

THE BLUE BERET



MAY 1979



APRIL IN RETROSPECT

Rotations

4	Cancon. In Sector 4 8th Canadian Hussars (Princes Louise) handed over to 3e Bataillon Royal 22e Regiment (3R22ER).
26	Australian Civilian Police Contingent 15 handed over to Contingent 16.

Medal Parades

	None
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Visits

31 Mar-1 Apr	Prof. R. Hiscocks and Mr. D. Harding of the UN Association, to the Force.
3	Maj. Gen. J.A. McIlvenna, Director of Army Legal Services, to British Contingent and HQ UNFICYP.
4	Lt. Col. O. Lundburg, to facilitate and inspect the Swedish Contingent's national communications systems.
9-13	Mr. Leif Leifland, Permanent Under-Secretary of State, accompanied by Mr. Pär Kettis, Deputy under Secretary, Mr. Hendrik Liljergren, Head of Department and Ambassador Axel Edelstam, to the Swedish Contingent.
10-14	Inspector General of the Austrian Army, General of Infantry, Herbert Winkelbauer, accompanied by Mrs. Winkelbauer and Lt. Col. Guenther Fuehrer, to the Austrian Contingent.
12-16	Capt. C. J. Grant and Lt. E. G. Corey, of 73 Signal Squadron, I mailia, to the Canadian Contingent.
16-19	Col (Rtd) A. L. McLean, Commandant of Land Ordnance Engineering Branch of Canadian Forces, to the Canadian Contingent, to gain first-hand knowledge of role of this branch in UN operations.
17-18	Mr. Lars Olsson, Editor of Magazine "Svensk Veckotidning", to the Swedish Contingent.
17	MGen Egge, Deputy Commander NATO Defence College, and Mrs. G. Egge, to the Canadian Contingent.

17-20

19-24

20

20-3 May

23-25

24-26

24-10 May

28-1 May

30-3 May

Mr. Jan Luthmen, Editor, To the Swedish Contingent, to prepare article for Swedish newspaper, "Lanstdningen".

Mr. Holgar Romander, Swedish National Police Commissioner, accompanied by Mr. Ulf Waldau, Head of Department and Mr. Nils Ahmanson, Assistant Country Police Commissioner, to SWEDCIVPOL.

Congressman Long (U.S.A.) accompanied by Mr. Powers and Mr. Nix, to the Canadian Contingent.

Mr. Lars Jilmstad, Principal Officer of Swedish National Police, to follow the various tasks carried out by SWEDCIVPOL and the training of the new SWEDCIVPOL contingent.

Lt Col. J. Pullinen, Chief of UN Department Finnish Ministry of Defence and Lt Col Riikonen, Chief of Personnel Section General Headquarters of Finland, to inspect and survey duties of Finnish personnel.

Mr. Fritz Molden, President of the Federation of Austrians Abroad, to the Austrian Contingent.

Mr. Carl Morthurst, Assistant Judge Advocate, to the Danish Contingent.

Mr. Wolfgang Schmidt, Army Chaplain, for consultation with Protestant/Methodist soldiers in the Austrian Contingent.

Col. R. Martin, accompanied by Mr. T. Gerald Tapp and Mr. S. Shore, to brief appointed deputy returning officers for pending Canadian General Election, to the Canadian Contingent.

Military and Recreation Competitions

18	UNFICYP Football Tournament Final
23-24	UNFICYP Badminton Tournament.
26	UNFICYP Relay Race Orienteering for 3-men teams.

FUTURE EVENTS

JUNE

Kataklysmos. 11 June

The celebration of "The Flood". A unique and colourful Cypriot Celebration associated with the Pentecost, as well as with sea games, traditional dancing and singing. Festivities in all the seaside towns takes place 50 days after Easter Sunday.

Nicosia Festival. 13-24 June

Theatrical Performances, concerts of popular and classical music as well exhibitions of folk art.

Paphos

Performances of Ancient Greek Drama will take place by moonlight at the ancient theatre at Kato Paphos by the Higher School of Paphos during the months of June and July.

St. Paul's Feast

28 and 29 June

Religious Festivities at Kato Paphos at which the Archbishop,

in all his Byzantine Splendour, will officiate assisted by all Cypriot Bishops. A procession of the Icons of St Paul through the streets of Kato Paphos follows.

International Art Festival of

Limassol. 29 June-8 July

Takes place in the Municipal Gardens of Limassol. There are Folk and Classical dances. Concerts of music and songs, exhibitions etc.

JULY

Open Tennis Tournament

Held at Troodos during the second fortnight of July.

Curium Festival

Performances of ancient Greek and Shakespearean drama and concerts by moonlight at the ancient theatre of Curium near Limassol. The performances are held through the summer.

Carlsberg Festival, Nicosia.

Sponsored by the Carlsberg Brewery this is an annual event with songs and performances by prominent Greek, as well as foreign singers, dancers and performers. There is folklore dancing and Cypriot food stalls and taverns.

AUGUST

Folk Art Festival (Pamphagia)

Organised in Paphos under the auspices of Laographikos Omilos Paphos during the first fortnight of August.

The Dormition of the Holy Virgin

Celebrations take place at the Monasteries of Trooditissa and Kykko on the 14 and 15 August. Abbots in their religious gowns attend the services and the churches are packed with pilgrims from all over Cyprus. Villagers take the opportunity of selling their products.

SEPTEMBER

Wine Festival at Stroumbi village Paphos

Organised by the village Committee in early September, and it includes free wine tasting, exhibition of grapes and Folk dances.

Wine Festival, Limassol,

12-23 September

Organised by the Limassol Municipality. It will be held in the Public Gardens of Limassol. Free distribution of wine, open air restaurants serving local and foreign dishes, performances of folk dancing and singing and Cypriot theatrical sketches.

Cyprus Autumn open Tennis Tournament to be held at the Larnaca Tennis Club courts during the first fortnight of September. Open to all without restrictions including foreigners and professionals.

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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. Descriptions of recent local events or visits to places of interest are welcome.

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

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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on the cover

Members of Swedcon carrying out helicopter training at Goldfish Camp, Nicosia.

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

This month the editorial staff are more than a little despondent. The flow of readers' articles has dried up; not a single one has been received since "The Blue Beret" last went to press. Many of you have told us during the past few months how much you enjoy reading the new format journal, particularly the wide variety of subjects covered in readers' articles. It will be a great shame if we have to stop including such articles and revert to covering contingent news alone.

We are glad that so many of you enjoyed the article by Wayne Carnell on creating a photographic record of a tour in Cyprus. The reaction to the article shows that you really are interested in reading about what other people have done and in many cases such articles have aroused so much interest that you have got involved yourselves. Now that the long Cyprus summer is here many of you will be doing things you've never done before; water skiing, scuba diving, gliding and parachuting. Other readers, I know, would be extremely interested in reading a first-hand account of someone's reactions after taking part in these activities for the first time. There must be someone amongst you who will have an attempt at describing the thrill and enjoyment of these more exotic sports.

