SP REGT TRIUMPH AT UNIFICYP ORIENTEERING COMPETITION

Major Peck led the SP Regt team to victory on 21st of March in the UNIFICYP Orienteering Competition. The first four individual places were taken by Sig Sqn, with Major Jerry Peck winning the event two minutes ahead of Captain Richard Giles. Sect Four were the only other finishers, thus gaining second place.

The Sp Regt Team with the FC, Maj Gen Clive Miller. (Left to Right) Cpl Adrian Toye, WO1 (TDS) Nick Hammatt, Capt Richard Giles and Maj Jerry Peck.

ANNUAL UN V SBA POLO MATCH
UNIFICYP WINS 5-4½

Capt Matthew Carr (2IC SBA), Brig Walter Courage, Maj Beret, Dalton (CANGON), Lt Nick Snailith

Both teams line up before the match

Brig Courage supported by Capt Carr

LT Nick Snailith (FSC Troop Leader)

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

Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper size 160mm by 210mm. This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Force Commander. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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FRONT COVER

UNIFICYP Watersports
Club students at Sagamis Bay
by Sgt Webster

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Recent editorials have referred to the desirability of making full use of the facilities and opportunities a Cyprus posting offers UNIFICYP personnel, active participation in the recreational and sporting occasions should enhance duty time. But be aware, many activities contain an in-built danger element and require strict and proper application of safety precautions. Swimming, sailing, windsurfing or just sunbathing are among the many forms of relaxation readily available and enjoyed by members of the Force yet even these popular activities have hazards for the careless or unwary. Moderation and reasonable precautions by participants will ensure a beneficial and accident free tour for all. Have fun.

MR. JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR
AWARDED ONASSIS PRIZE AND PRESENTED WITH GOLDEN MEDAL OF CITY OF ATHENS

The United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, on 5 April was presented by the Greek Premier Mr. Zolotas with the Onassis "ATHNAIN" prize for his contribution to resolving world crises and the reinvigoration of the UNO.
ROAST BEEF TALAVERA

One of the more mundane yet fundamental challenges involved in serving with 46 (Talavera) Air Defence Battery is geographicaly limited to the kitchen - how to prepare interesting, varied and appetizing meals where no trained chef is available.

Of course soldiers the world over are experienced in this field, having been forced by circumstances to become Gordon Bleu chefs, often over camp fires in the pouring rain in the depths of some inhospitable forest. The challenge here, though, is markedly different. Not how to provide one satisfactory meal to uncrirical diners, but how to provide a balanced healthy diet over a prolonged period.

Back in Germany, of course, training took place for "hobby chefs", but mainly in the area of hygiene and care of food in hot climates. It is naturally impossible to teach a man how to cook in such a short period, when so much of the chef's skill and art lies in his experience and judgement. Budding culinary experts across the Battery were cajoled and persuaded and have been doing a marvellous job of keeping body and soul together, and indeed there was a surprising number of men who qualified as chefs before entering the army and whose experience and guidance was invaluable to their comrades in the OP.

Food aside, this has been a busy month with preparations for the following competitions: shooting, military skills and athletics and of course rehearsals for the medal parade. Not least amongst all this activity was the visit of the Force Commander, and as a picture is said to be worth a thousand words please peruse the accompanying photographs at your leisure.

Ma\' Mark Vye, fields a fast ball from the force commander, while MAJ Andrew Gillespie and WO2 Begg look on with relief.

The Force Commander visits with (left) Gnr Greenwood and Gnr Bowden.

SSgt Harrison explains the intricacies of sheep farming in Aulona to the Force Commander as Major Mark Vye looks on.

Two rugby players reminisce on games they have played at number 8. SSgt Currie meets the Force Commander.

