WORKING IN THE BUFFER ZONE

by Capt M Alessandri

There are many activities supervised by personnel from Sector One which take place in the Buffer Zone, for instance the maintenance by civilians of water pipes, water wells and power lines.

Earlier this spring, an escort was provided by Bravo Coy for a group of Turkish Cypriot workers who were to put into operation a channel which was to transport water within the Sector. This routine escort of civilian personnel was running smoothly when suddenly, a Greek Cypriot farmer approached the escort party and expressed a wish to greet the Turkish Cypriot workers, since he recognized one of the men.

It came as a surprise for 1/Lt Varela, UN Platoon Leader of area 40, and it was a wonderful moment when the Greek Cypriot greeted and embraced his Turkish Cypriot friend.

Lt Varela asked them how they knew each other, and it turned out that between 1954 to 1966, they had both been employed in the Cyprus Mines Corporation (CMC) in Skouriotissa.

This situation demonstrates yet again that regardless of the current political situation in Cyprus, the feelings of friendship and affection between many of the Cypriots from both communities cannot be divided.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL OSCAR MARIO CRIPPA
COMMANDER UN FLIGHT

Lt Col Crippa was born in 1951 and joined the Argentine Air Force Academy in 1969. In 1973, he passed the military pilot’s examination and was awarded his wings. During the next two years, he undertook training for Aircraft Fighter Pilots and qualified in 1975.

In 1977, he was posted as a Junior Officer to the “Mountain Search and Rescue Squadron” where he was appointed Flank Wing Chief and Maintenance Chief. Between 1985-1986, he was posted to a large Maintenance Unit where he was a Test Pilot for Jet Combat Aircraft. Before his promotion to a Senior Officer, he attended the Command and Staff Course at the Air War School.

From 1989 to 1993, he was appointed Officer Commanding in the Mountain Search and Rescue Squadron, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1993. During 1994-1995, he took up the post of Air Force Liaison Officer in the Argentinian Army.

Lt Col Crippa has 6,000 flight hours’ experience on several aircraft, of which 3,000 hours are on helicopters.

He is married to Alcia, and they have two sons and one daughter between 19 and seven years of age.

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EDITORIAL

You have probably heard the facts before - that motor vehicle accidents are one of the leading causes of death and serious injury all over the world.

It is apparent from the articles on pages 8 and 9 of this issue of the Blue Beret that driving safely after drinking is simply not possible. DRINKING AND DRIVING DO NOT MIX.

Consequently, a person who willingly and consciously has a “few” drinks and is subsequently involved in a car crash should not claim that it was an “accident”. This type of incident is not accidental, because it results from a free choice between Drink and Driving Safely. He opted for the drink.

NEVER drink and drive, and NEVER allow a friend to drink and drive.

Responding to popular demand, the Force Photographer, Sgt Bobbie Lipsett, intends to run a photography course, commencing on 10 June 1996. These lessons will include basic instruction on photography, including a lecture on various pieces of camera equipment (lenses, films and their uses) and advancing to developing and printing processes in black and white. The office of the Spokesman will be the venue for this course, and the Force Photographer will be in the near future issue a circular for all interested persons. This opportunity is open to all military and civilian members of UNFICYP and their families.

The culmination of this course will be a photographic competition, and the winning photographs will be featured in the Blue Beret magazine. The prize presentation will take place in the Spokesman’s Office - but you’ll have to wait and find out what it is!...

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FRONT COVER:
RECIPIENTS OF THE FORCE COMMANDER’S COMMENDATION

BY SGT BOBBI LIPSETT
From 28 to 30 April 1996, the Austrian Minister of Defence, Dr Werner Fassbend, and his Hungarian counterpart, Mr György Keleti, paid a visit to their peace-keeping soldiers of UNFICYP.

The Force Commander welcomes both Ministers to the HQ.
From the left: Lt Col Horvathczek (Commander AUSCON), Dr Fassbend, Mr Keleti and Brig Gen Vartiani.

As we all know, Austrians and Hungarians have been serving together since November last year, when a Hungarian infantry platoon became a part of the Austrian battalion. This platoon is fully supplied by the Austrians.

Both Ministers during the flag parade in Camp Duke Leopold inspecting their soldiers.