Remember too, as we have said before, this journal exists to cover the entire Force. If any element has not been covered it is simply because it has not submitted a contribution. If any of you feel that your organisation should appear in "The Blue Beret" you can rectify this yourself by putting pen to paper. Contributions are welcome from any member of the Force. The prime requirement is that any article should be newsworthy or of interest to the Force in general.

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Important Unsung Work

It is 9 o'clock and the sun is already high in the sky as a small convoy pulls slowly out of the gates at Camp Duke Leopold V in Famagusta and heads northward on the road to the Karpas. The convoy is led by a Pinzgauer from Sector 6, followed by three 4-ton trucks from the UNFICYP Transport Squadron. This is a sight that meets the eyes on Wednesdays and Thursdays in most weeks of the year and has become so routine that nowadays it gives rise to little or no comment as it goes on its way. Where is it going? What is it carrying?

In the Karpas there is still a Greek Cypriot population of about 1,500, living in some ten different villages. Among the Force's responsibilities is the delivery of food and other essential supplies to these people as part of the relief programme organised by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), or the World Food Programme (WFP) and also to carry out Red Cross functions as requested from time to time by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). On a twice-weekly basis the convoys run from Camp Duke Leopold V to the Greek Cypriot villages in the Karpas carrying an average load of twelve tons of stores. The transport and drivers for these convoys are provided by UNFICYP Transport Squadron RCT.

The trucks to carry food, clothing, medicines, special items and Red Cross parcels are loaded at warehouses in the grounds of the International Fair in Nicosia the previous day and set out from Blue Beret Camp at half past six in the morning for Camp Duke Leopold V.

The food carried by these trucks is normally fresh fruit and dried and fresh vegetables. The special items are usually spare parts requested by individual Greek Cypriots living in the Karpas and these requests are normally handled by the Re-supply NCO in the Economics Branch of HQ UNFICYP, who has to be a "Jack of all Trades", for he may have to find spare parts for water pumps or a wide variety of farming machinery.

The trucks to carry bottle gas and diesel fuel set off the previous day to load up at the Petrolina refinery in Larnaca. Having loaded in Larnaca the vehicles continue on to Camp Duke Leopold V, where they stay the night.

When the vehicles coming direct from Nicosia arrive on the morning of the convoy at Camp Duke Leopold V the trucks are refuelled and checked before the long journey to the Karpas. The Economic staff of Sector 6 then takes over and the convoy forms up and moves off, led by a radio equipped Pinzgauer from Sector 6 which enables the convoy to maintain contact with the Sector Headquarters throughout its trip.

The convoy visits different villages on each of the two days each week that it runs. Before it reaches the first village on each day it picks up an escort from the Turkish Cypriot Police Element who stays with it throughout the day's run. Normally the convoy runs straight into the square of each village it is to visit and unloads the stores for that particular village, handing them over to the Mukhtar to distribute. How-

ever, the streets of some of the villages are too narrow for the large trucks to negotiate and in these cases the goods for the village are transferred to the Pinzgauer which carries them to the square.

Assistance to the Karpas is not limited to re-supply. Medical evacuations are organised for Greek Cypriots requiring hospital treatment, using ambulances either from the Sector or from the UNFICYP Transport Squadron, and also 'anxious for news' messages from relatives in the south or abroad are delivered on behalf of the Red Cross and the answers returned. In addition the Swedish Civilian Police carry out the important task of delivering the pensions and social welfare payments issued by the Government.

Supervising the assistance to the Greek Cypriot population of the Karpas can be seen to be a major task but it is only one of several tasks for which the three man staff of the Economics Section of Sector 6 is responsible. They also organise and provide medical evacuation by ambulance for any Turkish Cypriot at the eastern end of the island who has to go for special treatment in a hospital in the south. They supervise all agricultural activity within the Sector 6 segment of the Buffer Zone and co-ordinate UN escorts when necessary for parties working in the Buffer Zone, such as for the anti-malarial spraying teams operating as part of the island-wide anti-malarial spraying programme. One other major task is that of liaising between the two communities whenever there is an interruption in either the electricity or water supply. Both these essential elements of daily life are supplied to the Famagusta area from the south and therefore the rapid explanation or investigation of interrupted supplies is essential to avoid unnecessary friction between the two communities. As far as the water supply is concerned the sector economics staff is also responsible for arranging the transportation of liquid chlorine from Nicosia to Famagusta to purify the drinking water.

The magnitude and scope of their tasks would seem to justify the economic staff's statement that they are always extremely busy. They all seem dedicated to their work and to be enjoying what they are doing. They say that being busy keeps them on their toes and the nature of the task guarantees job satisfaction. There couldn't be a better job description.



A convoy formed up on the square at Camp Duke Leopold V. The Sector Economics Officer, Capt Peter Sintler, is seen standing beside UN 131 with the SWEDCIVPOL team and their car behind.



NEWS FROM THE VANDOO S



Having just arrived from Canada a short time ago, the Battalion is already fully effective. Our Sector is covered on the east by A Company and on the west by B Company. The east is the part that I know better so I will talk a bit about it. It's divided into two parts: line east which is occupied by No. 2 Platoon which is also the most busy, and line west which is occupied by No. 1 Platoon.

Since our arrival we have had a few incidents on the line but nothing really serious. Much of the work, in fact, has fallen on No. 3 Platoon which is now in reserve. This Platoon is commanded by Lt Bergeron. Since his arrival here, he has already participated in a Guard of Honour, planned our first range practice and has coordinated work on the improvement of our Palace.

"A" Coy has also conducted some of its own exercises already. A practice of "Increased Vigilance" exercise was done a few days ago to see how it would work under actual conditions. The exercise proved that even if we haven't been here for a long time we are at a good stage of preparation and readiness.