EAGLES ON THE LINE

N Battery (The Eagle Troop) have now been on the line for a month. After the initial settling in period, the Battery has begun to enjoy the bountiful amenities offered within the UNPA and Nicosia itself. Members of the Battery have also been able to participate in sporting events both here in Cyprus as well as further afield. Battery teams have been taking on other members of the UN at volleyball, Badminton, Tug of War and 5-a-side football. LBdr Reed completed the Tel Aviv marathon with a couple of other members of the Regiment.

The Battery Commander, MAJ Stephen Young, entered the All Island Horse Show held at Dhekelia over the weekend 6-8 April 90. He came fifth in the Dressage and won both the Cross-Country and the Showjumping competitions. These two victories took him to first place in his class.

On the social side, the Battery has organised numerous social functions. Each troop has had regular barbecues and organised several trips to places of interest in Cyprus.

The Battery has also been visited by various dignitaries, including Paul Daniels and his wife Debbie McGee. They were able to keep everyone spellbound and amazed with a brilliant series of tricks. They stayed with the Battery for a couple of hours before moving on to open the UN Spring Fair. Their visit was most appreciated by everybody in the Battery.

SECTOR 2 PROFILE

AUSCON TENNIS TEAM

Gnr 'Gronk' Green of Sector 2 has been with MT Coy for three years. Originally from Stockport near Manchester, he began his UN Tour in December. Having decided to re-engage, Gnr Green is very happy to be returning to Germany and to his girlfriend Karstina.

AUSCON Tennis Team (left to right): Team leader, Capt Kraus; Capt Trummer; Mrs. Hutter; Lt Col Pacher-Theinburg; Fieldpostmaster Schwarzenberger; Mrs. Kraus and Capt Thorneauer.

The AUSCON Tennis Team is becoming quite well known in Cyprus and has recently been invited to participate in a local competition in Nicosia. The ladies and our team captain have shown the greatest success, having won all matches played thus far.
AUSTRIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT VISITED AUSCON

Five Austrian MP's belonging to three of the main parties (SPÖE, OEV and FPOE) have visited Camp Leopold V, where they have been briefed on the political and military situation and the tasks of UNFICYP. After a briefing they had a guided site tour. The MP's have taken a great interest in the daily life of the peacekeepers e.g. their accommodation, food supplies, military equipment and possible problems. The Parliamentarians were quite satisfied with their peacekeepers in Cyprus. The first Austrians were sent to the island in 1964 to run a field hospital outside of Nicosia.

AUSTRIAN FAMILYN REUNION

Since the last rotation three peacekeepers with the family name of Meszner are on duty within AUSCON. WO1 Erni Meszner from the Quartermaster Section (serving the second time with UNFICYP) and his son, 2 Cpl Klaus Meszner, cook, and 2 Cpl Gernot Meszner working with the engineers. As the picture shows, the three Mesznrs have been visited by Ernst' wife Gisela and their daughter Sylvia.

AUSCON SHOOTING TEAM

The AUSCON Shooting Team participated in the UNFICYP shooting competition and enjoyed very good results. They won second prize in the pistol team, rifle match and combination categories, while 2 Cpl Sascha Petykiewicz won first prize in the individual pistol match.

DANCON MEDAL PARADE

The DANCON Medal Parade was held in B Camp, Skouriotissa. Unfortunately the weather was cold with showers, however, the day was a great success. The UN Medal was presented by the Force Commander, Maj Gen Clive Milner; Deputy Chief of Staff, Col W. Fritsch and Commander DANCON, Lt Col S. L. Jacobsen.

The music was performed by The Corps of Drums of the First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment.

DANCON Medal Parade was held in B Camp, Skouriotissa. Unfortunately the weather was cold with showers, however, the day was a great success. The UN Medal was presented by the Force Commander, Maj Gen Clive Milner; Deputy Chief of Staff, Col W. Fritsch and Commander DANCON, Lt Col S. L. Jacobsen.

The music was performed by The Corps of Drums of the First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment.

The Force Commander, Maj Gen Clive Milner presents the UN Medal to Pte T. V. Neilsen.

