

THE Blue Beret

November 1996





PAS TRAINING SEMINAR

THE UNITED NATIONS has often been criticized by both insiders and outsiders for its personnel management system. The General Assembly itself has adopted a number of resolutions aimed at improving the Organisation's personnel policies and practices, making them more simple, transparent and relevant to the growing and changing demands being placed upon the Secretariat.

A key part of this reform process is the introduction of a new Performance Appraisal System (PAS), a management tool which will help the Organisation's transformation to a performance-based culture. The PAS focuses on linking individual work plans with larger departmental and organisational goals, thereby promoting accountability and responsibility of both staff and managers.

PAS represents a major departure from the old Performance Evaluation Report. To help in the transition, the Office of Human Resources Management at New York Headquarters sent Ms Julia Sloan to UNFICYP from 21 to 31 October 1996 to conduct a series of training seminars for approximately 80 of the missions' international and local civilian staff. Julia has been a terrific help in fostering an understanding of the PAS and in



Ms Julia Sloan

dispelling many of the staff's fears and misconceptions about the new system.

PAS offers us a welcome opportunity for enhanced communication and dialogue between supervisors and staff and for inviting staff participation in the planning, execution and evaluation of work programmes. We hope that the introduction of the PAS will help us achieve a more efficient and cohesive management for the mission in future.



OFFICER IN CHARGE OF FINANCE: MR FRANK CLANCY

The newly arrived Officer-in-Charge of Finance, Mr Frank Clancy, is no stranger to UNFICYP, after having served in the mission between 1982 to 1989 as Procurement Officer and Deputy Chief Finance Officer.

Mr Clancy joined the United Nations in February 1975. He has spent his entire service in various missions, apart from an 18-month tour (April 1995 to September 1996) in New York Headquarters, where he served with the Financial Management and Support Service of the Field Administration and Logistic Division (FALD) as Unit Chief for Europe and Latin America. Prior to his transfer to New York, Mr Clancy served as Chief of Budget of UNPROFOR from April 1992 to March 1995. During that period, the mission underwent 16 expansions and grew from an original authorized strength of 13,000 military and 350 civilian personnel to just under 44,000 military and 4,600 civilian personnel.

The budget likewise increased from \$350 million to over \$2 billion. Mr Clancy states that while he appreciated the experience and the challenge - life was never boring - he would not like to repeat it. Mr Clancy has also completed two tours with UNMOGIP and one with UNTSO.

He has seen many changes in Cyprus since his last tour. Walking around the "patch" is a sad experience, as more than half the houses which used to be there have now been pulled down.

Frank comes from Ireland, and is married to Anne. They have one daughter.



VOLUME 33 NUMBER 11 NOVEMBER 1996

Published monthly by the Spokesman's Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, HQ UNFICYP, PO Box 1642, Nicosia, Cyprus
Telephone: (02) 359550
Fax: 359752

Editorial Staff

Editor
Mr Waldemar Rokoszewski
Assistant Editor
Mrs Miriam Taylor
Photography
Force Photographer
Sgt Bobbie Lipsett
and Contingent Photographers

Unit Press Officers

Sector One	Lt (Navy) Gabriel Villagran
Sector Two	Capt Sarah Templer-Clarke
Sector Four	Capt Hans Springer
HUNCON	Lt Anna Finda
AUSTCIVPOL	Sgt Brendan Slape
IRCIVPOL	Insp John Leahy
UN Flt	Lt Patricio Pelourson
Perm FR	Capt Andy Taylor
MP Elm	SSgt Dale Roberts
Camp Command	Sgt Patrick Tuohy
Civilian Admin	Ms Mary Dellar

The Blue Beret is the 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, together with captions, should accompany the articles.

This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Chief of Mission. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned, and do not necessarily conform with official policy. The copyright of all material in this journal is vested in United Nations Publications, except where acknowledgements are made to another copyright. No article or illustration may be reproduced without the permission of the Editor.

Printed in Cyprus by
Fri-El Press
13 King Paul Street
Parissinos, Nicosia
Tel: 350186

FRONT COVER:

MEMBERS OF THE
PERMANENT FORCE
RESERVE READY TO
MOVE OUT

BY SGT BOBBIE LIPSETT



The Blue Beret

EDITORIAL

Cyprus is acclaimed to have hot summers and mild winters. However, those of us, who have been on the island for a while, know that this is a mistaken impression. The rainy season has now begun, and with it come the dangers of slippery roads and landslides, particularly along the patrol tracks where rubble from the slopes is easily dislodged. Often, rocks, mud and other debris are swept along by water, blocking access roads and creating potentially dangerous driving conditions.

It is more important than ever that care be taken whilst driving. The Military Police have already reported an increase in traffic accidents since the wet weather started. It is very clear that in view of the above, motorists should exercise extra care in winter conditions.