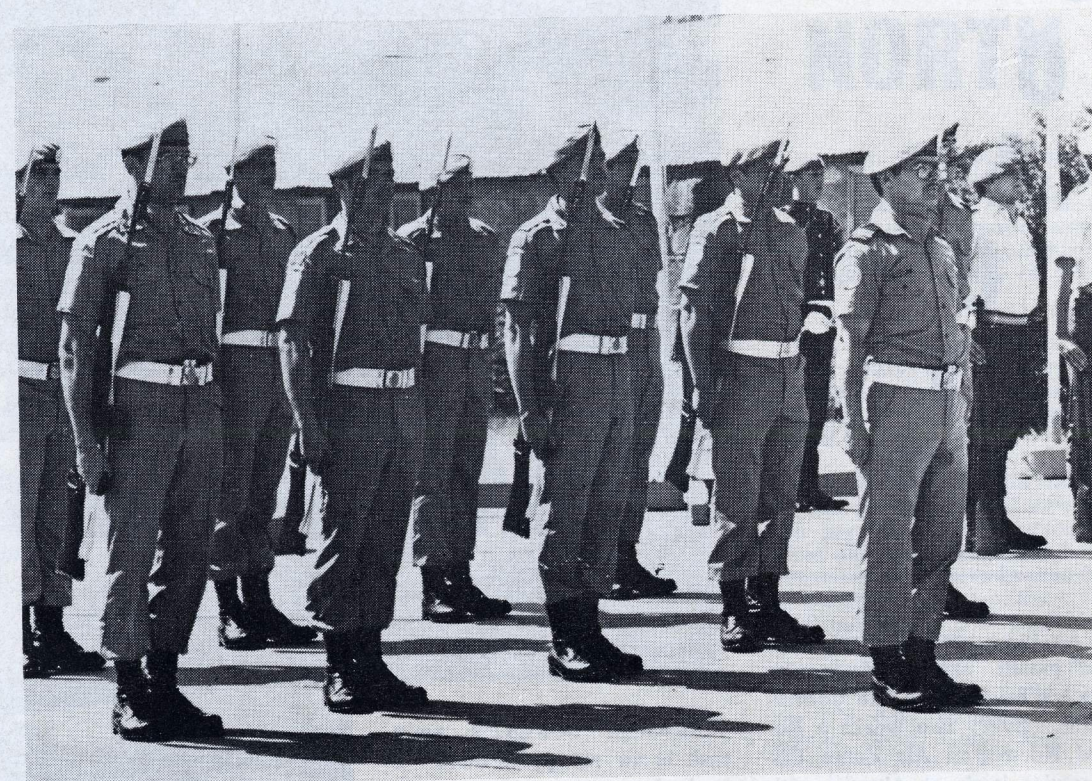
We also practised our soldiers for the visit of the Secretary-General of the UN and we are able to see that our plan was very effective.

The line east was also quite busy as many visitors came to see the line. All of them

were very impressed by what they saw. The briefing that our soldiers gave them helped them to better understand the current situation along the Cease Fire Line.

Now all well rested after their trip from Canada, our

soldiers have begun to visit Nicosia and already know the best places downtown. So, if you see a guy talking the international language (with his hands) you will know that he is a French-Canadian Van Doo!



Lt Bergeron with one of his sections on parade.



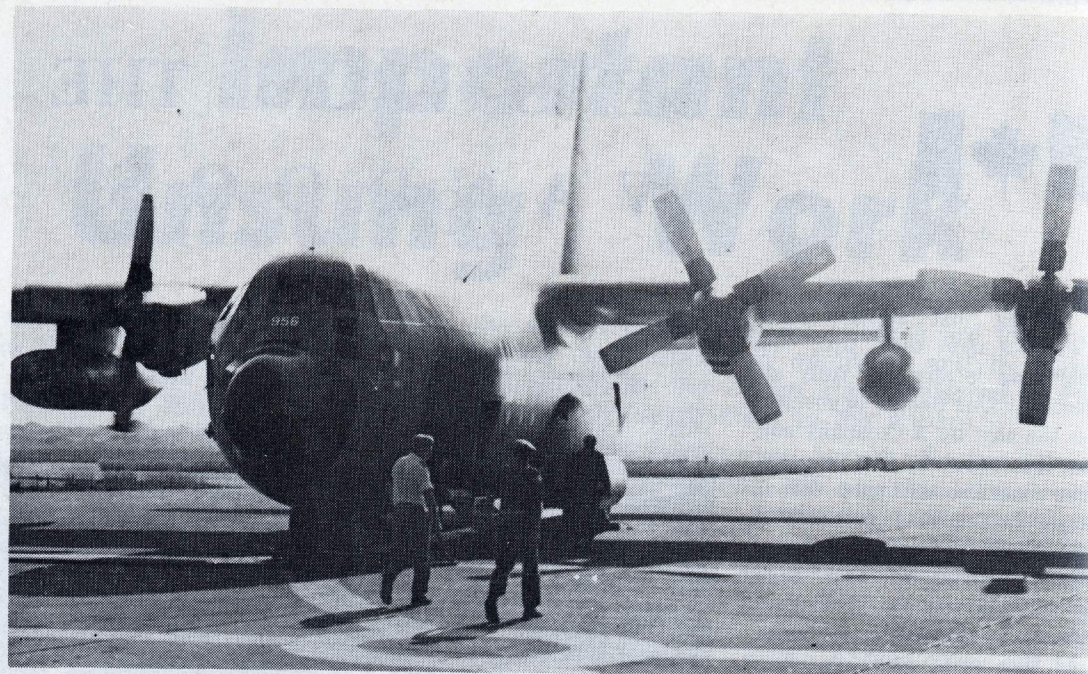
Soldiers zeroing their weapons at XERI range.



Our sniper from Reconnaissance Platoon on training.

DANCON

SCACYP



SCACYP 385, a C-130 Hercules from the Royal Norwegian Air Force has just landed at Akrotiri Airport.

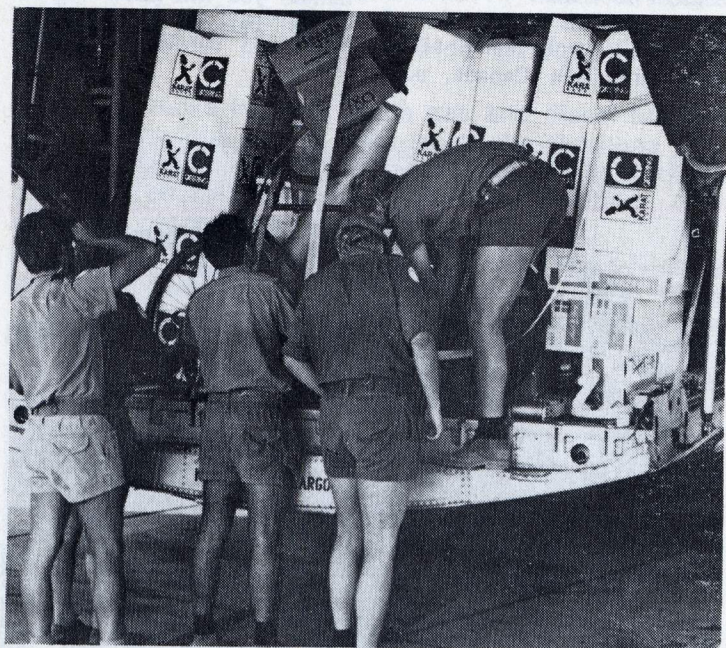
SCANDINAVIA-CYPRUS

As the page title indicates, this month DANCON focuses on air resupply to the Contingent. Every two weeks a Royal Norwegian Air Force UN Hercules lands at Akrotiri with supplies on board, not only for Cyprus but for other UN posts too. DANCON is resupplied by this aircraft under an arrangement with the Norwegian UN Force in Lebanon. The SCACYP route, some 10

flying hours long, is from Gardemoen/Norway to Vaerlose/Denmark to Akrotiri to Beirut.