The main part of the visit was the tour through the Buffer Zone of Sector Four, covering nearly every OP. It started in the AOR of the Hungarian Platoon and continued to Camp Duke Leopold, ending at OP 146 on the Dherina Line. It is worth mentioning here that driving a distance of 70 km in heat and dust cannot be described as a pleasure tour, but it was a very good opportunity for the Ministers to see for themselves where their soldiers are stationed and exactly what they are doing in the service of peace.

From the left: Hungarian translator, Mr Keleti, Dr Fassbend and Mr Feisel.

It is a well-known fact that the integration process of the Hungarians has been very successful, and for this reason, a further participation of additional Hungarian soldiers might be possible in the future.

Both Ministers congratulated Lt Col Wildberger, Commander Sector Four, and Maj Ughy, his deputy, for the excellent organisation of this visit and the very positive impressions they received of AUSCON/HUNCON.

We in UNFICYP should keep in mind that it is quite possible to come across snakes in the Buffer Zone, especially in the hot summer.

George is eager to teach as many people as possible about his specialty. Recently, he was invited to Camp Duke Leopold in Famagusta and to Camp Pyla to teach his Austrian comrades all about how to behave correctly in the presence of snakes, and what to do in the case of a snake bite.

We in UNFICYP should keep in mind that it is quite possible to come across snakes in the Buffer Zone, especially in the hot summer.

George would be glad to visit any Sector or Unit within UNFICYP to impart his knowledge of reptiles. Please contact him at home, telephone 06-238160. AUSCON have no hesitation in recommending him!

P.O. box donation for AUSCON
by Capt S. Perr

Every six months, a number of Austrian soldiers come to Cyprus with the AUSCON rotation flight and for many, it is their very first time on the island. They come, not as a tourist for one or two weeks, but for a one-year tour with UNFICYP, far away from home and familiar surroundings.

For this reason, all Austrian soldiers undergo an intensive training course in the Training Centre for peace-keeping operations in Vienna, which covers the military tasks they will encounter in UNFICYP. However, we cannot overlook the fact that Cyprus is a very beautiful island and it is highly useful and most interesting for us to find out all about the place – what to do in our leisure time, which places of interest to visit or simply to learn something about the geography and basic facts and figures of the island.

AUSCON is extremely grateful to the Cyprus Press and Information Office which has provided us with a considerable number of travel guides and other brochures, all of which have been distributed to the Austrian soldiers.

The picture (left) shows Capt Brandl from the Pyla Platoon gratefully accepting the donation. I strongly recommend getting in touch with the Press Centre on 02) 304244, or going there direct.
Some of you out there, who have not yet had the pleasure or the time to come along to Sector Two and see first hand some of the more interesting sights of the Buffer Zone within the old walled city of Nicosia, will be surprised to learn that a Green Line tour is run every Tuesday morning, starting at 1000 hours. The tour can be booked through Commandant Mick O’Donnell at the UNPA.

The tour can be booked through Commandant Mick O’Donnell at the UNPA.

Striding through the deserted streets in the Buffer Zone

To join the line tour, you do not need to be an Ambassador or a Head of State! It is true that quite often, we do see some very interesting personalities who have benefited from the tour by taking away lasting impressions of the situation and the work that is carried out here by the UN in Sector Two. You are all welcome, provided you are at least 16 years of age. Dress should be casual but not overly smart civilian clothing, and please also remember to leave your cameras at home, since you will be entering a “No Photograph” zone. The number of people we can take in any one group at any one time is 12, due to transport restraints - so book your place early.

Over the weekend of 9/10 March, four gallant warriors from Sector Two BRITCON took up the challenge in the British Army Cyprus Ten Pin Bowling Championship. The team members, WO2 Steve Rush (RLC), WO2 Paul Taylor (REME), Sgt Dean Salt (RLC) and Cpl Steve Campbell (RLC) had high hopes of a good showing in the championships, but were a little apprehensive, due to the unknown standards of the opposition, which included the recently crowned Army Singles Champion, Sgt Dave Chapman.

After a very close match, the team from the UN took all the honours! They would like to pass on grateful thanks to WO1 Paul Beard and all his back-up team for a very well organised and run competition, and for the hospitality and assistance provided during the event.

Bowled over

ST George’s Day, 23 April 1996, was a particularly special day for members of 12 Regiment Royal Artillery, for it was the day chosen for the British Medal Parade. On a pleasant and sunny evening, detachments representing all three batteries deployed on operations with UNFICYP were formed up for a proud and memorable parade.