The Colours are changed to the centre, accompanied by music from the Corps of Drums, First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment.

COMD DANCON has just presented the UN Medal to L Cpl H. Bjoerstrup.

DCOS presents the UN Medal to the DANCON Chaplain, Rev R. Brugby.

POOL OPENING PARTY

The swimming pool at B Coy. Skouriotissas Camp was officially opened by the Commander of DANCON, Lt Col S. L. Jacobsen on March 31. Unfortunately he was also the first man in the pool, as some wild Danes accidentally pushed the Commander, when they all tried to be the first man in. After the ceremony there was a barbecue and splendid entertainment by the band from 9th/12th Lancers.
IRCON CELEBRATES SAINT PATRICKS DAY

The Irish National Day is Saint Patrick's Day, 17th March. In common with Irish people everywhere IRCON personnel serving with UNFICYP, their families and friends celebrated the occasion. The festivities started in the forenoon with a Medal Parade, a presentation of Shamrock (the National emblem), and a religious service at St Barnabas Church BBC Camp, followed by a reception in Club Hibernia. The Force Commander, Maj Gen Clive Milner attended and presented medals and numerals to IRCON personnel. During the reception the guests were entertained to Irish dancing and songs by the children of IRCON families. Later that evening IRCON hosted another reception in the BBC Officers Mess. This time it was the adults who provided the entertainment with a short programme of traditional Irish dancing and singing and a harp recital by Dr Irene Cotter, a former Army Medical Officer, now resident in Cyprus. Saint Patrick's Day concluded with 'One for the Road' in the Hibernia Club.

VISITORS TO IRCON

The Junior Minister at the Department of Defence, Mr Vincent Brady T.D. and the Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces, Lt Gen James Parker paid an official visit to UNFICYP between the 19th and 22nd of March 1990. They were accompanied by Mr G. Scully, Secretary Department of Defence; Col J. Bergin, Director of Operations, Defence Forces Headquarters; Comdt P. O’ Sullivan PSO/COS, and Mr J. Roche, Private Secretary to Mr Brady.

During the visit, the party paid courtesy calls on the SRSG, Mr Oscar Camillon and the Force Commander, Maj Gen Clive Milner. On the 21st March the party attended a reception at the Club Hibernia where they met the families of the Irish Contingent. The Minister availed of the occasion to present the military personnel with the recently struck UN Peacekeepers Medal - An Bonn Chosantoiri Siochana Na Naionna Aontaithe - issued to members of the Irish Defence Forces who served with United Nations Peacekeeping Forces.

IRCON MEDAL PARADE

Mrs Mary Doyle receives the UN Peacekeeping Medal on behalf of her husband COMS Pat Doyle, who was hospitalized.

IRCON medal recipients in the company of Mr V Brady TD, Lt Gen J Parker and Comdt P O’ Sullivan.

C Squadron 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales’s) have had a particularly busy and dramatic month since the last article.

On 3rd April 1990 a Ferret from 4 Tp attached to Sector Two drove over a mine on a new section of the patrol track. The mine damaged the vehicle extensively completely removing a front wheel and the turret. Miraculously both the commander and the driver escaped with relatively minor injuries and both have since made full recoveries. The incident has proved to everybody that this is in fact an Operational Tour and should be treated as such.

FSC NEWS

The Squadron has recently been visited by the Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen GMG Swineolds CD and the Regimental Second in Command, Major The Lord Crofton. Many will have also seen the Regimental Band which has been playing all over the Island.
SECTOR THREE NEWS

The past month has found all members of CANCON involved in both our normal peace-keeping duties and a multitude of other activities and UNIFICYP sponsored events. Since the last issue of ‘The Blue Beret’, CANCON personnel have found enough time away from line duty to take part in both the UNIFICYP Orienteering Competition and the Spring Fair. Our teams are also working hard to prepare for the ‘Shooting and Military Skills Competitions.’