A few simple precautions may prevent you becoming another statistic. Be sure to always drive at a moderate speed, slow down when driving through standing water, always leaving adequate stopping distance with the vehicle in front, check that your tyres have a good tread and always allow extra time to reach your destination. Please do not become another statistic. Keep the speed down and DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE.

CONTENTS

PAS Training Seminar/New OIC Finance	2
Editorial/Contents	3
Life in the Permanent Force Reserve	4/5
Message from Fire HQ/Fire Fighting Course, Camp Command	6
Sp Coy, Roca Camp/Visit of Hungarian Minister	7
Brief Encounter with the Cultural Heritage of Cyprus - Part III - Salamis	8/9
Kyrenia Half Marathon/LBdr Leadership Course ...	10
Rowing for Charity/Adj Gen's Corps Staff & Personnel Support Detachment	11
The Austrian-Hungarian Medal Parade	12
The BRITCON Medal Parade	13
UN Flt - ARGAIR/Ladies on a Sector One Line Tour .	14
IRCIVPOL News/Humanitarian Team, Sector Two ..	15
The BRITCON Medal Parade	16

LIFE IN THE PERMANENT FORCE RESERVE

JUNE TO DECEMBER 1996

The Permanent Force Reserve (PFR) is one of two multi-national units serving within UNFICYP, the other being the Military Police (UN MPs). The PFR is an unusual part of the Force in that it is tri-national (31 British, 12 Argentinians and 10 Austrians) and falls under the direct operational control of UNFICYP HQ, particularly the Chief Operations Officer (COO), rather than the Sectors. Normally, it assumes responsibility for the security of the UNPA. It provides additional manpower to the Sectors on a daily basis for patrols, and, more importantly, it forms a small mobile reserve platoon of 1+22 which is always at 2 hours notice to move anywhere in the Buffer Zone wherever there is a trouble spot and thus fills a requirement to provide support to the Sectors. The remainder of the Platoon (total of 2+47) is at 6 hours notice to move.

During my tour, the PFR was possibly busier than it has ever been since its inception after the demise of the Support Regiment. On the very day that my regiment, 39 Regiment Royal Artillery, the current unit in Sector Two, deployed to Cyprus, a TF soldier had shot dead a National Guardsman in the BZ near 'Chard Bridge'. This was the beginning of the alert season. From then on, the PFR has not come to rest.

The first deployment was to the Ledra Palace Hotel to support Sector Two in a demonstration which fortunately remained peaceful. Then followed the ill-fated Exercise Pandora's Box, the regular test exercise which the Force Reserve platoons go through at the beginning of their tour. This time, the PFR's MOWAG armoured personnel carriers (APCs) ran out of fuel and subsequently could not take any further part. However, not to be dissuaded, the Platoon soon embarked on a number of 'practise callouts'. These proved that the mishap of Pandora's Box was but a mere glitch, rather than a "can of worms".

The gate/security section "staged on" on the two UNPA gates, Foxtrot and Morphou, whilst the patrol section supported the Sectors with additional patrols.



Members of the current Permanent Force Reserve

These patrols gave the soldiers a valuable opportunity to experience other parts of the BZ, and to see exactly how the other nationalities go about the business of peace keeping. The four junior non-commissioned officers of the PFR, who work in the HQ JOC, carried on with their day-to-day routine. Minor duties such as 'swimming pool lifeguard' and the 'fishbowl' (HQ UNFICYP front desk) were carried out as well.

5 Aug 96, the run up to the motorcycle demonstration due on the 11 Aug 96, marked the end to all routine. The additional patrols were cancelled and the Platoon was given the task of guaranteeing the security of the UNPA. The perimeter fence was reinforced and, where necessary, repaired. The gates were made impenetrable to restrict access to the UNPA in a more controlled fashion, and the Platoon geared itself up for the unexpected. The day of the 11th arrived and it almost passed uneventfully. The demonstration was officially cancelled. However, late in the afternoon, the Platoon was re-deployed, firstly to Sector Two, and once half way there, it was re-called and re-tasked, this time to Sector Four, to Dherinia, in support of the Austrians who were having problems keeping the Greek Cypriots out of the BZ and away from the Turkish cease fire line (CFL). By the time the PFR arrived, most of the trouble had already taken place. It was while the Platoon was busy blocking the road, preventing Greek Cypriot demonstrators from coming back into

the BZ (a job that the Cyprus police had failed to do), that it was informed that a Greek Cypriot civilian had been fatally beaten. This tragic incident did not bode well. The Platoon was deployed again on the Tuesday (13th), this time being dispatched early, again to Dherinia in case there would be disturbances following the funeral of the deceased.