The parade took place on the Ledra Palace Hotel car park with The Lucknow Band of The Prince of Wales Division providing musical accompaniment. In the presence of the

Awaiting the arrival of the guests

Following the presentation of the medals, the FC went on to present commendations to Sgt Carr, Bdr Finlayson, Bdr Mooney and Cpl Magowan: all four of these soldiers (and Bdr Dickenson who was not on parade) gave more than most during their tour. By their quick thinking, selfless behaviour and professional application of their first aid skills, they helped to save the lives of Greek Cypriots in three separate serious incidents. These five soldiers acted in the finest traditions of the Royal Artillery, and it was a very proud moment for all when the commendations were awarded.

Following a march past, several salutes and a well coordinated volley of fire, it was the turn of the Lucknow Band and the Colour Party to impress with a splendid

The Force Commander presents a commendation

Photographs by Sgt Bobbie Lipsett

The recipients of the Force Commander’s commendation
UN MP ELEMENT
ALCOHOL AND DRIVING DON'T MIX

Most people like to have a drink. Research on drinking and driving indicates that increased availability of alcohol tends to result in a large number of alcohol-related car accidents. The first point requiring clarification is, therefore, how alcohol affects us and consequently our driving abilities.

Alcohol is a depressant which affects the central nervous system. It passes very quickly from the mouth into the stomach and ultimately into the small intestine, where the majority of alcohol is absorbed. Alcohol requires no breaking down, as it is a soluble molecule and passes directly into the blood stream. This explains why we feel the effects very quickly.

Some of us foolishly attempt to drive our private or UN vehicles either immediately after or hours later. Driving whilst under the influence slows down our normal reactions. So why do it?

We do it once and get away with it, so the next time we go out, we have a little bit more and this happens again and again. Then one day, whilst driving home from a BBQ or the beach, we are involved in a traffic accident. It could be minor, or it could be serious. You may be lucky and come out of it uninjured, BUT, what injuries have your passengers sustained? Children are very easily injured, especially those who have not been secured.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

MESSAGE FROM THE FORCE PROVOST MARSHAL

You will all have seen the recent media coverage regarding the fatal traffic accident that happened during the early hours of Monday 13 May 1996 on the road between Phnom Penh and Vysouls in which a Bulgarian national was killed.

Following the accident, a UN soldier was arrested and breathalized. He was found to be over the legal limit.

The Force Commander's policy on drinking and driving is quite clear. If you are breathalyzed and found positive, whether on duty or off duty, YOU WILL BE UNCONDITIONALLY REPATRIATED!

Reappraised! A refusal to provide a sample of breath is treated the same as a positive breath test and, therefore,

YOU WILL BE REPATRIATED!

Consider the impact it would have on your career. Think of the financial penalties. Most of all, think of the pain caused when a member of the family is lost as a result of a drunken driver. You wouldn’t like it if it were your brother, sister, wife or child.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE - IT IS JUST NOT WORTH IT!

The Harmful Effects of Alcoholic Beverages - And How To Confront Them

Alcoholic beverages have been used to enhance the enjoyment of meals by many societies throughout the history of mankind.

Current evidence suggests that moderate drinking is associated with a lower risk for coronary heart disease in some individuals. However, higher levels of alcohol intake raise the risk for high blood pressure, stroke, heart disease, certain cancers, accidents, violence, suicides, birth defects and overall mortality (deaths). Too much alcohol may cause cirrhosis of the liver, inflammation of the pancreas and damage to the brain and heart.

The question is, HOW MUCH DRINKING IS SAFE? Researchers say there is no accepted safe level of drinking.

The amount of alcohol in your bloodstream is referred to as Blood Alcohol Level (BAL). It is measured in milligrams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood or milligrams percent. For example, a level of 0.1% means 1/1000 of your total blood content is alcohol. The legal limit (in the UK) for driving is 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood.

BAL depends on the amount of blood and the amount of alcohol you consume over time. Other factors, such as age, sex, weight, metabolism and type of drink are also important. Cocktails are especially potent, because they often have a very high alcoholic content whose taste is disguised by fruit juices.