This month CANCON enjoyed keen competition amongst themselves. All ranks participated in inter-company and inter-mess sports programs, featuring soccer, baseball and volleyball. As well, the Junior Ranks Mess staged two very successful sporting firsts - ‘The Great OP Snowgoose 53 Lizard Race’ and ‘The First Annual CANCON Pie Eating Contest’. Congratulations to master pie eater MCpl B Melluish.

The ‘Grizzly’ ride proved to be a popular attraction at the Spring Fair.

Cpl Summers and MCpl Genest enjoying a relaxing game of baseball.

CITY COMPANY

Deployed within the walls of Old Nicosia, City Coy, 2 PPCLI has quickly adapted to the routine of maintaining the status quo along the Green Line.

For many City Coy personnel who are serving on their first tour with the United Nations peacekeeping is very different from normal duties which would take place in Canada. For the more experienced soldiers who have served in Cyprus on previous occasions, the scenery and patrol routes found within City Coy’s area conjure up fond memories of years ago. Stories are related from the veterans of the Green Line to the younger soldiers. According to legend, the area of the Olympus Hotel, a prominent abandoned building in City Coy’s area, has been haunted for over half a century. These stories, combined with the sounds that are heard at night along the patrol routes of prowling cats and flying bats contribute to the mystery of life in City Coy.

City Coy personnel are committed to their tasking of serving as United Nations peacekeepers and are looking forward to interacting over the next few months with other personnel serving in contingents within UNIFICYP.

That’s news to the Spring Fair.

Sgt RJP Auger, Ops Chief Clerk, keeps Sector Three Ops on an even keel.

Lt DJ Anderson, JOC Duty Officer. The voice at the other end of your phone call.

9 PLATOON, RURAL COMPANY

Well, it’s drawing near to 9 Pls rotation at Camp Berger. It’s been a good six weeks and now it’s off to Ledra Palace. But before this inevitability, one should reflect back upon the time spent at CANCON’s best kept secret-Camp Berger.

Camp Berger is the only platoon house in the contingent completely on the north side of the UN Buffer Zone. It is right beside the town of Louroujina (Akincllar) and a friendly rapport with the local communities is enjoyed by the camp. Other aspects of life at Camp Berger are the seemingly endless 'Bugouts', the ever exciting lightning storms at CS 65 and the relentless challenge for top spot on the various game boards.

As the tour progresses and Camp Berger becomes more and more of a memory, the members of 9 Pl will always look back with fond memories of good times with new friends and look forward to their return near the end of the tour.

Sports day at Camp Berger. Nine Pl, Rural coy takes on the villages of Akincllar (Louroujina) in friendly game of volleyball.
ANZAC DAY - 75th ANNIVERSARY

The date was 25 April 1915. The scene, Anzac Cove near Gaba Tepe, Turkey, about 0400 hours. The first troops landed. When day broke, what they saw bore no resemblance to what they had been told to expect. They had been told that they would have to establish a bridgehead on open beaches surrounded by gentle slopes. But here they were up against an almost sheer cliff, stony soil and thick bush. The Turkish defenders poured down withering fire. Amid the general confusion, the self-reliance of these amateur soldiers was a constant source of wonder. They advanced, were halted and dug in, having gained about a kilometre by the end of the day. That was as far as they would go.

For the Australians it was neither victory nor defeat, but a baptism into war as a nation. A quarter of the Gallipoli casualties were Australians: 8067 killed 19367 wounded. Anzac Day is the anniversary of the day Australians became a nation in war.

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.

DAWN SERVICE AT WAYNE’S KEEP

On April 25, 1990 members of the Australian contingent attended a Dawn Service conducted at Wayne’s Keep Military Cemetery followed by a private breakfast at the AUSTCIVPOL Headquarters.

