UNFICYP CHEQUE

Recently, Mrs Maura Minheane, wife of the Force Commander, and Mrs Trisha Lambe, wife of the Chief of Staff, handed over a cheque for £500.00 to Thea Kyprarou, President of the Cyprus Multiple Sclerosis Association. This cash was raised by the UNFICYP Families’ Social and Welfare Committee. Pictured from the left are Rita Pantazis, Thea Kyprarou, Maura Minheane and Trisha Lambe.

SP REGT SKILLS AT ARMS MEETING

by Maj Vince Hazlewood

HQ Squadron first. For the first time, the monopoly of Workshop or Signal Squadron winning the Sp Regt SAAM has been broken by the HQ Sqn. This was mainly due to the good shooting of the pistol team. The overall results were:

Falling Plate winners: A Tp 1 Sqn RCT
Runners-up: Ord/Fit
Pistol Individual Champion: SSGT Speak, HQ Sqn
Pistol Team winners: HQ Sqn
Runners-up: Wksp
SA80 Individual Champion: Cpl Baford, SigS
SA80 Team winners: Sig Sqn
Runners-up: Wksp
Overall Winners: HQ Sqn
Runners-up: Wksp

The winners - HQ Sqn: SGMs Harry Lomas, Grifman ‘Gilly’ Gilroy, L/Cpl Shawn Holder, SGMs Brian Sherwood, SSGT Terry Speak, L/Cpl ‘Mo’ Morris, Maj Vince Hazlewood, LCpl Sue Mason

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL


My message on this United Nations Day is one of hope. Despite the news of war, hunger, homelessness and disease affecting millions, the world is moving toward a new, more participatory, people-centered way of conducting international affairs.

To many people, particularly those living in countries in transition, this is a time of turbulence and uncertainty. In other places, anarchy seems to prevail. In much of the world, economic distress brings bewilderment and fear.

The United Nations too is undergoing change. The Charter enjoins us to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” and to “promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.” Today we have a new opportunity to fulfill the purposes and principles of the Charter. Its goals - peace, prosperity and political participation - are the pre-requisite of the life in dignity to which every man and woman aspires.

The first truly global era has begun. Critical issues increasingly require universal attention and effort. Development, disarmament, the environment, human rights and the underlying causes of conflict, all have a global dimension. The need for the world organization and its work is greater today than at any time since its founding.

I see hopeful signs that a new and better era is emerging. A reinvigorated United Nations will be at the heart of cooperative international progress.

On this United Nations Day, therefore, let us dedicate ourselves anew to the Charter. Let each of us ask what we can do to confirm the United Nations as mankind’s best hope for the future.

Front Cover

The AUSTCIVPOL Duty Room

by S/Sgt Keyp Capon

EDITORIAL

Usually, the editorial column is used to comment on events or activities in UNFICYP because, like every other element of the Force, this office shares the same interest in the local scene. Occasionally, it is necessary to rise above the local unit activities and operations to address issues with which the United Nations as an organisation is concerned.

Recent statements by the Secretary General to mark special UN occasions, eg the opening of the 47th regular session of the General Assembly, referred to the current major issues. These issues include, inter alia, the financial burden facing the UN, the increasing demands for involvement in humanitarian operations and the sacrifices made by peace-keepers.

The Secretary-General’s most recent message is one of hope for the future and of special interest to all involved with the work of the organisation. It is reprinted here for the benefit of members of UNFICYP.

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THE DANCON MEDAL PARADE

by Maj Per Knudsen

The Danish Contingent recently held its 57th Medal Parade at which UN medals were presented to the soldiers of DANCON 57, the last full Danish Unit to serve in UNFICYP.

N.E. Jacobsen, and musical accompaniment was by the Band of the 1st Battalion, the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters from the SBA Dhekella.

The Parade was attended by approximately 180 guests. The UN medal was presented to 175 officers, NCOs and privates by the Force Commander, Maj Gen MF Minehanne, the Chief of Staff, Brig RM Lambe MBE and the Deputy Chief of Staff, Col P Resch. The remaining 335 men in DANCON have already served with UNFICYP and they will receive their Silver Numerals from their Company Commanders.