As it happened, on Tuesday all was quiet. The funeral was postponed until the following day as a result of a delay in the post mortem. No-one could have anticipated what was to happen next. The Platoon remained deployed in Dherinia overnight and on the Wednesday, it all went dreadfully wrong. A Greek Cypriot demonstrator tried to climb a flag pole flying a Turkish flag near the Turkish Cypriot Police checkpoint. He was gunned down before he was a quarter of the way up. Moreover, bursts of indiscriminate fire came from the Turkish Cypriot cease fire line into the UN Buffer Zone. It was at this instant, that Bdr Dick Emery and Gnr Jeffery Hudson were seriously wounded. I am happy to report that Bdr Emery rejoined the PFR in September, after just over six weeks sick leave, and that Gnr Hudson was recently flown back to the island for the BRITCON medal parade at the beginning of November. We all wish him well for a continued speedy recovery.

In brief, every time something untoward happened, especially demonstrations or shooting incidents, the PFR Platoon deployed out from the UNPA. It spent five days in Pyla and at UN-139, manning the temporary observation posts along the

SBA link road, after a Greek Cypriot civilian was shot dead in that area in September. It reinforced Sector One at Astromeritis for the 'Refugees of Morphou' demonstration, and was deployed to Pyla for a further week in late October and early November, again reinforcing Sector Four. All this had to be done during or in addition to the increased state of readiness of the whole Platoon during Alert State Yellow. It seemed as though it would never end.

Work aside, life in the UNPA continued. Many of the PFR mixed in with the Irish Contingent and now have formed a reasonable football team. In addition, the PFR participated in a number of other competitions, including a triathlon, a swimming competition, a military pentathlon and a military shooting competition. Some of the soldiers have taken the trouble to try to learn each other's languages. British soldiers can now hold a reasonable conversation in Spanish with their Argentinian counterparts. Similarly, British soldiers have been helping the Argentinian soldiers with their English during the long hours on the gates.

In summary, the PFR has been a demanding and exciting job. It is certainly very different from working on the line. There is no doubt that all PFR soldiers, regardless of nationality, have risen to the challenge and have been a credit to both their contingents and UNFICYP.

By Capt Andy Taylor, PFR

ROLE OF THE PERMANENT FORCE RESERVE PLATOON (PFR)

Mission: Be prepared to deploy at short notice on orders as a mobile reserve within the BZ, in order to assist in resolving operational crisis.

Strength and Assets: The Platoon is made up of two 14-man and one 15-man sections and a 5-man HQ element. The PFR has eight 4x4 Pajeros, one 4t truck, six MOWAG APCs and two minibuses.

Operational Tasks: Be prepared to deploy as a FR PI (+). 1+22 are always at 2 hours notice to move, with maximum manpower (2+47) available at 6 hours notice to move.

Routine Tasks:

- Patrols.** To conduct five daily patrols in support of the Sectors, according to the weekly patrol programme, as issued by Ops Branch, except on Tuesdays.

- UNPA Security.** Under TACON of Camp Command, as follows:

- Provide guards at Foxtrot and Morphou Gates on a 24/7 basis.
- Provide a quick reaction force (QRF) on a 24/7 basis.
- Provide a UNPA fire piquet outside normal working hours.
- Provide a UNPA inner perimeter vehicle patrol.

- Miscellaneous Duties,** as follows:

- Provide the majority of the UNPA swimming pool lifeguards.
- Man the HQ UNFICYP front desk on Saturday mornings and when the receptionist is away.
- Provide a mixed honour guard for visiting dignitaries to the HQ.

MESSAGE FROM FIRE HQ, CAMP COMMAND

Now that winter is approaching, gas/electric/oil heaters are being issued to the offices and accommodation of UNFICYP personnel. According to past experience, and a recent survey which was carried out, great danger exists with the misuse of these appliances. The Fire HQ in Camp Command have compiled some simple safety precautions which can help save your life and property, and possibly those people around you.

- Never leave your heater unattended.
- Never use electric heaters with bars or rods.
- Never dry your clothes near or over the heater.
- Never move a heater when it is alight.
- Make sure the room is well ventilated, especially when you are using a gas heater. Keep your heater at least 1.25m from combustible materials.
- Gas heaters should be turned off and taken outside the building before going to bed.
- Empty/full gas cylinders should not be stored within the building. The only gas cylinder that can be stored inside is the one in use in your gas heater.



Camp Command personnel servicing gas heaters before distribution

- Be sure that your heater has been checked by Support Services Workshop, Ext 680. (For private appliances, follow the manufacturer's instructions.)
- In the event of fire, cut off the gas/electric supply, leave your building and call the Fire Crew on Ext 777.

FIRE FIGHTING COURSE - CAMP COMMAND

CAMP COMMAND is responsible for fire fighting/fire prevention within the UNPA. It is also responsible for the servicing and first aid of fire appliances within UNFICYP.