During the afternoon members and guests played the traditional game of “Two-up”. This game was played by “Diggers”, at ANZAC Cove because it was about the only game for which everyone had the necessary equipment: pennies and a piece of wood. The coins are tossed into the air and allowed to land on the ground, bets are taken as to how they land.

Commander Alan Mills AC, laying a wreath at Wayne’s Keep Cemetery on the 75th Anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings.

Members of the Australian Contingent take part in Anzac Ceremony held at Wayne’s keep.

SPRING FAIR 1990

The Australian contingent provided a food tent selling hamburgers, hotdogs and beer. I believe it was one of the most popular tents at the fair with an endless line of customers, at times even fifty in the line. We would like to thank all who bought from us and made it possible for the Australians to contribute to the chosen charity. Pictured here is Mrs. Myra Cooper and Commander Allan Mills.

SIG SQN WIN SP REGT SAA COMPETITION

The Signals Squadron won the SAA Competition on the 15 March, having swept the board on the rifle match. Ord and Fit won the pistol match and came second in the rifle match. Final positions were: 1st, Sig Sqn; 2nd, Ord/Fit, 3rd, Wksp; 4th, HQ Sqn; 5th, A Tp; 6th, B Tp.

Sig Sqn winners.

2 1/C Sp Regt and RBM present Maj Peck (Officers Team) with the 'Wooden Spoon'.

Sig Sqn dash to the 200m point for the Falling Plate.

Maj Townsend presenting the team prize to Sig Wilson, who also won the SA90, best shot.

VAXJOE SKOLORNAS MUSIKKAR

A Swedish brass band, VAXJOE SKOLORNAS MUSIKKAR, spent a week on concert tour throughout Cyprus. Brass band music is quite popular in Austria, therefore when a concert was held in Athens, a village inside the BZ, AUSCON members were happy to attend.
NEW MEMBERS ARRIVE AT SWEDCIVPOL

On 2 April, ten new members of SWEDCIVPOL arrived in Cyprus to replace those homework bound for Sweden. They were all posted to SWEDCIVPOL HQ, Camp Flamingo in Larnaca with responsibility also for Pyla and the rest of Sector Four, including the northern Karpas area.

Ten new ‘pinkies’ under the flowering mimosa tree. Left to right Standing: Tommy Astlund, Claes Hedlund, Bjorn Liljedahl, Peter Gustavsson, Goran Johansson, Sten-Ake Hellman. Left to right sitting: Anders Ahlgren, Ronnie Dahlovist, Anders Wretling, Jan-Ake Fredriksson.

SWEDCON PROFILES

Legal Advisor, Maj Josten, visited SWEDCON in March. Maj Josten is attached to SWEDLOG, UNIFIL, but his field of action also includes SWEDCON in Cyprus. Pictured above is Maj Josten (right) with Ins p Ulf Cahlen, SWEDCIVPOL.

Lt Staffan Vestbom took over as Administration Officer for SWEDCON from Lt Lars Holm in April. Lt Vestbom has previous UN experience in Cyprus, the Sinai and Lebanon. He served in Lebanon as recently as February this year as Field Post Master and like his predecessor he will be posted at SWEDCIVPOL HQ, Camp Flamingo in Larnaca. Pictured above is Lt Vestbom (left) and Lt Holm.

THE SCACYP

Every fortnight a C-130 Hercules “The SCACYP”, flies to Larnaca Airport from Scandinavia with supply goods for DANCON and SWEDCON in Cyprus. This service also includes the Swedish and Norwegian contingents in Lebanon. The Royal Air Forces of Denmark, Norway and Sweden perform this service flying from Copenhagen, Oslo, and Stockholm to Larnaca and finally on to Tel Aviv.

It’s possible for all Swedish, Danish and Norwegian UN members serving in Cyprus and Lebanon to ‘get a lift’ free of charge to Scandinavia and back with these giant, noisy but very safe carrying. The crew always stay overnight in Larnaca before their return to Scandinavia and this month the Swedish Air Force was responsible for the flight.