DANCON held a very good Parade under the command of Contingent Commander, Lt Col...
NEWS FROM THE SCOUT CAR SQUADRON

by Capt Charles Hedley

It is hard to believe that the Squadron has been in Cyprus for two months. The Cyprus leisurely way of life has certainly not been reflected in the hectic pace of events. The welcoming briefs have given us the opportunity to play host to the logistics teams, meet the personalities at the MP Company and enable the Officers to find out whom not to cross up at the Headquarters.

Nevertheless, it has been pleasing to report that the Scout Car troops on the ground have settled quickly into their patrol programmes and intermingled favourably with their Danish, Canadian and Australian hosts. In return, we have been able to arrange for an exchange of two Canadian soldiers with Tpra Hynua and Preston for a couple of days. It is hoped that in the future, similar visits from different contingents can be arranged. The two remaining troops are both accommodated in Prince William Camp: one works for the Sector Two Regiment, while the other patrols the City. However, unlike our predecessors, the rotation of troops will occur more frequently as they move station every two and a half weeks.

UNIT ADMIN OFFICE, UNFICYP SUPPORT REGIMENT

by Sgt RA Charles

The Support Regiment Unit Administration Office is situated in Jubilee Camp. The Office is responsible for all the pay and documentation requirements of Sp Regt personnel.

The office staff consists of Maj Ken Smith (Regimental Admin Officer), WO2 Pete Whiteside (Div 2), SSGt Andrew Smith (SSA), Sgt Paula Jeffrey (Div 3), Cpl Sarah Linstead and Mark Jervis (two Div 4s) and Cpl Steve Bolt (docs clerk).

In spite of working extremely hard during office hours, the members of the UAG also manage to get involved in many recreational activities, all of which engender a happy team spirit enabling everyone to enjoy their UNFICYP tour.

AUSTCIVPOL'S LEDRA PALACE STATION

by Supt Ken Hunt

Arguably the busiest and most challenging of AUSTCIVPOL's stations, the Ledra Palace station is home to four Australian Civilian Police. Station Sergeant Lloyd Schmidt's "beat" includes the Buffer Zone through the centre of the old walled city of Nicosia and south to the Louroujina pocket. He and his three Sergeants work with the Canadians in Sector Three, reacting to incidents which involve civilians.

The Ledra Palace Hotel, situated in the Buffer Zone, is often the location for meetings between the two communities. It is also the major crossing point. Daily through Ledra Gate, an AUSTCIVPOL member drives the hospital bus transporting day-patients from North Nicosia hospitals to those in the south. Other tasks may include special escort duties, supporting the Humanitarian Branch in their operations or escorting patients requiring urgent medical treatment.

Nicosia, especially around the Ledra Gate, is the scene of many demonstrations during the year. Part of the duties of AUSTCIVPOL is to provide liaison to the military about crowd control and to liaise with both Cypriot police services to minimise public disorder.

Outside the city, Sector Three Rural Company controls the Buffer Zone which stretches south-east through the Omorphita and Meseoria plains. Many of the tracks border minefields, some of which may not be accurately recorded or marked. These are sometimes revealed when the generated heat of a grass fire explodes the landmines. In cases where the fires have damaged farmers' crops or equipment or civilians have been killed or injured, AUSTCIVPOL will commence investigations into the cause.

Only 20 strong, AUSTCIVPOL members are stretched thin along the Buffer Zone. From the mountains of Troodos to the plateaux of Mammi and Louroujina, they meet and mix with a cross section of the Cypriot population, citizens and visitors alike. Each Australian police officer is a volunteer, fulfilling a role of contribution to the maintenance and restoration of law and order in Cyprus.
NEWS FROM AUSCON

AUSCON ATTEMPTS TO SAVE MILEAGE!

In accordance with orders from HQ UNFICYP, AUSCON have given a great deal of thought in an attempt to reduce mileage. One idea was an effort to combine the duties of the various branches and sections within the Contingent.

Others suggested the idea of combining the Austrian soldiers' interest in sport with the need for regular exercise by introducing "the bicycle patrol". One of the real enthusiasts is shown in the photograph - will there be any others??

WATCH OUT FOR CHILDREN

Capt. Botzenhart and the little boy.

Some weeks ago, a message was received about a traffic accident which had taken place in a small village near Famagusta. In the course of the accident, a young boy was injured, though thankfully not seriously. Nevertheless, the MO decided to keep him in overnight for observation.