New arrivals to the Permanent Force Reserve and Camp Command are required to be able to fight any type of fire. In order to maintain an acceptable number of fire fighters within the Force, Camp Command conducts regular fire fighting/fire prevention and First Aid Fire Appliances (FAFA) servicing courses at various times during the year. The instructor is Michael Hadjigeorgiou, a highly qualified Fire Officer. He is assisted by Qadir Nadeem, also a qualified Fire Officer.

These fire fighting/prevention courses not only acquaint UN personnel with the skills of fire fighting, but they also help to make personnel more conscious of the dangers of fire which are a threat to life and property, and in many instances can easily be avoided.

A recent survey conducted by the staff of Fire HQ revealed an alarming ignorance of the signifi-

cance of the figures "777". 75% of personnel were unaware that **Ext 777 is the FIRE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER.** Please keep this number in mind. *It may save a life.*

For further information, contact Fire HQ, Camp Command, Ext 453/454.



Familiar faces around the Headquarters: Michael and Qadir with some of their fire fighting equipment

SUPPORT COMPANY: ROCA CAMP

Support Company is situated in Roca Camp, the only Argentinian camp situated north of the Buffer Zone in the small town of Xeros, approximately 20 km from the Command Post of Argentina's Task Force in Skouriotissa.



The medical team in action

The camp is named after one of the most outstanding characters in Argentina's history. General Roca, a successful military man, held the post of President of Argentina for two periods.

The function of Support Company is as it says: to provide logistical support to the Argentinian Contingent. In Support Company are the following Sections: the Command Post, the Ordnance Section, the Quartermaster stores, the Medical Section, the Transport Section and the Engineer Platoon.

All soldiers are constantly on the go, and most of them are specialists within their own section. They know when they start work, but they never



Building the new OP at UN 9

know what time they will finish! At present, the Engineer Platoon is building a new Observation Post at the top of the hill (UN 9).



Maintenance of vehicles in the transport section

HUNGARIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS VISITS THE HUNGARIAN PEACE-KEEPERS



The Minister (centre) with a Hungarian peace-keeper

The Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr László Kovács, visited Cyprus on 15 October 1996. The Minister, accompanied by the Hungarian Contingent Commander and the CO of the Austrian and Hungarian Battalion, travelled through the Dhali checkpoint to Patrol Base OP 92.

The Minister was briefed on the military situation in the sector and inspected the accommodation of the soldiers. He expressed his appreciation of the work carried out by the Hungarian peace-keepers, and emphasized the importance of their contribution in international peace-keeping activities.

A BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF CYPRUS - Part III

The archaeological site of Salamis is situated about 9 km north of the medieval city of Famagusta. For over 1,500 years, Salamis played a leading role in the historical and cultural development of Cyprus. Today, visitors can see only a few of the monuments of this famous city, but archaeologists believe there is a lot still to be uncovered.

Salamis is believed to have been founded by Tefkros, the son of King Telamon of the small Greek island of Salamis, situated off the port of Piraeus, following the Trojan war around the year 1180 BC.

Wandering about the quiet and reticent ruins, one senses through its size, diversity, fragmental statues, broken pillars and looted tombs the cruelty of history brought about by man and nature. Salamis attributes its prominence to its location. Backed by the fertile plain of the Mesaoria, its special location made it possible for the town to develop as a wealthy and powerful commercial centre throughout antiquity. Its necropolis is both extensive and impressive, covering an area of about four square miles.

A brief description of the main historical events will undoubtedly assist the visitor to appreciate the role and importance of Salamis.

Greek and Phoenician colonies were established in several parts of the island. During the years 540 to 333 BC, the island fell under Persian domination which continued until the defeat of Darius, the Persian King, by Alexander the Great at Issus. The death of Alexander in 323 BC was followed by a

bitter struggle among his successors for possession of Cyprus.

In 294 BC, Cyprus finally passed into the hands of the Ptolemies (the Greco-Egyptian dynasty), who abolished the kingdoms and appointed a viceroy to govern the island from Salamis. Eventually, Salamis was replaced by Paphos as the capital of the island.

