; however there was a bright side to all this! The recreational activities included running in the coolness of the night, body-building, reading and best of all - sleep! Under such circumstances, we got to know each other fairly well, for better or for worse, during these days.

On 18-19 May, all 115 Danes returned, safe and sound, to Cyprus. 45 soldiers volunteered for another six-month duty in UNIFICYP, and the remainder returned to their parent units in Denmark.

The Danish soldiers I met and worked with in Operation Desert Peace were the very best I have met during my 24 years of service. Not one of us will ever forget our days in Kuwait.

Austrian soldiers waiting to depart
Basic equipment (left) is loaded
May Muller (2ic, Sector Four) bids farewell to Austrian soldiers setting off for UNIKOM
Danes' final inspection
Boarding the plane for UNIKOM: Pte J Hansen (left), Lt H Christiansen (centre) and Pte K Dalgard (right)
6 May - Parade for Mr Murrack Golding, Under Secretary General for Special Political Affairs, in Camp Doha
Short is beautiful! Pte J Hansen (left), LCpl Eln. Petersen (centre) and Pte H Katbenhavn (right)
BLOOD DONATIONS AT THE LARNACA POLICE STATION

On 8 May, the Larnaca Police District organised a blood donation day at the Police Station in Larnaca, supervised by the Chief of Police, Ch Supt Prokopos. The Blood Bank counted up to 147 «blood bags» on this occasion, and to quote one of the nurses: «it was a good catch»!

Commander Swedish Contingent, Ch Supt Håkan Thein, was there together with his wife Brigitta. Mrs Thein works at a blood bank in Sweden, and was of course very interested to learn how blood donations were carried out here in Cyprus. Naturally, Ch Supt Thein never hesitated to lay down on one of the beds to make his own contribution to the «bank». Next time, even the Swedish Chief Inspectors and Inspectors may be persuaded to do the same thing...

VISIT OF BRIGADIER PARKER-BOWLIES

Brigadier Andrew Parker-Bowles, our ex-Lieutenant Colonel Commanding, visited the Squadron during the period when the BRITCON Medal Parade took place. He took the opportunity to present medals to five members of the Squadron who had been with the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, Knightsbridge, London.

The Regiment is composed entirely of members of the Blues and Royals (presently the FSC Sqn) and their brother Regiment, The Life Guards. A posting to the combined Regiment is usually for two years, after which the person concerned returns to her/his parent unit. Their role is entirely ceremonial, and consequently, what a tremendous change and challenge it is, for those five, to taste operational existence here with UNFICYP.

Levent Bayram dons the Forage Cap of the Director of Music, Maj Roger Tomlinson at Kyrenia Harbour
FAREWELL FROM THE

QUEEN'S OWN HUSSARS

On 4 June 1991, The Queen's Own Hussars handed over responsibility of Sector Two to the 4th Royal Tank Regiment. The Regiment has served here for six months and has enjoyed a relatively peaceful tour, made many friends and learnt a great deal about life in Cyprus.

The tour for many members of the Regiment has included long hours of OP duty, observing both opposing forces and ensuring the status quo is maintained in the Buffer Zone. Changes to the norm have been dealt with quickly and normally at the lowest level. The change from our normal role of being mounted in tanks in Germany has given everyone the chance to learn new skills.

The Regiment has participated in all the military and sporting competitions held within the United Nations with varying degrees of success. Winning the Football and the Cross Competitions Country were the highlights of the tour. Many of the Regiment joined the Danes in Sector One for their biannual DANCONE March - an experience never to be forgotten. Somehow we managed to compete in the Ski Competition finishing behind the two winning Austrian teams!

Some of the less athletic members of the Regiment have had the opportunity to carry out active recreational training including diving, parachuting, windsurfing and canoeing. Many have learnt to enjoy new sports which they will continue to pursue.

Despite the problems of the Gulf War and the detail in handing over part of the Sovereign Base Area to a resident Regiment, all ranks have managed to take two weeks' much needed R&R. Leave has been taken on-island with a number of wives and girlfriends joining their husbands from both Germany and the U.K.

As we return to Germany, everybody will have benefited from the tour, many new friends will have been made, areas we would never have seen have been visited and we will have all gained a welcome break from Germany. Hopefully The Queen's Own Hussars will be lucky enough to draw the right straw again in the future. Good luck to all remaining in Cyprus - we shall miss you.

Whilst walking around St David's Camp, a very broad Canadian accent was overhead and on investigation it was discovered that Cpl Wayne Eric Joseph Kileen, a Canadian soldier, is currently serving with The Queen's Own Hussars.

Cpl Kileen was born in Antwerp on 28 March 1955, son of a Canadian father and an English mother who were serving with 27 Brigade of the Canadian Army. The next 20 years saw Cpl Kileen accompany his family around some 18 postings. In 1975, he graduated from High School and in 1975 he finished college. It was while in High School that Cpl Kileen started his long association with the Territorial Army: this led him to his first UN tour in 1974 to Egypt, Syria and Israel.

After some 17 years with the Canadian TA and reaching the rank of SSGt, Cpl Kileen met and married an English girl, causing a move to the UK in 1987. Two years passed before the call to arms proved to be irresistible, and he enlisted into The Queen's Own Yeomanry, a light reconnaissance TA regiment based at York.