Although SCACYP's main task is air resupply, there is limited passenger space available. Up to 10 members of DANCON may use the flight for leave or duty travel, and although the conveniences are not quite on a par with those on a 747, the price is right — it's free.

(Right) One of the SCACYP trucks ready to take its part of the cargo.



Each SCACYP aircraft brings to DANCON about 5,000 kg and the SCACYP-officer, Lt B.T. Johansen (with sunglasses) makes the supply of that famous Danish coffee for the next 14 days.

of cargo. To the right the contingent receives a new VW bus, sure that everything is all right. The picture to the left shows

NEW FROM THE NORTH

On 10 May 1979, Colonel Arne Rolff handed over the UN flag at Camp Victoria to Colonel Bertil Odmark, signifying that a new contingent had assumed control of Sector 5.

This new contingent is the seventy-third that Sweden has contributed to UN Peacekeeping duties and therefore is called 73C.

Actually it is not quite correct to call contingent 73C new, as ten per cent of the personnel from the last contingent have chosen to stay on in Cyprus for a further six months. In addition, there is a wealth of peacekeeping experience in the contingent as more than half of the soldiers have been on UN duty before in the Congo, Sinai, Gaza and, of course, Cyprus.

SWEDCON

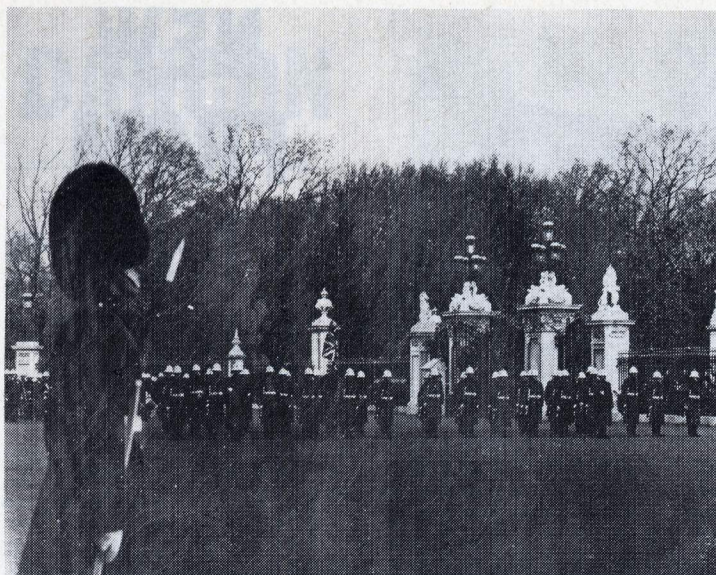


The method of selection of Contingent members is perhaps unique. A Commission in Stockholm carried out the selection by telephoning all over Sweden to some 1,400 applicants during a one week period in February. For various reasons many who had applied could not accept the opportunity to come to Cyprus but no problem was found in manning the Contingent. It's of interest to see from what occupations contingent members come.

- 33 military personnel
- 18 reserve officers
- 90 civil servants
- 120 employed in industry
- 15 from medical services
- 20 employed in transport
- 25 students
- 30 craftsmen

Of course, all members of the contingent were brought together well ahead of time in Sweden to undergo refresher training and, in many cases, to learn what peacekeeping duties entail.





Support Company 41 Commando Royal Marines during the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace in November 1978.



Changing sentries outside The Queen's House in HM Tower of London during 41 Commando's recent spell of Public Duties.

41 Commando under attack from 3e Battalion, The Royal 22e Regiment during an exercise in Gagetown, New Brunswick in September 1978.



THE ROYAL MARINES

The Royal Marines of today can trace their direct roots back over 300 years. On 28 October 1664 a regiment known as the Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot was raised specifically for service at sea during the Dutch Wars. (It is of interest to note that two years later the forerunners of the present Royal Netherlands Marines were raised in Holland for the same purpose!)

The regiment of marines soon saw action ashore and afloat featuring in all of the major naval and amphibious operations of the days of sail, long before the advent of modern warfare. In 1704 they were principally responsible for the capture and holding of Gibraltar from the Spanish, and today "Gibraltar" features in the Royal Marines' present insignia as its representative battle honour.

In 1802 the title of "Royal" was conferred on the Corps of Marines in recognition of their service throughout the 18th Century and up to then. In 1826, the then sovereign, George IV, decreed that the Royal Marines badge should be "The great globe itself" in recognition of their world-wide service and battle honours, by now too numerous to list on the Colours. Consequently the insignia of the Corps now comprises a globe surrounded by a laurel wreath (an honour presented after the capture of Belle Isle in 1761, during the Seven Years' War). The crown and lion signifies that the Royal Marines are a Royal Corps, and an anchor below the globe indicates that they are part of the Royal Navy, not the Army. The representative battle honour "Gibraltar" is at the top of the globe and the Corps' motto "Per Mare Per Terram" (By Sea and By Land) is on a scroll underneath.

Again during the 19th Century the Royal Marines served ashore and afloat in places as far apart as South Africa and China. During the 20th Century the Corps has undergone probably its greatest change. From serving with distinction during the Great War the Royal Marines subsequently took on the role of amphibious warfare specialists during World War 2. They helped form the original commando units of the time and after the war, the Corps was charged with maintaining the Commando forces element of the British Armed Forces.

Since 1945 the Corps have seen action in Korea, Malaya, Suez, Cyprus, Aden, Brunei, Borneo, Tanganyika and Northern Ireland, in addition to several smaller conflicts elsewhere. Since its inception in 1856, 10 Victoria Crosses, the United Kingdom and Commonwealths' highest award for valour, have been won by Royal Marines.

Mne Lee, a GPMG gunner with 'F' Coy 41 CDO RM, during exercises in the Brunei jungles in March 1979.



UNIT FEATURE

41 COMMANDO ROYAL MARINES

INTRODUCING 41 COMMANDO

41 Commando Royal Marines took over responsibility for Sector 2 on 9 May and said farewell to the 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry as they left Cyprus for the uncertainties of an English summer. Two companies of the Commando are manning the Sector OP's, while the third company and the supporting battery from 29 Commando Light Regiment, Royal Artillery are based in the eastern British Sovereign Base Area.

41 Commando is one of four Commando Units that the Royal Marines provide in their role as soldiers of the Royal Navy. Two of the other three are ski trained winter warfare Commandos, and the third, like 41 Commando is available for service anywhere in the world. The Commando contains representatives from most of the Armed Forces; the Chaplain, Education Officer and medical personnel come from the Royal Navy whilst artillery and engineer support are provided by the Army. 41 Commando has also brought with it to Cyprus four girls of the Womens Royal Naval Service who are helping with secretarial work at Sector Headquarters and one officer from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who is a company second-in-command.