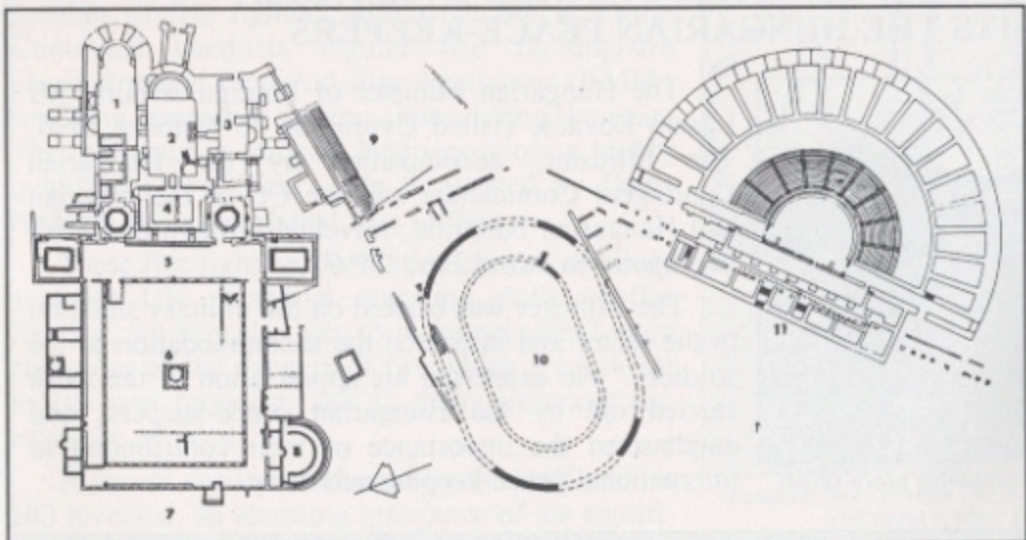
With the expansion of the Roman empire eastwards, Egypt and Cyprus became the next Roman targets and Cyprus was captured in 51 BC. Salamis became once more the capital of Cyprus during the early part of the Byzantine period (330 to 1191 AD).

Repeated earthquakes badly damaged the island during the early part of the 4th century. A severe earthquake in 332 AD and another in 342 AD shattered Salamis. It was during one of these catastrophes that the whole area was covered by tidal waves and was completely blanketed with sand. The Emperor Flavian Constantine (337 to 361 AD), son of Constantine the Great, rebuilt Salamis on a smaller scale, and it was named Constantia in his honour.

He also built in 345 AD the great and beautiful cathedral of St Epiphanius. Constantia was evidently destined to follow in the footsteps of ancient Salamis, but it was badly damaged by fire in 647 AD during the invasion of the Arabs. It was eventually abandoned, subsequent to further attacks and plundering by the Arab invaders and as yet, it has never been rebuilt. It was used as a quarry for the construction of medieval Famagusta.

SALAMIS - Gymnasium - Theatre - Amphitheatre - Stadium

1. North Sudatorium
2. Central Bath
3. South Sudatorium
4. Central Sudatorium
5. East Stoa
6. Palaestra
7. Gymnasium
8. Latrines
9. Amphitheatre
10. Stadium
11. Theatre



THE ANCIENT CITY OF SALAMIS

THE GYMNASIUM AND THE THEATRE

The *gymnasium* dates back to Roman times. Most of the 35 ancient marble Corinthian columns, originally made of stone, were re-erected in 1952-1955. The gymnasium and baths are set around the rectangular *palaestra* where the athletes used to exercise. The areas of public baths can also be seen, including the *sudatoria* (steam rooms).

The present marble colonnade came from the nearby theatre, and the halls and porticas of the Roman building were decorated with marble statues. Some of these, now headless, have been placed on bases around the north swimming pool of the gymnasium.

Located about 100 metres south of the gymnasium, the *theatre* was the centre of cultural life in Salamis. It was built at the end of the first century BC and was probably the successor of an earlier Hellenistic one. It is the largest theatre so far found in Cyprus, with an auditorium capable of accommodating more than 15,000 spectators. Of the original seats, carved from white limestone, only a few of the lower rows were preserved.

THE AGORA, THE WATER TANK AND THE BASILICAS

The *agora*, or market place, was partially excavated in 1890. At the northern end, there is a large cistern with a mosaic floor storing the water that came by an aqueduct from Kythrea. The tank was believed to have been the biggest at that time.

To the north-east of the cistern lies the early Christian *basilica of St Epiphanius* which was built

in 345 AD. Other remains include a small early Christian basilica, known as *the basilica of the Campanopetra*.

Behind the agora is the *Temple of Zeus* with only one lone column still standing and remaining fragments scattered around.