On hearing that volunteers were required for service with The Queen's Own Hussars during their tour of Cyprus, Cpl Kileen signed on for a six month period with the regular army. He has enjoyed himself so much that he has stated his intention of completing a further six months with the Regiment as a tank soldier on our return to BAOR.
UNIFICYP SKILLS PUT TO THE TEST
Photos by SSgt Kev Capon

UNIFICYP ATHLETICS
CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sp Regt Mil Skills
Competition

As a forerunner to the
UNIFICYP Military Skills
Competition, Support Regiment
had their own competition on 19
March 91. The final placings
were as follows:

1st: Sig Sqn
2nd: Lts
3rd: B Tp RCT
4th: LGp Wg Sqn
6th: LGp Wg Sqn

Champions, every one of them. 15 lines but satisfied soldiers from
1 PPCI. show off their smiles and new trophy mugs. They are,
from left to right standing: MCpl McMillan, Capt Arm, Sgt
Piquette, Pte Brookshires, MCpl MacPhee, Sgt Romano, LGp
Stamkowski, LGp Wees, Pte Taylor KM, MCpl Smith DA and Sgt
McCutcheon. Kneeling, left to right: Pte Krussel, Pte Taylor KJ,
MCpl MacCoal, Pte Walker

UNIFICYP SKILL AT
ARMS - 29 APRIL 1991

The winners of the UNIFICYP
Shooting Competition are as follows:

Rifle Match:
Individual: Sgt Henderson
Team: Sector Three

Pistol Match:
Individual: LGp York
Team: Sector Three

Falling Plate Match:
Team: Sector Four B

These Championships were
held in the Makanos Stadium on
Fri 18 April. The final team placings
were:
1st: Sector Three: 65 points
2nd: Sp Regt: 60 points
3rd: Sector Two: 56 points
4th: FSC Sqn: 30 points

Found above is the winning
team: Cpl Mick Hodds, LGp Wally
Wood, LGp Ev Galloway, LCpl
Gary Roberts, SSgt Dave Forbes.

FIRST, SECOND & THIRD

Look at those smiles - they
definitely look pleased about
something! They say all things
come in threes - and pictured
around the UNIFICYP Military
Skills trophy are the 1st, 2nd and
3rd place teams from Sector
Three. What makes them smile is
the sweet taste of victory. The
three teams carried out normal
duties up until two weeks prior to
the competition; from then onwards, they concentrated their
time and energy on one thing - the
competition. Doing well in a
competition like this makes the
beer taste better afterwards - and
this year, the beer tasted terrific!

Sgt Pasquette, Pte Taylor and Capt Arm showing the effort
everyone put into the competition. All those three are members of
the second place team from City Coy. This is what Afterwards is all
about.

MCpl MacCoal raises his fist in victory as
the Sector Three HQ Coy team lifts the Mil
Skills trophy above their heads.

SECOND Placings:

LI Wees, followed by Pte Walker, show
their determination.

COMMANDER 1 CBG COMES TO VISIT

Of all the various visitors Sector Three has had during
April and May there was one face very familiar to all the
soldiers of 1 PPCII. That was Brigadier General Vernon,
Commander of the First Canadian Brigade Group of
which our Battalion is a part.

The Headquarters for 1 CBG, along with 1 PPCII is
located in Calgary so the troops are used to seeing him
on our morning road runs. BGlen Vernon visited us from
22 to 27 April 91 to see how the boys were doing in sunny
Cyprus. More importantly though, he came to say
farewell as he heads off to bigger and better things
before we return to Calgary at the end of August. BGlen
Vernon had served in UNIFICYP as the Commanding
Officer of the Third Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian
Light Infantry in 1980. It really is a small world after all.
VIP VISITS
Messrs H Cuny and B Foucher, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (HQ UNFICYP).
Mr Spears, Controller Aircraft RAF (BRITCON).
Brigadier Walker, Comd 22 Armd Bde (BRITCON).
Brig Almonds, BFC (BRITCON).
Maj-Gen Ashenhurst, Dir Def Dental Svcs (BRITCON).
AVM Hunter, CBFC (BRITCON).
Mr Johnson, Under Sec, DOE (BRITCON).
Gen Sir John Chapple, CGS (BRITCON).
Brigadier Jones, DEE 1 LE(A) (BRITCON).
Mr Culshaw, Brit Dep Amb (Athens) (BRITCON).

FAREWELL to:
W02 White
UN MP Coy
W02 McNally
UN MP Coy
W02 Summers
REME Wksp
W02 Thynne
RAOC

WELCOME to:
CWO Butchart
Coy CWO, UN MP Coy
W02 Ansell
Nic Det Comd, UN MP Coy
W02 Scott
WOIC SIS, UN MP Coy
W02 Wilson
RAOC, Ord Det
W02 Woodley
REME, UN Fit
Sgt D Hill
Chief Clerk, UN MP Coy

PROMOTIONS
Lt David Hopkins,
2/c REME Wksp to Cap!
W02 White, UN MP Coy
to W01
W02 Thynne, RAOC, Ord Det
to W01
W02 McNally, UN MP Coy
to W01
W02 Summers, REME to W01
and then commissioning
Lt Cliff Reeves, Pl Comd, Rural Coy to Capt
Lt Cliff Trollope, Asst Adjt HQ Coy to Capt
Lt Pete Johnston, Pl Comd City Coy, to Lt

If you have any information you would like to see published in this section, please telephone extension 2235 by 12 July 1991.

Capt Cliff Reeves (centre) on his promotion to Captain with Maj Southern (left) and LCol Romsey (right).

Capt Cliff Trollope (centre) on his promotion to Captain with Capt Yuzwak (left) and LCol Romsey (right).

Lt Pete Johnston (centre) on his promotion to Lieutenant with Maj Pollock (left) and LCol Romsey (right).

On 11 April, Sgt Joe McLaughlin (RE Det UNFICYP) received the CBF Commendation from AVM Hunter for outstanding work performed during his tour in Dhekelia with 62 Cyprus Sp Sqn RE.

THIS CAN TURN THIS INTO THIS!

SAVE WATER
Terry Summers, 99 Michelle Street