41 Commando has spent most of the last seven years in the Mediterranean based at Malta and doing exercises throughout the Mediterranean area. In April 1977 the Commando was reduced to one Company that remained in Malta until all British Forces withdrew in April this year at the end of the Anglo/Maltese Defence Agreement. In June 1977 it was decided to reform the Commando and in February 1978 the new 41 Commando deployed to Northern Ireland for a four month tour of duty in Belfast. Since then the Commando has carried out exercises in Canada along with the Royal 22e Regiment, our neighbours in Sector 4 and in Brunei, and had the honour of providing ceremonial guards at Buckingham Palace, the London Home of Her Majesty the Queen.

41 Commando is the only Royal Marines Commando to have served with the UN, which it has done twice before. In 1950 41 Commando fought in Korea as part of the 1st United States Marine Corps Division and is one of only two British Units to have been awarded a US Presidential Citation for an action at Chosin Reservoir. In September 1974 the Commando came to Cyprus for a six month tour with UNFICYP in the Polemidhia — Paphos — Polis area.

Lt Kronenburg Royal Netherlands Marine Corps, briefing four Dutch marines who were attached to 'F' Coy, 41 CDO RM, during exercises in Brunei in March 1979.

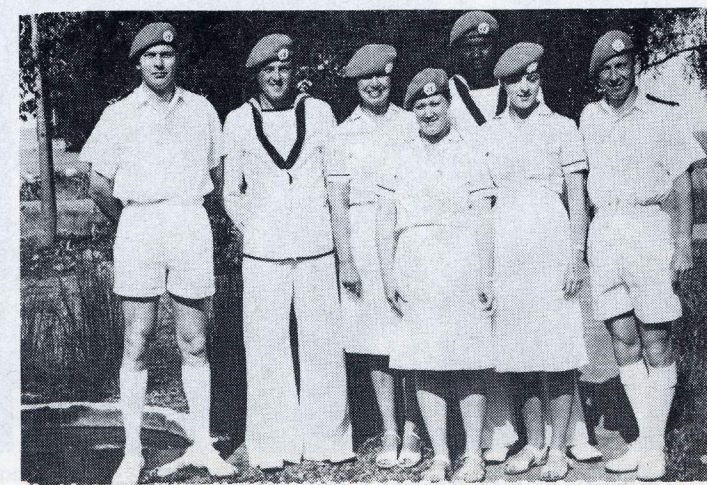


"If British Leyland can sleep on the job, why can't I?" Cpl P.C. Gregory at work on the farming SNCO's vehicle.

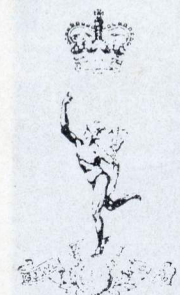


Mne K. Thompson and Sgt Mel Knispel discussing the finer points of the UN Buffer Zone from OP B.26.

Some of the Royal Navy personnel serving with 41 Commando, from left to right: Instructor Lt A.K. Manning RN, (Ops Econ Offr), Leading Medical Assistant D Willis, Leading Wren Christine Hackett (Ops Clerk), Wren Ros Russell (Clerk), Leading Medical Assistant Steve Edwards, Wren Julia Treweek (Clerk) and Reverend R Nurton RN (Chaplain).



254 (UNFICYP) SIGNAL SQUADRON



DANCON DETACHMENT



One of the outposts of the 254 Signal Squadron's empire can be found at Xeros. The Dancon Detachment comprises three Canadian communicators and one British technician. The main aim in life of the detachment is to provide the communications link between the Dancon Joint Operations Centre and Headquarters UNFICYP in Nicosia. The primary methods of communicating are radio, teleprinter and telephone and it's a full time job to ensure that all are working as they should be. The Canadians are responsible for maintaining the radio and the British technician is responsible for maintenance of teleprinter and telephone circuits.

The detachment live in (what else?) Canada House. Off duty time is spent in keeping the House clean and tidy, plus carrying out repairs and improvements. Keeping a cold supply of refreshment on hand is first priority, as the detachment has many visitors.

Social life at Xeros is varied. Movies are shown at Canada House and the detachment is always invited to Dancon social events. These are always interesting as they are a pleasurable way to meet new friends and learn about a different way of life.



The Dancon Detachment in front of Canada House. From left to right: Cpl Warda (Detachment Commander), Pte Boissonneault, Pte Jarvis and Cpl Greene.



Pte Jarvis at work sending a message on the teleprinter.



Sgt S. Neilson hands over a message for transmission.

THE KARTING SCENE



On to victory.



Number 183 with Martin Kaye at the wheel receives final servicing before a race.

On Sunday, 13 May the third round of the Cypus Annual Championships was held at the Nicosia Kart Club's track, which is situated next to the 84 Squadron Detachment dispersal at Nicosia airport. This was the first time that this circuit had been used for a full race meeting, so for a lot of the drivers who came up from the clubs at Akrotiri and Episkopi everything was new.

Competitors were divided into four groups, National and International for the experienced drivers, Novice 'A' and Novice 'B' for the relative newcomers. There were three ten lap heats in each group plus a fifteen lap final for the National and International classes and a fifteen lap team race to finish off the day with. A total of fifteen races and with valuable championship points at stake, each one was keenly contested.

Results for the day:

INTERNATIONAL

- 1st Dave Clark Akrotiri—
Shell Trophy
- 2nd Jim McGowan Akrotiri
- 3rd Kev Maund Episkopi

NATIONAL

- 1st Tom Kerr Akrotiri
- 2nd (Lee Pilling Episkopi
(Dave Austin Akrotiri)

NOVICE 'A'

- 1st Dennis Simpson Episkopi
- 2nd Gerhard Neuman
Nicosia (Dancon)
- 3rd Keith Smellie Episkopi

NOVICE 'B'

- 1st Don Hempsey Episkopi—
Serent Trophy
- 2nd Paul Cox Akrotiri
- 3rd Chris Betteridge Akrotiri



"How about some strawberries? They look delicious!"

"We had strawberries the night before last — let's have something else for a change."

"All right — but there is so much to choose from... can't make up my mind... those melons look like Charentais — and smell sweet too. How much are the melons please?"

"Eight shillings and five pias-tres for the water melons."

"Oh — how complicated, what **can** that come to? I thought everything was in mils and pounds!"

"In Cyprus, madame, we still talk about shillings, which is 50 mils, the same sized coin as the old English shilling, and a piastre is this copper coin, the same size as the old English halfpenny. It is worth 5 mils. So eight shillings and five pias-tres is equal to 425 mils. And one oke is 2.8 pounds or 1.28 kilos."