The following effects on human behaviour are commonly related to the level (BAL) of alcohol consumed:

**BAL**

**BEHAVIOUR**

20 mg Mellow feeling, slight body warmth, less inhibited
50 mg Noticeable relaxation, less alert, coordination impairment begins
100 mg Noisy, possible embarrassing behaviour, reduction in reaction time
150 mg Impaired balance and movement, clearly drunk
300 mg Many pass out
500 mg Breathing stops, many die

**SOME OF THE FACTS THAT SHOULD ALWAYS BE CONSIDERED ARE:**

- Alcohol is quickly absorbed into the bloodstream, affecting the brain and impairing driving ability. Getting rid of alcohol is a much slower process requiring hours, rather than minutes.
- Any amount of alcohol will affect your judgement. Statistics indicate that nearly one in five of all deaths on the road are caused by drivers who have been drinking. The risk of being involved in an accident increases in direct proportion to the amount consumed. However, the facts and statistics don't tell the whole story. Behind the numbers are thousands of lives cut short, permanent, disabling injuries, and families devastated because someone drove while under the influence of alcohol.
- Living with your social conscience. Can you live with the knowledge that your irresponsibility has caused death, injury or severe distress to innocent people, shame to your family, your organisation or your country, particularly when driving abroad.
- If some of your friends have been drinking and shouldn't be driving - DON'T give them back their car keys and let them drive. They could harm themselves or others, and maybe, just a little persuasion from you could mean the difference between life and death.
- Suggest that you or a sober friend drive your alcohol-impaired friend home. Their car can always be picked up at another time.
- Suggest that your impaired friend stays overnight in your home. This sounds very inconvenient, but you could be saving somebody's life.
- Have your friend taken home in a taxi. Pay for the ride yourself - it's hard to object to a free ride, and taxis are cheap in Cyprus!
- Whatever you do, don't give in. Friends don't let friends drink and then drive. In the morning, you'll be responsible for having a safer and maybe even a closer friend.

Based on the results of numerous studies on the effects of alcohol on human behaviour, most countries consider it an offence to drive, or attempt to drive, a car with a blood/alcohol concentration above a prescribed limit.

When involved in an accident after drinking, apart from the legal consequences, the possible imprisonment, the loss of reputation, the effects on your family life, criminal record and loss of personal transport, worst of all you may be living for the rest of your days with the knowledge that your irresponsibility has caused death, injury or severe distress to innocent people.
ROYAL ENGINEER DETACHMENT
DECEMBER 1995 TO JUNE 1996

The engineers of Sector Two are Royal Engineers from 36 Engineer Regiment. The Sapper Detachment is a regimental deployment: 50 HQ Sqn are currently in position and will be handing over to members of 9 Parachute Sqn. 36 Engr Regt are currently preparing to deploy to Bosnia, and members of the current Detachment may well be deploying into theatre after a suitable period of leave.

The Detachment's mission is to provide engineer support to the line and to try and improve the living conditions of UN personnel. As such, we have a mix of artisans who are experts in their respective trades, each with a basis in combat engineering. This mix of trades allows the Detachment to cope with most emergencies and tackle quite major construction tasks.

The biggest task taken on during the tour so far has been the construction of Maple House kitchen and the associated work in improving the location. On arrival in December, the incumbent members of 9 Plassey Battery were somewhat shocked by the state of the building they were destined to inhabit for the next six months, and the smell issuing from the sewer. OC Engineers was detailed to investigate the problem (armed with respirator and Wellington boots) and discovered the reason for the smell emanating from the basement was a problem with the sewer system. A plan of action was agreed, and the Sapper Detachment went to work in conjunction with the Public Works Department. Thankfully, the plan was that the PWD tackled the smell in the basement and the Engineers the kitchen! Everything went smoothly and on 24 February, the Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir Charles Guthrie, opened the new dining room.

The Maple House project took up most of February and since then, the Detachment has been busy in the backlog of maintenance tasks for the remainder of the Sector. Spr Wilson is leading the electrician's electrcrofitation stakes with 25 shocks, Spr Boughey is leading the shelf-building race by two shelves, Spr Malby leads the water-heater replacement by four boilers and, according to Spr Knight, 9 Parachute Sqn are leading 12 Battery in the hard-fought Buffer Zone painting competition by three tins of magnolia paint!

AUSCON SURF COURSES RE-OPENED

In the summer and autumn of 1995, two surfing courses were organised by Maj Robert Kraus, Sports Officer and DCO Sector Four, as part of the range of activities offered by the AUSCON Sports Club.