Lt Col Torsten Lindequist, Swedish UN Command, left, and Maj Per-Olof Jonsson, Swedish, right.

The veterans: Capt Bo Eriksson and Capt Bengt Nordlander, both pilots and Capt Lars Makitalo, navigator, have been flying Hercules since the early seventies.

NEW CHIEF INSPECTOR AT SWEDCIVPOL

Polops, Ch Ins Peter Rane- mark, SWEDCIVPOL left Cyprus in April after his one year service at HQ UNIFCYIP. He will be replaced by Supt Stig Morin. Supt Mo- rin has extensive UN experience having served in the Congo, Lebanon and Cyprus. This is his third tour with the Swedish Civilian Police in Cyprus.

We want to say thank you to Pe- ter, who is leaving for Sweden and welcome to Stig. We wish them both good luck in the future.

Supt Stig Morin (left) and Ch insp Peter Rane- mark.
en passant... If you have any information you would like to see published in this section please telephone extension 2235 by Fri 11th June.

VIP VISITORS TO UNFICYP IN APRIL
Gen Sir Martin Farndale, KCB, of DRA, to BRITCON
Brig MH Carey, DEME (Org. and Trng) to BRITCON
Gen Othmar Tauschitz Insp Gen of Austrian Army to AUSCON
Lt Col Hugh Dickens Commanding Officer 9th/12th Lancers

WELCOME
Capt Sören Isaksson (FINCON) Duty Officer JOC

FAREWELL
Juha Moyer (FINCON) Duty Officer JOC

UN SECRETARIAT WELCOME
Miss Susan Matthew (Chief Administrative Officer)
Mr Kent Phillips (Radio Technician)
Mr Alfredo Tusset (Radio Operator)
Ms Elvira Del Rosario (Secretary to Spokesman)
Welcome back from UNTAG
Mr Berndt Wikstrom Registry

UN SECRETARIAT FAREWELL
Mr Joachim Hutter (Special Political Adviser)
Mr Anders Tholle (Chief Administration Officer)

UNFICYP SHOOTING COMPETITION (11 Apr 90)
1st Sp Regt 565 points
2nd Sect 4 556 points
3rd MP Coy 492 points
Winner of the Falling Plate Competition was Sector 3 ‘B’.

ORIENTEERING COMPETITION RESULTS (21 Mar 90)
1st UNFICYP Sp Regt
2nd Sect 4

UNFICYP ATHLETIC 1990 RESULTS
1st Sect 2 176 points
2nd Sect 3 145 points
3rd Sp Regt 132 points

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Bennett on his selection for promotion to Colonel and posting as a member of the Regular Commission Board, Westbury. He is replaced by Lieutenant Colonel Colin Heggie, who assumes the appointment of CPLO with effect 11 May 90.

AUSCON BAPTISM
During the AUSCON Easter ceremony the newly arrived son of Capt Kaefer (ADC to CO, Sect 4) and his wife Roswitha, was baptized by the AUSCON Chaplain with the name Michael Philipp. Lt Col Pacher - Theinbiry (CO of Sect 4) acted as godfather.

DANISH DECORATED BY AUSCON
Sgt Eriksen and Sgt Jensen marched approximately 200 km through the bufferzone from West to East. In Sector 4 they were greeted with a banner, ‘Welcome DANCON To OPT-18’ and a box of Austrian beer and steaks. Both men were decorated with a sports medal by DCO AUSBATT, Maj Ing Mueller.

LONDON MARATHON
WOI (Y of S) Hammett would like to thank whole heartedly everyone, for their kind generosity in sponsoring him in the UK London Marathon (26 miles, 385 yds). He successfully completed the race in a time of 3 hrs 22 mins. Sponsor money amounted to £Cy1000, which will be forwarded to the Malcolm Sargent Fund, cancer relief for children.