"Wait a minute — where is my pencil and paper... so that makes melons about 150 mils a pound, or about 20p. So let's be devils and have one!"

And as we continued our tour of the market, we postively drooled over the massive display of fruit; lovely little apricots, sweet and tender, and the smoother nectarines, medlars;

the first peaches coming in, and rather expensive. But they will be better value in a week or two.

And the cherries! Enormous mounds heaped high on a bar-row — big dark ones and the smaller bright red kind — really mouth watering. Later on, one can buy them very cheaply and use them for making cherry brandy by letting them soak in a closed container for a few months. The cherry brandy is good, but the left over cherries, saturated in Anglias Brandy would sell for a fortune anywhere else in the world!

And the oranges and grape-fruit are still with us — somehow the oranges seem to last longer each year. Three oranges for one shilling, or four grape-fruit — and 20 'juice oranges' for four shillings! The sight of a 5-ton lorry, piled with golden juice oranges on the way to the crushing plant always creates an impression — the oranges shooting off the top as the lorry swings round the bends.

And when the season for all the varieties now available ends, what is there to come? Figs — huge, luscious purple figs and the green figs — which is the better? I shall never know. Pears and plums from Pedhou-las in the Troodos mountains, also famous for its cherries and apricots; ten versions of apples

from Prodhromos, the highest village in Cyprus; more pears, said to be the best, from Mou-toullas, which also boasts the best drinking water in Cyprus and from Kakopetria or, rather the fertile Solea valley spreading below it, still more apples and pears. Then there is the second crop of strawberries to come. And from Paphos district, in increasing numbers, bananas; pomegranates will be with us soon.

Anything else? Grapes! Of course — GRAPES! Millions and millions of oke of grapes! Over 100 varieties! Grapes for wine making and grapes for eating. Grapes for export and grapes for home consumption. Most of them are grown over an area of 150 sq. miles of the west and south west Troodos mountains, although almost everyone has his vine in the back garden, usually spread over a pergo'a where the fruit may be plucked with the least effort. The seed-less white sultanias, a favourite for the English market, were first cultivated by the monks of Stavrovouni monastery. One type, the "Verigo" — almost as big as a plum, with a firm texture and delicious but unusual taste, is found only in Cyprus. Richard Coeur de Lion pronounced them to be 'very good', but with his mouth stuffed with the succulent fruit his comment

sounded more like 'Verigo' — hence the name! Another unusual type is the "Vassilissa", seedless, pale yellow and of an elongated shape.

September is the month for the main grape harvest, especially for wine making in the Limassol area, motorists will be surprised to see an unusual sign — "Danger — slippery surface due to grape juice"! Many people stop to watch and admire the great bunches of delicious grapes being harvested and the inevitable happens — a generous and hospitable Cypriot presses a few bunches on the visitor. But however tempting they may be, on no account eat the grapes before washing them. This is because grapes, and most fruit for that matter, are sprayed with an insecticide which does you **no good** at all and can do a lot of harm. So do wash all fruit before eating.

Grapes last well into November and by that time the oranges are here again; first the tangerines or mandarins and the smaller, rather delicate, clementines, then the large oval-shaped Jaffas and the round smooth-skinned Valencias, perhaps the juiciest of them all.

If the word 'delicious' has been overworked in this description of Cyprus fruit — there is no apology — for it is all so — **delicious!**

Out & About in Cyprus

THIS FRUITFUL ISLAND

History

The extent of ancient fortifications is not known to any degree of accuracy, but it is likely that Achaean colonists founded the town in the tenth century B.C., and that it was a fully fledged city state until ceding to Salamis in 312 B.C. Though the town is certain to have been walled at the time of the Arab raids of the seventh century A.D. it did not take an important place in history until 1191, when Isaac Comnenus, despot of the island, sent his wife and daughter to the early Byzantine castle for shelter against the invasion of Richard Coeur de Lion. However, while Richard was delayed by illness in Nicosia, he sent Guy de Lusignan into the attack, and the castle surrendered. During the following decade it enjoyed a great period of building and reconstruction, while during the minority of Hugues I the Regent John d'Ibelin converted it into a royal palace. It was then that Kyrenia and its castle attained its greatest grandeur and prestige, despite being involved precariously in the power politics of the Crusading years. After a siege during which the castle was occupied by the supporters of Frederick II, it was held for the Crown by a Chief Castellan. Re-arrangement of the defences was undertaken after the loss of Acre in 1291, and this work probably continued sporadically until the late fourteenth century. The ultimate strength of the building then caused it to be used as a prison.

After the Genoese had seized Famagusta and sacked Nicosia in 1373 they proceeded to lay siege by land and sea to Kyrenia. The Castellan remained loyal, and withstood attack by the most powerful and vicious machines of war of the period. The siege was raised after the Castellan invited some of Genoese knights to a banquet and gave them visible proof of the impregnability of the defences.

During the Venetian occupation of the island the conquerors set about bringing the defences up to date and making them capable of withstanding heavy artillery fire. They entirely rebuilt the outer wall and, to protect the west and south of the castle, built three ponderous tower-bastions and filled with earth the space between the inner and the outer walls. Designed as they were to resist artillery, the resulting defences were probably the most massive stone-faced earthworks of their type ever devised.

On the north and east, where sea provided its own security and additional fortification seemed superfluous, much Lusignan work fortunately survives. The masonry speaks of Crusader building. The north curtain with its two fighting galleries below a parapet whose merlons are pierced for fire, and the elegant horseshoe-shaped tower at the north-east, still indicate the formidable character of the Lusignan fortress.

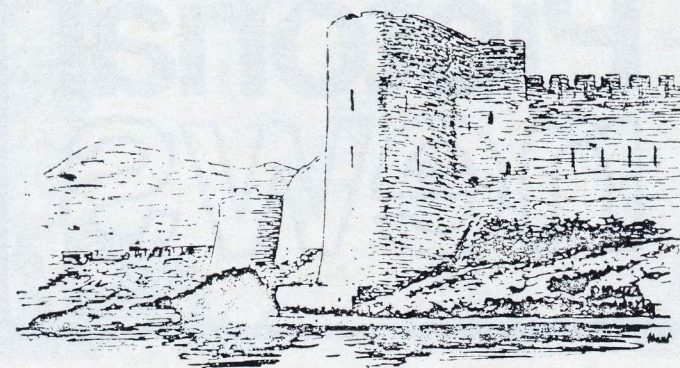
The mammoth reconstruction of the castle by the Venetians was, however, in vain. The garrison became demoralised after the fall of Nicosia to the Turks in 1570 and the Governor of the time handed over the castle to Sadik Pasha of Algiers, the commander of the Turkish Fleet, without a struggle.