THE ROYAL TOMBS

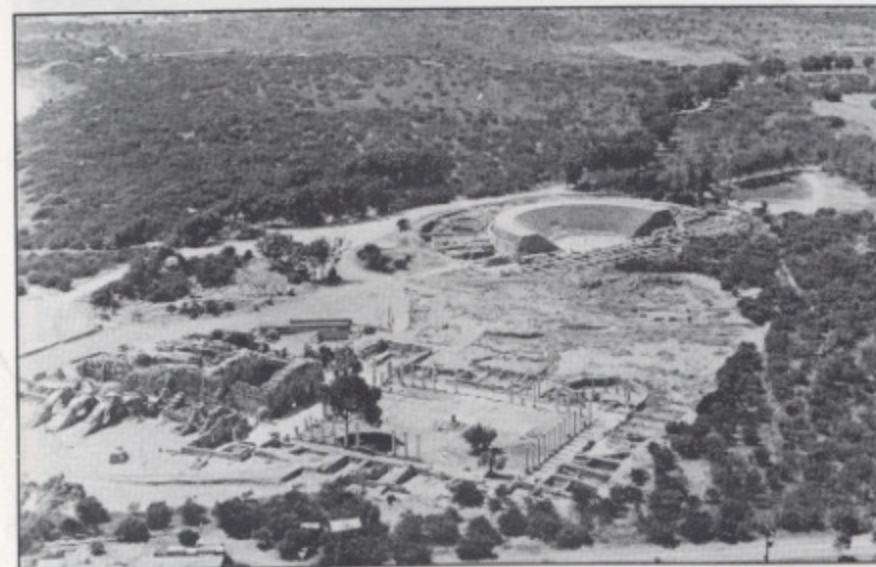
These tombs, nine in all, occupy a plot of their own to the west of the settlement, but are set apart from the cemetery for commoners known as the *cellarca*. The economic and cultural vigour of Salamis during the 8th century BC is revealed by the valuable contents of these tombs.

The best preserved tombs are lined with fine ashlar blocks. The corridors, which vary in width between 10-20 metres, lead through an anteroom to a small burial chamber roofed with a huge monolith. The corridors were not simply to lead to the burial chamber, but were primarily used for the funeral rites and ceremonies. A dead prince would be conveyed to the tomb on his chariot.

Numerous offerings have been discovered on the floor of the corridor. The most impressive finds, however, were the discovery of the skeletons of horses and the remnants of chariots. Next to the chariots, the dead man's spear, shield and sword were buried. These artifacts are proof of the revival of Mycenaean burial rites in Salamis.

In the southern section of the necropolis in the area called *cellarca* lie the tombs of the common people. They were used repeatedly as family graves from the 8th to the 4th century BC.

Beneath the forest of Salamis and underneath its golden sands, there are still numerous uncovered treasures and it is not, therefore, surprising that Salamis is regarded as one of the most significant archaeological sites of the Mediterranean. It is one that no visitor to the island should miss.



An aerial view of the ancient city of Salamis (courtesy of the Dept of Antiquities)

KYRENIA HALF MARATHON

When 39 Regt RA Humanitarian Team took over from 12 Regt RA in June 1996, one of the tasks we took on was doing a lot of basic administration for the HELP! Charity Half Marathon. The work included lots of proof reading entry forms (in English and Turkish), entering them onto the computer, making posters and generally being the liaison for the UN personnel who wanted to enter the event.

On 27 October 1996, the big day came. Fortunately the weather was very good, but due to operational commitments, Sector Two could only enter a small team of runners. With the registration complete, everyone waited for the arrival of Mr Denktash to start the event. The first two miles of the course was on what can only be described as a very large hill with the first water station thankfully at the top. The run then carried on back down the hill, and split up into the Half Marathon



Part of Sector Two's Marathon Team: Left to right: Sgt Brookwell, RCWO Cunningham, WO2 Highfield (kneeling), Sgt Field and Bdr Jones

runners going on a very large loop and the Fun runners heading towards the finish on a smaller loop.

At the end of this very successful event, approximately £3,500 was gathered for charity.

LANCE BOMBARDIER LEADERSHIP COURSE

by Gnr (now LBdr) West - best student

Eventually the time had come and tension was high - the course was about to begin on another hot, sticky day in Cyprus. First there was the standard kit inspection, after which we were bid "good luck" from our CO and then we were off.

21 potential junior NCOs (including three young women) started off on a two-week course. It began with a gruelling 10 days of in-camp training, and ended with a three-day exercise.

The course started off at the Ledra Palace Hotel with a kit list check, and then we set off for Dhekelia. The training was basically to exercise soldiers on their fitness and also on the standard of military skills, including the use of weapons, rocket launchers and grenades, first aid, drilling of nuclear, biological, chemical warfare (NBC), leadership

lessons, map reading, etc. As a rule, British soldiers are tested on these military skills annually to ensure that they are constantly up to standard.

Unfortunately, numbers diminished due to injuries during the training, and only 19 of the original 21 students started on the actual exercise. This involved section attacks, recces, patrols, ambushes, harbour drills and orders. On the very first night, there was an unexpected thunderstorm. Due to the torrential rain, students were told to "bug out", in other words we all had to pack up our kit and get out of there to an emergency rendezvous (ERV).

Of the three days in the field, two days consisted of training and assessments (obviously we were being assessed all the time), and the last day was the final assault,



LBdr West

where all the skills learned were put into practice.