The following day the boy was discharged and subsequently Sector Four arranged to make him a present of a tricycle. The gift was presented to the boy by the MTO, Capt. Botzenhart.

This accident has a happy ending but it does carry a message, particularly where children are concerned. Take special care when driving through the narrow roads of small villages in order to avoid such incidents in the future.

COST SAVING IDEAS FOR UNFICYP

We've saved a lot of mileage.

The idea came from the MTO.

A good idea, don't you think?

...to coordinate our trips in this way.

NEWS FROM CANCON

1 RCHA ARRIVES IN CYPRUS

by Capt. J. Fortoloczky

In Germany. The Regiment was until July stationed at CFB Lahr and was moved to CFB Shilo. Second, this is the first time that a major component of the Regiment is made up of army reservists (militia). Rural Battery is almost entirely composed of militia men and women. Of the 519 soldiers in Sector Three, 114 are militia soldiers. In fact the Battery Commander of Rural Battery is a militia officer, Major S. Steinker. Lastly, this marks the first time that Canadian female soldiers have manned line positions. They will no doubt stand shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts and prove worthy of the task.

On arrival, the Regiment had to overcome all the many administrative and logistical hurdles of getting positioned and taking over from the 3rd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment. Despite the usual headaches, the entire process was smooth and painless.

1 RCHA TAKE OVER SECTOR THREE

A Change of Command Parade marked the handover of Sector Three from the 3rd Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment to the 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery. There were two guards made up of the R22R and 1RCHA respectively with the usual exchange of gifts and the raising and lowering of unit flags.

1 RCHA takes over command of Sector Three from the 2nd Bn R22R.

SOLDIERS RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO GULF WAR

The Commanding Officer of Sector Three, Col MD Capstick, recently had the honour of presenting WO GF Bode with the Liberation of Kuwait Medal, as awarded to him by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This medal represents WO Bode's contribution to the liberation efforts in serving as a signalman in the Persian Gulf. Two other members of the Regiment were awarded the medal back at CFB Shilo, Manitoba.

This medal is given in addition to the Canadian Gulf Medal for the same action.

WO GF Bode

Liberation of Kuwait Medal, awarded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
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UNICYP MP COY
AYIA NAPA DETACHMENT - ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE

Alya Napa - sun, sea, sand and yes, of course, Nissi Beach. Add to this 190 pubs, 19 nightclubs and plane loads of tourists and it is not hard to imagine why Alya Napa is the place of choice for those of you having the occasional day off. Many within UNICYP will indeed have happy memories of this holiday haven. A fact of military life is that where there are UN soldiers, there are sure to be UN Military Policemen, hence the UN MP presence in Alya Napa.

From the seven contingents within the UN MP Coy, four are currently represented at the Alya Napa Detachment, Austrian, Canadian, Danish and British. The Detachment is commanded by WO1 Fred Oster from AUSCON, assisted by Sgt Brian Weatherbee, Det 2 IC from CANCON whose Gordon Bleu cooking is second to none.

The Detachment’s responsibility is to provide Military Police support and services to the Alya Napa area. Due to the absence of a large permanent military presence within this area of responsibility, the primary role is conducting disciplinary patrols, by day at Nissi Beach and by night at the "square". Close liaison with bar/pub owners and the local Cypriot Police ensures relatively smooth sailing for all Detachment members.

ANNUAL UN MP COY DINING-IN NIGHT

The UNICYP Military Police Company recently held their annual Dining-in Night. The function was held at the Ledra Palace WO’s and Staff’s Mess and was attended by 70 members of the MP Coy with their ladies and members of the Australian and Swedish Civilian Police. Our guests of honour were the DCOS, Col P Resch and Mrs Resch. The evening was a great success and a good time was had by all.

Thanks go out to Sgt Sheppard, Sgt Weatherbee, Sgt Jensen and Capt Ennis, together with the chefs at the Ledra Palace for their efforts in putting together this excellent evening.

The Blue Beret

THE RECOVERY SECTION

October 1992

THE RECOVERY SECTION

by Cpl Porter

The Section has three recovery vehicles:

- The first is a Foden 6x6 Heavy Recovery Vehicle. Because of its unique lift capability, the Recovery Section is often called upon to assist with miscellaneous loading/unloading, moving and/or positioning of various items within UNICYP.
- The second is the Bedford Recovery Vehicle, tasked for the recovery of the "lighter" vehicles such as Bedford 4 Tonners, Ferret Scout Cars and Landrovers.
- Finally, there is the Bedford Platform Recovery Vehicle which handles lighter loads. It has a small winch in order to pull the casualty up onto the rear of the vehicle, at which point it is strapped down before being brought back for repair.