Description

Although the exterior of the castle presents a bold geometric outline, the almost quadrangular interior is unexpectedly complicated, due to successive stages of occupation and reinforcement to the original fortifications, which entailed adding to them at many different levels. The most interesting features of the castle are described in the following paragraphs.

The **Byzantine Chapel** is part of the twelfth-century construction and stood outside the wall of the castle until it was encompassed by the Venetian wall and included in their fortifications in depth. At this period the dome was removed (it has recently been replaced), but the four marble columns, which probably come from an earlier basilica on the same site, were retained.

CASTLES



KYRENIA

The **Gatehouse** is a fourteenth-century structure of the Frankish period with one gate reinforced by a portcullis. The Lusignan coat of arms above the gate is contemporary, although it has been fixed into the structure in modern times. At the corner of the entrance passage there is the tomb of Sadik Pasha of Algiers, the commander of the Turkish fleet, who died in the year he took Kyrenia Castle.

The **Royal Apartments** of the later Lusignan kings may have occupied the west range of the buildings. In the middle storey there is a palatial vaulted room with large windows which suggests that the outer Frankish wall at that point must have been of sufficient height to afford protection. Dungeons occupy the space below. There was a small Latin chapel and a sacristy on the upper storey.

The **South-West Bastion** illustrates the Venetian principle of fortification, whereby the south and west sections of the moat could be enfiladed from three levels. A postern gate leading back into the courtyard is decorated by three lions sculptured in relief. These and parts of a column used in a near-by wall suggest that they have been taken from a Roman building.

The space between the Byzantine and the Frankish walls of the south range was filled in by the Venetians, but in recent time these structures have been uncovered. A good part of the Frankish east range is in good condition. A large proportion of the buildings on this side of the courtyard were occupied by domestic offices.

The **North-East Tower**, which rises sheer above a glacis descending into the harbour (not far from the opening to the sea used in earlier days and now again made navigable), consists of two lofty chambers one above the other, with loopholes opening from arched recesses. This was a strictly military part of the castle, and held an important salient position.

The **North Range**, which has been used variously during this century as prison cells and naval barracks, can be viewed from roof level where the great battlements have recesses the size of sentry boxes for the protection of the defenders.

The top of the **North West Corner Tower**, reached from ground-level by a ramp, should not be omitted as a place of final appraisal, because from here is obtained the best view of the town and mountains, as well as demonstrating the immense field of fire of the Venetian fortress. It is also the best place from which to view the remains of the fortifications of the town itself.

Pictorial news

AUSTCIVPOL Contingents Rotate on ANZAC Day

The 16th Australian Police Contingent, led by Chief Superintendent Ted Davies, arrived in Cyprus in mid April to take over the UNCIVPOL tasks in Sectors 1 and 2. They have taken over from the Contingent led by Chief Superintendent Arthur Walliker, which had been in UNFICYP for exactly one year.

The new contingent is pictured outside St. Colomba's Church, Nicosia on Wednesday, 25 April, after the ANZAC Day Commemoration Service which was attended by the Acting High Commissioner of Australia, Miss Erica Grimwade.



INJURED SHEPHERD RESCUED BY DANES

At about 6 p.m. on Tuesday 10 April 1979 Athanasios Michael, a shepherd from Evrykhon, who had broken his leg whilst grazing his flock in a remote area of the United Nations Buffer Zone was fortunately seen and rescued by UN soldiers of the Danish Contingent.

When during the late afternoon of Tuesday Major Joergen

Sindesen visited one of the lonely Observations Posts manned by his men in the northern foothills of Troodos he was surprised to find that only the duty sentry was at the post. He discovered that whilst maintaining observation of the Buffer Zone through binoculars the sentry had earlier seen a shepherd lying down near his flock. When some hours later it was seen that the man had not moved and his flock had dispersed the off-duty soldiers had decided to go and see if he was in trouble.

As through binoculars Major Sindesen could see that the soldiers had reached the man and were attempting to assist him it was obvious the man had had an accident. Major Sindesen then managed to drive his Landrover across very rough country in an attempt to reach the injured man. Having reached the man he found that he had a badly broken leg therefore he had to be very carefully lifted into the vehicle which then had to be driven many miles across country to Evrykhon where the injured man was attended to at the First Aid Station before being taken by civilian ambulance to Nicosia General Hospital.

That, however, was not the end of the help from the Danish soldiers. When friends of the injured man went to recover his flock they found that the soldiers had already gathered them together and recovered all the strays.

In the picture Major Sindesen is seen visiting Athanasios Michael in Nicosia General Hospital on Wednesday, 11 April.



During his visit to the Force from 1 to 14 April the Inspector General of the Austrian Army, General of Infantry H. Wingelbauer, included a visit to the Force Headquarters. In the picture he is seen talking to the Force Commander outside HQ UNFICYP on 12 April.

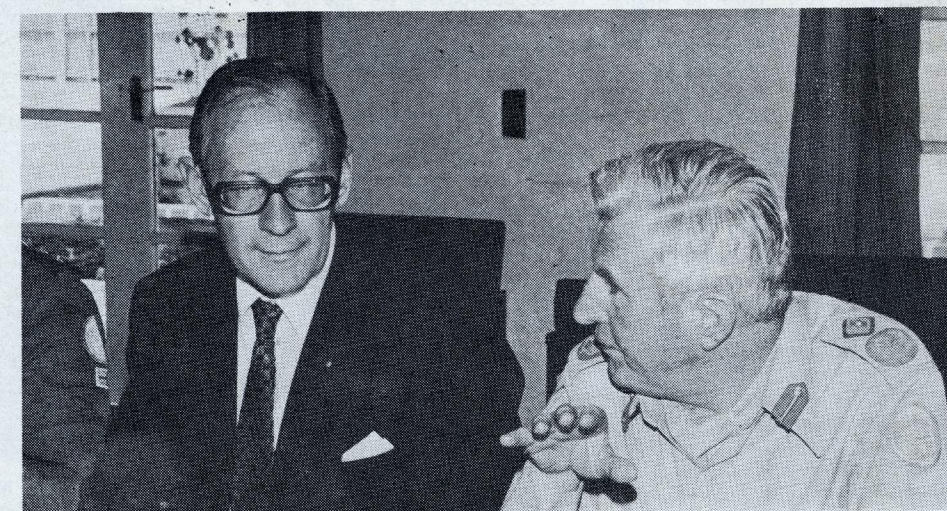


VISITORS

On 20 April Major General Bjorn Egge, the Deputy Commander of the NATO Defence College, visited HQ UNFICYP accompanied by the American Ambassador to Cyprus, Mr. Galen L. Stone. The picture was taken when the General, on the left, met the Force Commander in his office.