After an extremely hard two weeks, all that was left to do was tidy up and enjoy the course function which took place in the evening. Hopefully, within a couple of years, some of us may be teaching students the skills passed on to us.

ROWING FOR CHARITY

On Friday 8 November 1996 at the recently opened HQ BRITCON's fitness suite, the Club Endorphan, two local units from Sector Two contested a 100 km time trial on indoor rowers. The teams of ten were drawn up from 39 Regt RA and from 9 Para Sqn RE, the Sector Two Engineer Detachment.

The competition commenced at 1000 hrs and the first two rowers started their 10 km leg. The tension mounted as the gunners' initial rower, SSgt Wilson APTC, scorched into an early lead, completing his stint in a staggering time of 36:19:02. The first rower in the sappers, Spr Worland, finished in a very creditable 39:59:01.



Spr Wells

It was a tough battle but the sappers eventually won, completing the distance in 6 hrs, 32 mins, 54 secs, an



All the competitors

average time of just over 38 mins. The guts and determination shown by both teams were tremendous, and the sporting atmosphere in which the contest took place went a long way to providing new friendships in a common cause - fitness.

The opportunity to raise some money (£410) for charity was not missed and was donated to the Wireless for the Blind Appeal. Well done.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S CORPS STAFF AND PERSONNEL SUPPORT DETACHMENT 39TH REGIMENT ROYAL ARTILLERY

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S CORPS Staff and Personnel Support Detachment are situated in the Regimental Headquarters of the British UNFICYP Roulement Regiment of Sector Two in Wolesey Barracks, Nicosia.

The Corps was formed in April 1992 and is, primarily, an amalgamation of the Royal Army Pay Corps, Staff Clerks from the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and Regimental All Arms Clerks. Its main function at unit level is, as its title would suggest, to supply finance and administrative support.

For the uninitiated, 'finance and administrative support' cover a multitude of tasks. Amongst these are, for the British Regiment, movement of personnel, booking of courses, payment of personnel, control of all British non-public fund accounts, enlistments, discharges, mail, clerical support to the Regimental HQ and Batteries and any other task of a clerical or financial nature. Altogether, there are 10 SPS personnel, supple-



mented by a continuity Finance WO and a Military Clerk from BRITCON.

Overall, the six-month tour has proved to be a very busy time. Nevertheless, the Detachment has proved equal to all tasks set, whether from a British or UN role, and will leave the island satisfied with a job well done and looking forward to its much deserved end of tour leave.

THE AUSTRIAN-HUNGARIAN MEDAL PARADE

On 23 October 1996, this year's second Medal Parade of the Austro-Hungarian Contingent was held at Salamis Amphitheatre. Again this location provided a worthy setting for such an event.

In the presence of the CM, Mr G Feissel, the FC, Brig Gen A Vartiainen, the COS, Col I Talbot, and the CO Sector Four, Lt Col W Wildberger, presented the medals.

As an enrichment of the festive event, Sector Four organised the participation of an original Austrian Alpine Band called the "Trachtenmusikkapelle St Jakob". Founded in 1854, the band can look back upon a long tradition. At first it only supported the local church choir, but now it has extended its repertoire to wellknown march, polka, waltz and even modern music. St Jakob is a small village in the rural eastern part of the Tyrol, and is wellknown by visitors for its unspoilt mountainous region and hospitality.

Following the Medal Parade, the reception was held in an equally attractive location - the famous Othello Tower, which is integrated within the old Venetian walls of Famagusta. There, the guests of the Austro-Hungarian Contingent, the medal recipients and the soldiers of AUSCON and HUNCON enjoyed the fantastic buffet prepared by our "chefs de cuisine".



The band of the Trachtenmusikkapelle St Jakob



The Contingent members await the presentation of their medals



The Force Commander addresses the parade, following the medal presentation

Last but not least, AUSCON wishes to thank all those who contributed their help and support, and who ensured that this event was a very special one.



The reception takes place in the Othello Tower

THE BRITCON MEDAL PARADE

As the band of the Royal Corps of Signals struck up to the tune of Colonel Bogey, 114 members of Sector Two and BRITCON marched onto the Ledra Palace parade ground.

Once the various VIPs had arrived, the Force Commander proceeded to inspect the parade before being joined by the British High Commissioner, the Deputy Commander in Chief, HQ Land Command and the Commander British Forces Cyprus in order to present the UN medals. All the inspecting officers took an enormous amount of time to talk to the soldiers, in particular Bombardier Emery and Gunner Hudson who were both shot during the demonstration at Dherinia on 14 August 1996.