Foden 6x6 Heavy Recovery Vehicle with LCpl Mackleden

The Recovery Section is a vital part of the UN Workshops, and is situated to the rear of the Support Regiment Workshops in Jubilee Camp. The primary job of the NCO IC, Cpl Porter, and the 21 IC, LCpl Mackleden, is the recovery of all UN vehicles which have been involved in traffic accidents or which have just broken down.

Bedford Platform Recovery Vehicle with Cpl Porter

MRS CHRISTINE WILKINSON (WRVS)

MRS CHRISTINE WILKINSON (WRVS)

Mrs Christine Wilkinson, Women’s Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS), joined the WRVS in January 1990 and has been with the King’s Division, Infantry Training Depot at Strensall for the last 18 months. Chris has been posted to UNICYP for two years to look after the welfare of the single British soldiers.

The WRVS room is located in the Elizabethan Club, so do go for a game of table-tennis or a chat and a brew. Chris can order your flowers for birthdays, etc and can be contacted at HQ UNICYP on Extension 2791.
NEWS FROM SECTOR TWO

PROMOTION WITHIN HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

Four members of Headquarters Battery, Sector Two have recently been rewarded for their hard work within the Regiment.

Gunner John Ferris, the Quartermaster’s clerk, was promoted to Lance-Bombardier. John will shortly transfer from the Gunners to the Adjutant General’s Corps, a new Corps for administration within the British Army. The steady promotion prospects of clerking, together with the increase in pay, is welcomed by John as he plans to marry his Danish fiancée, Puk, in the near future. John is a good country runner and he enjoys all endurance sports.

Another soldier within the Quartermaster’s Department is Lance-Bombardier Paul Bowles to Sergeant. Paul began his career in the Army as a mounted gunner in the King’s Troop. These soldiers are often seen on ceremonial duties at the Horse Guards, Whitehall, London. Since arriving at 5th Regiment RA, he has been employed as a Technical Storeman. He recently passed a Battery Quartermaster Storeman’s course which resulted in his promotion to Rations Sergeant. He still has to be up at the crack of dawn, not to feed the horses, but to collect food to feed the hungry soldiers of Sector Two.

Yet another soldier to be promoted within the Quartermaster’s Department is Lance-Bombardier John Jacobs to Bombardier. John is employed as the Clothing Storeman and is also responsible for the Battery’s mountain bikes, which the soldiers use quite often. A keen sportsman, John is a member of the Battery’s DANCON March Squad and in quieter moments, he has been spotted out and about with a metal detector—probably looking for little parts fallen off the mountain bikes!

The fourth soldier to be promoted was Lance-Bombardier Paul Bird to Bombardier. Paul has exchanged his Dortmund job of operating and maintaining the 432 Command post for the Ops Room of Sector Two. His patience, learnt from trying to keep the Regiment’s elderly Army personnel carriers roadworthy, has been equally useful in dealing with cracking landlines and difficult radio checks. John is a keen mountain bike rider, whose unusual idea of an enjoyable weekend is to cycle up and down the Kyrenia mountains.

NEWS FROM SECTOR TWO

SOLDIERS OF SECTOR TWO VISIT SECTOR ONE

A number of soldiers from Sector Two were recently invited to attend a familiarisation tour of Sector One by the Danish Contingent. The soldiers toured the whole line of Sector One and were given first-hand experience of what future UN British Contingents will be patrolling when the Danes pull out.

The Danish Sector runs into the Troodos Mountains, the highest range of mountains in Cyprus. The patrol tracks along Sector One are very winding and steep. The soldiers of Sector Two agreed that views in the Danish Sector were quite magnificent. It was a nice change to see green fauna instead of the arid plain of Nicosia.

VISIT BY COLONEL C COPELAND

From left to right: Capt AJ Walker, Col C Copeland and Lt Col RE Preedy.

Col Chris Copeland RA, Commander General Support, HQ 1 Artillery Brigade, Dortmund, 5th Regiment’s higher command in Germany, recently visited them in Cyprus.