A lot of fun was had, both by UNFICYP soldiers and their relatives, with the beginners course taking place in Famagusta and the more advanced surfers going to Ladies Mile in Akrotiri. The first course this year took place recently in Akrotiri, and it is intended to schedule others in the near future.

Anyone interested should contact Maj Kraus in Camp Duke Leopold, Famagusta, on Ext 150.
THE ANZAC STORY

From the bloody sacrifices shared by men of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps at Gallipoli came the abbreviation A.N.Z.A.C.

At 0400 hours on 25 April 1915, the ANZACs came ashore at Suvla Bay, Turkey, in a rugged area, rising steeply from a narrow beach. They were 30,000 volunteers from Australia and New Zealand. Landing by ships’ lifeboats, they were under constant machine gun and shell fire from the moment they first sighted the shore. Casualties were extremely heavy.

They had been told that their task would be to establish a bridgehead and that the landing would be unopposed and take place on wide open beaches surrounded by gentle grassy slopes, but they were landed on the wrong beach. When daylight dawned, they found themselves confronted by almost sheer cliffs, rocky ground and thick scrub, while above them, large numbers of entrenched Turkish troops poured withering fire down into their massed ranks.

Amid this general confusion, the self-reliance and extreme bravery of these amateur soldiers was a constant source of wonder, both by the Allied and Turkish/German forces. They advanced, were halted and dug in, having gained but a mere kilometre by the end of that first day. That was as far as they would ever go.

The landing was a bold plan conceived by the First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, to seize the Dardanelles and open a second front during the First World War. However, it failed from the outset and became a battle of attrition, culminating eight months later in a total withdrawal of the allied forces from the peninsula.

The cost to Australia and New Zealand was extremely heavy. Australia lost 8,587 soldiers and 19,367 were wounded. New Zealand had an 87% casualty rate. Of the 8,556 New Zealanders who served in Gallipoli, 2,721 died and 4,752 were wounded. However, for both young nations, it was neither a victory nor a defeat, but rather a baptism of the horrors of war.

The commemoration of ANZAC Day each year in memory of those gallant soldiers who landed on that foreign shore so many years ago and in continuing memory of those thousands of other Australians and New Zealanders since who have laid down their lives in the service of their country. The day is also a celebration by Australian and New Zealand servicemen and women and ex-servicemen and women of that special bond that exists between mates who have served their country together on foreign fields.

"BINYON'S LINES"

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.

AUSLIE/IRISH UNION

Love blossomed on Athrodite's Island for Sgt Deborah Hogan, AUSTCIPVOL, and Cpl Ollie McNerney, Camp Command, during their posting together to UNFICYP.

Debbie hails from Woggia Woggia in New South Wales and has been stationed in Canberra for ten years. Ollie is a native of County Down, and was stationed for 13 years in the Curragh as an army engineer prior to his posting here as Force Cartographer.

They met in the Kangaroo Club, and their romance proceeded apace until Ollie popped the question on St Patrick’s Day. AUSTCIPVOL were first to host a celebratory party. Debbie was summoned by her Commander for what she thought was a medal parade, only to be presented with a surprise “wedding” cake and an impromptu Australian party. More parties followed in both the Kangaroo and Hibernia Clubs.

The Hogan family is believed to be quite happy with Debbie’s chosen partner; Ollie’s army base plays host to several thousand head of Irish sheep!

The couple will get married in Ireland this summer but have not, as yet, decided where to settle. They wish to express their gratitude to all their friends and colleagues in UNFICYP for the outings they have been given. We join with all in wishing them health and happiness in their future together.

ANZAC DAY 1996 • CYPRUS

In the grey dawn of 25 April 1996, a group of about 150 people gathered at Wayne's Keep Cemetery to pay silent homage to those fallen in the service of their nation. The service was conducted by The Right Reverend JDG Kirkham MA, Bishop to HIM Forces (UK), and the BRITCON Padre, the Rev Ray Hayter, who paid special tribute to the ANZAC Forces from the Dardanelles campaign in 1915.

Members of AUSTCIPVOL in front of St Paul’s Cathedral with the Director of Music, Capt JAC Huggins, ARCE, psm

Later in the day, flowers were placed on the Cenotaph at the request of the Turkish Forces on the northern fence of the cemetery—a moving tribute to former foes.