The Swedish National Police Commissioner, Director General Holger Romander, visited the Force 19 to 24 April accompanied by the National Assistant Police Commissioner, Mr Ulf Waldau and the Deputy County Commissioner, Mr Nils Ahmanson. The Commissioner is pictured with the Force Commander during his visit to the Headquarters on 20 April.



CYPRriot CUISINE

On 27 April Nearchos Nicolaou (Nicolas) visited the Headquarters to present the Force Commander and Mrs Quinn with a copy of his book entitled "Cooking from Cyprus — the island of Aphrodite" on the day of its publication. Nicolas is well-known to many Canadian Officers, their guests and visitors as he has been the chef of the Wolseley Barracks Officers' Mess for some time. In the preface to his book Nicolas says "I took the decision to write this informative and simple book for the people who love Cyprus and its food, for those who want to 'carry' with them the food they have tasted here".

The book well fulfils the authors' intentions and should provide many readers of "The Blue Beret" with a lasting memory of Cyprus.

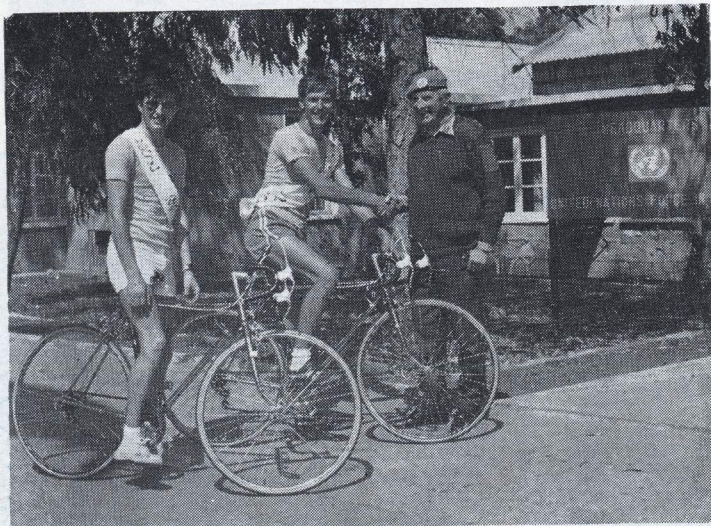




MORE MONEY RAISED FOR UNICEF

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE BY RAF-TROODOS TO NICOSIA



Mick Turner and Charles Walbran are pictured above being met by the Force Commander on their arrival at HQ UNFICYP at 12.30 on Thursday 22nd March.

Junior Technician Mick Turner and Senior Aircraftman Charles Walbran of RAF Troodos wanted to do something for the "UNICEF Year Of The Child", so they decided to have a sponsored cycle ride. In view of the UN origination of this good cause they thought it would be a good idea if the ride could be from their own camp at Troodos to HQ UNFICYP in Nicosia. The idea was fully supported by the British authorities and by the Force Commander and as a result at 9.15 on the morning of Thursday 22nd March the two cyclists set out from the helipad at RAF Troodos en route for Nicosia.

At 1005, having reached Evrykhou village fifteen miles from the start, both riders decided to have their first rest stop. By 10.25 they had reached the halfway stage, but Charles Walbran was finding conditions slightly more difficult than his partner and so was approximately five minutes behind him. They had a second rest at this point before pushing on to Nicosia.

The two riders reached HQ UNFICYP at 12.30 having completed 42 miles. On arrival they were met by the Force Commander, Major General J.J. Quinn, who congratulated them on their fine effort and provided them with a most welcome crate of beer. After chatting with the Force Commander for a few minutes they set off for 84 Sqn Det RAF to relax and refresh themselves in the Detachment crew room.

Although the original intention of the team had been just to cycle to Nicosia Mick Turner decided to make the return trip to Troodos, despite having just completed a very strenuous

42.9 miles!

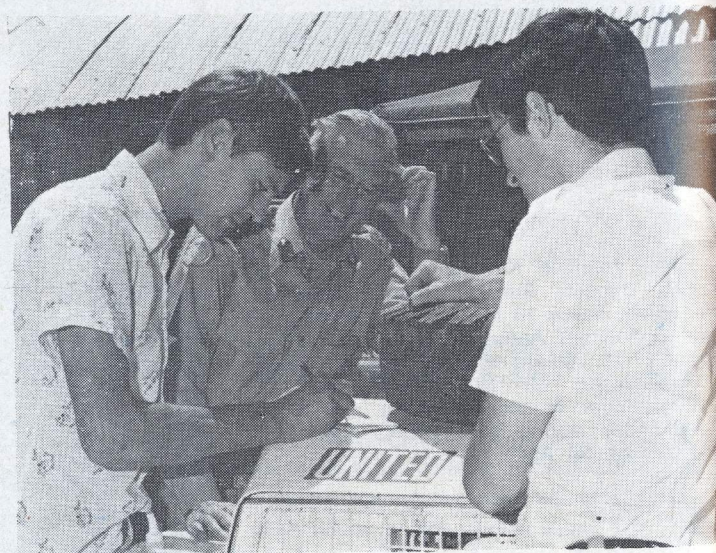
At 1330 he set off. The sun had by now given way to cloud and as he approached the more open spaces of the airfield it became apparent that he would have to battle against a strong head wind. By 1400 he had completed eight miles and had a quick rest — he was now having to ride behind a Landrover which was being used as a windbreak.

Fifty minutes later, having completed 58.3 miles, he arrived at the junction at Astromeritis. The strong winds were taking their toll and he was finding the going very hard. Approaching the village he encountered some heavy traffic and was at one point forced off the road!

At 1500 he had a rest. His legs were feeling very stiff but he still chose to carry on. However, half an hour later, having made a round trip of 64.9 miles he had reached his limit and here he retired only three miles north of Evrykhou village where Charles and he had had their first rest that day!

The final success of the venture was realised when the two cyclists received a total of C£105 from their sponsors. On 27 April they returned in a more leisurely fashion to Nicosia where they handed over a cheque for the amount they received to the Force Commander.

The two cyclists are to be congratulated for their very fine effort.



On 27 April Mick Turner and Charles Walbran returned to HQ UNFICYP where they are seen in the picture above handing over to the Force Commander a cheque for C£105 which they had raised by their ride.

CHEQUE FOR C£1,354 TO UNICEF

In the picture on the left Mrs. Mary Quinn, the wife of the Force Commander, in her capacity as Patron of the international "UNFICYP Families' Club", accompanied by Mrs. Sue Hargrave, the Chairman of the club, is seen presenting on 22 May, a C£1,354 cheque to Mr Kshitindra Dalal, the Resident Representative of the UNDP in Cyprus.

The money had been donated from three separate sources. The UNFICYP Families' Club had raised C£1189 by running an Easter Fair; the UNFICYP Scout and Guide Association raised C£60 by staging a "Gang Show" and the two members of the RAF on Troodos, who raised C£106 by the sponsored ride described in the first article on this page.