Col Copeland toured the line of Sector Two and spoke to many of the soldiers and officers. This was his last visit to the Regiment as Commander General Support, as he is soon posted from Dortmund Garrison.

SOLDIERS OF Q BATTERY RUN FOR CHARITY

Fifteen soldiers of Q (Sanna’s Post) Battery recently took part in the 1992 Limassol Fun Run/Walk for Charity, organised by the Lions Club of Limassol. The route took them along the Limassol sea front, starting at the Old Port and finishing at Kolossi Castle. £75 was raised for the Muscular Dystrophy Research Trust of Cyprus.

Members of Q Bty’s sponsored run
AUSTCIVPOL HOSTS UNFICYP VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

by Supt Geoff Hazel

The 1992 UNFICYP Volleyball Competition was held in August in the Trident Hangar, UNPA. Each of the four Sectors entered two teams with one from Support Regiment. The UN Military Police Company, AUSTCIVPOL and SWEDCIVPOL combined to form a team called “UN Police”.

As the day wore on, the heat in the hangar increased - not entirely due to the outside temperature. The high quality of the players, each individual’s commitment to do the best by his team and the vocal support of the spectators took the atmosphere to pressure cooker proportions. Some sequences of play were so exciting that spectators imagined them akin to replays of the Olympic Games.

After playing six hard games, both finalists, CANCON and DANCION, made full use of the lunch break to rest before the gold medal match. The first game seemed to be going to the team from Viking Camp, but gradually, the Canadians turned the game around to take full charge of the match. In the final analysis, CANCON One defeated DANCION One 15-10 and 15-5.

Throughout the day, good sportsmanship was a feature. The appreciation of the organisers goes to all who officiated in the competition and to the players who graciously accepted some of our more “unusual” decisions.

THE ORDANACE DETACHMENT

Sgt Del Pentland has been with the Ord Det since January 1991. He is a Supply Controller and also the POL Accountant, in addition to supervising the clerical functions within the Detachment. Del has an added responsibility in assisting HQ UNFICYP, together with the OC Ord Det, on Service Liaison Visits. He is always available to offer advice on POL matters. Del is married to Hazel, and his main interests are golf, rugby, cricket and being a quizmaster.

Sgt Del Pentland right with Panikos, who is putting the last coat of varnish to the wood before the upholstery process.

No additional text provided for this section.

SUPPORT REGIMENT MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION

by Maj Vince Hazlewood

Sgt Del Pentland right with Panikos, who is putting the last coat of varnish to the wood before the upholstery process.


The Grand Finalists with the UNFICYP Volleyball Shield. CANCON (white) ran out winner against DANCION.


SUPPORT REGIMENT CATERERS

by SSgt Speak • Catering Dept, Sp Regt

Three times a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year, hot food is provided to the living in personnel of UNFICYP by members of the Army Catering Corps.

The Army Catering Corps was formed in 1941 to provide a better and more efficient feeding system for the British Army. Since then, the Corps has served all around the world and on every conflict from the Falklands to the Gulf War and more recently in Yugoslavia.

All Chefs entering the Corps are trained at Aldershot in England to levels set by the Civilian Industry.

This makes members ideally suited to enter the trade on leaving the Army.

To commemorate the Corps’ birthday, this year members of Support Regiment placed a wreath at the grave of Pte R Adamson who is buried at Wayne’s Keep Cemetery, Nicosia. Pte Adamson, Army Catering Corps, died aged 22 on 22 October 1954, whilst on service in Cyprus.

The Catering Team consists of the Messing Officer, Maj (QM) Tony Chaytorsk RA, with Master Chef WO2 (SGMS) Harry Lomas BEM assisted by SSgt Terry Speak. These are the only permanent members of the team. They provide all the messing requirements for the Jubilee Camp Regimental Restaurant, the WOs’ & Sgts’ Mess and the HQ UNFICYP Officers’ Mess.

Amongst their many commitments, the Chefs provided a Fish & Chips stall at the Spring Fair, frying for five hours, serving over 1,000 portions of Fish & Chip. In addition to the heavy workload, members of the Department are still very keen to represent the Regiment and Squadron in competitions such as Shooting, MI Skills, Cross Country, Orienteering, Bowling and Football to name but a few, as well as mass participation in major UNFICYP events such as the DANCION March.

No additional text provided for this section.