Following the dawn service, guests were invited to the International Mess at the UNPA for a “traditional” ANZAC "gungiree breakfast" of bully beef, ANZAC biscuits, coffee and rum.

Shortly after, a church service was conducted at St Paul’s Anglican Cathedral in Nicosia, conducted by The Very Rev Patrick Blair and The Right Rev Father Umberto Barato. This service was attended by the President of the Republic, Mr Glafkos Clerides, and by all dignitaries mentioned above.

Following the church service, guests were invited to the Australian High Commission for refreshments, after which the Australian Police Club was opened for further refreshments and the traditional ANZAC Day game of “two up”.

From tears of remembrance at dawn to shouts of elation in the evening, there is no doubt that ANZAC Day 1996 in Cyprus was a moving tribute to the sacrifice of the ANZACs and a celebration of solidarity between friendly nations.
The Blue Beret

May 1996

VISITS TO SECTOR ONE

by Capt M Alessandri

At the beginning of April, the Argentinian Ambassador in Israel who is also accredited to Cyprus, HE José María Otegui, paid a visit to UNFICYP, where he met with the Chief of Mission, Mr Gustave Feisnel. He visited all Camps of Sector One, the Argentinian Sector, including Gen San Martin, Gen Roca, Admiral Brown and Kokkina, where the respective Officers in Command briefed him on their deployment and the tasks carried out within their area of responsibility. He also visited a number of OPs where he talked to the soldiers on duty and enquired about their work and lifestyle.

On 2 April, the Ambassador held a cocktail party at the Cyprus Hilton to which Cypriot authorities and Sector One personnel were invited. In attendance was Mr Glafkos Clerides, the President of the Republic, who thanked the Ambassador for Argentina’s peace-keeping contributions to Cyprus and for the good relations which exist between the two countries.

ITALIAN JOURNALISTS VISIT SECTOR ONE

On 26 March, Sector One received a visit from Mr Augusto Dalla Bita and two cameramen from RAI, Italian Television and Radio. The visitors received a briefing on the responsibilities of Sector One from the Press Officer, following which they visited OPs 18, 22 and 25. At each location, the respective Platoon Leader briefed the visitors on his tasks and area of responsibility.

On their return to San Martin Camp, the CO Sector One, Lt Col Calvi, greeted the Italian crew, who expressed their appreciation for the attention and hospitality shown to them during their very satisfactory visit.

UN NEW YORK JOURNALIST VISITS SECTOR ONE

On 21 March, Sector One had the pleasure of hosting Ms Lynne O’Donoghue, a journalist from New York.

The visit started with a briefing by the Press Officer (see right), who explained the activities and operations of ARGCON. At the end of the briefing, the journalist had the opportunity to interview the female element of Sector One. Following this, Ms O’Donoghue travelled to Xeros where she attended a lunch with the officers in that camp and visited their installations.

Ms O’Donoghue also visited personnel and OPs within Alpha Coy and Charlie Coy, and was then transported by helicopter from Kokkina to UN Flight, thereby providing her with the opportunity of observing from the air the whole of Sector One’s area of responsibility.

A VERY FRIENDLY MATCH

by Capt M Alessandri

During spring, a game of rugby took place on the UNPA sports field between members of 12 Regt RA and a mixed team consisting of players from Argentina, Austria and Ireland. This very friendly match was played in four rounds of 20 minutes each, with all team members doing their very best, not only to win, but also to enjoy the event.

The final result was in favour of 12 Regt RA, whose hard work and team spirit earned them the title of winners!

Winners, runners-up and spectators all enjoyed the match - and the following refreshments in the WOs’ Mess.

Lt Gen Balza being greeted by Col Tubbs, the UNFICYP Chief of Staff outside HQ UNFICYP

Lt Gen Balza in Gen San Martin Camp

Gen San Martin, Gen Roca and Adm Brown Camps, to also to several OPs and the Kokkina Base, where he enquired on the well-being of Sector One personnel and informed them about a number of activities taking place at home.

The Camps were all extremely happy to receive the General, and on 16 April, a dinner was held in his honour at Gen San Martin Camp, together with the Force Commander and other high ranking officials from the Headquarters. Lt Gen Balza expressed his gratitude for the reception afforded to him, and for the excellent relationships which currently exist within all Contingents of the UNFICYP mission.

Tired but happy, after the match
Padre Ray Hayter, reading the service on ANZAC Day - 25 April 1996