"Get on Parade" - The Regimental Sergeant Major brings up the Regiment

It was then time for the Regiment to march past and show off all of the work the Regimental Sergeant Major, WO1 Kalies, had put into preparing the parade. This was immediately followed by the Force Commander's address and



The FC meets the RSM, WO1 Kalies

commendations, highlighting the courage shown by three members of BRITCON who had all separately been involved in incidents involving life saving first aid.

There seemed no better way to conclude the parade than to slow march off to "Auld Lang Syne" and for the visitors to enjoy the Beating the Retreat and Sunset ceremony. It has been remarked that the AUSCON medal parades are well known for their food, but WO2 Cunningham, the Master Chef for

Sector Two, was clearly not going to be outdone. He and the Regimental Chefs prepared a superb meal which accompanied a very hospitable evening in the Ledra Palace Hotel and the Sergeants' Mess.



A proud moment for Bdr Emery (left) and Gnr Hudson as they receive their UN medals from the Force Commander



The Band of the Royal Corps of Signals

For the officers and soldiers of BRITCON, the medal parade was definitely one of the high points of the tour, and all the hours of rehearsals clearly made the night so worthwhile.

UN FLIGHT: ARGAIR

Half way through their six-month tour, personnel from UN Flight are well into their routine. The pilots and technicians are pictured below with their Hughes 500 D.



From left to right:

Top row: Capt Antonio Giommarini, Lt Patricio Pelourson, SSgt Dario Rivas, Capt Elio Godoy, WO1 Luis Capra, Lt Neri Gamarra, Lt Col Gabriel Pavlovic (OC UN Flight)

Centre row, kneeling: Capt Marcelo Feliciani (2ic), 1/Lt Enzo Bressano, Sgt Dario Nieto and Lt (Eng) Francisco Leguiza (Technical Officer)

Front row: Cpl Luis Vargas, Sgt Carlos Dos Santos, WOIII José Bustos, SSgt Herbert Chiodi, WOIII Roberto Thiry, SSgt Jorge Rodriguez, Sgt José Cinquemani, SSgt Jorge Rivadeneira and Cpl Gustavo Filippini

LADIES ON A SECTOR ONE LINE TOUR

On Tuesday 5 November, HQ and Argentinian Officers' wives paid a visit to Sector One, at the invitation of the Contingent Commander. The idea was to familiarise the ladies with the main activities and taskings of the Argentinian Task Force in Cyprus.

The visit started at San Martin Camp. The ladies were taken to the church of Skouriotissa and the Cyprus Mines Corporation, located very close to the camp.

The tour continued on to Roca Camp and the Soli ruins.

The buses then took the group to UN 03, where the ladies were able to see for themselves the wonderful view. From here, they continued on to Saint Raphael's Church in Pakyamos. There they visited UN 01, where the Buffer Zone begins.

After a briefing by 1/Lt Machulsky, the ladies were welcomed to Kokkina Camp with a traditional



Argentinian lunch.

At 1600 hours, they started on the return journey to Nicosia. After their day in Sector One, they had many tales to relate to their families.

IRCIVPOL NEWS

The 4th Contingent Commander of IRCIVPOL arrived in Cyprus on 19 June 1996. Chief Superintendent Liam Quinn replaced Chief Superintendent Patrick Culhane.

Chief Superintendent Quinn joined the Irish police in 1966. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1973, to the rank of Inspector in 1982, to the rank of Superintendent in 1986 and Chief Superintendent in 1994. He has served at Police HQ in Dublin and Limerick City, the third largest city in Ireland. He was Divisional Commander for County Clare on the south-west coast of Ireland prior to his posting to Cyprus. While at Police HQ, he was

involved in the setting up of the first ever police command and control system for Dublin City. He holds diplomas in social studies, criminology and information technology and also a certificate in information techniques.

Chief Superintendent Quinn is married with four children.



The current members of the 3rd Contingent of IRCIVPOL will rotate at the end of November 1996 having spent twelve months in Cyprus.



Top row, from the left: PO Michael Fitzpatrick, PO Fidelma Brennan, PO Philip Brown, PO Frank Flood and Sgt John Scanlon
Sitting, from the left: Sgt Stephen Smyth, Insp John Leahy, Chief Supt Liam Quinn, Supt Matt Cosgrave and Sgt Brian Warren

THE HUMANITARIAN TEAM, SECTOR TWO

ON SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER 1996, Mrs Jane Goodhead, a British woman living in the north of Cyprus, delivered twin boys eight weeks early.

The Sector Two doctor, Capt Chris Porter, and AUSTCIVPOL were called and transferred the babies to Archbishop Makarios III Hospital in south Nicosia. The twins were videoed in the hospital by the Humanitarian team and the video was then taken to Jane Goodhead in Kyrenia Hospital.

Mother and babies were reunited within a week - all are doing fine.



Jane Goodhead sees her sons for the first time



THE BRITCON MEDAL PARADE

