

# THE Blue Beret

September 1995







# The Jordan Valley Trail

*The Biblical Bike Ride '95  
for The Nazareth Hospital  
4-12 November 1995*

Between 4-12 November, a mammoth task will be undertaken by two ladies from UNFICYP in the form of a sponsored bike ride.

It is the intention of WOI (Con) Dawn Parkin BEM and Sgt Cherrie Haddlesey to help raise £300,000 for The Nazareth Hospital. The Nazareth Hospital is owned by the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society (EMMS). This is one of the oldest medical missionary organisations in the world, and in its 154-year history, it has supported student doctors from around the globe in their medical training, encouraging them to go on to work as Christian doctors in many countries, and through them establish a number of hospitals overseas. The Nazareth Hospital is one of them, serving all the people of the diverse community of Galilee, Arab and Jewish, Christian and Moslem alike.

The Nazareth Hospital is owned, maintained, staffed and funded by EMMS with the help and support from organisations and individuals from around the world. The financial needs of the Hospital still continue, and from the Bike Ride '95, the aim is to raise a further £300,000 for the continuing development of facilities there.



Cherrie (left) and Dawn practising for their cycle ride

A total of 150 riders will be taking part this year from all parts of the UK, Europe, America and Israel to make this a truly international Christian event. Dawn and Cherrie have to raise a sponsorship of at least £1,800 (sterling) each in order to take part in this 5-day cycle ride which follows a 240 mile route through the Jordan Valley (see right). Cyclists will be accommodated either in hostels in the kibbutzim or receive Bedouin hospitality in tents! Every 10km there is a water stop, and food en route will be in convenient tree-shaded spots.

Readers of the Blue Beret are encouraged to assist Dawn and Cherrie by supporting the Oktoberfest Fete which will take place on 7 October on the UNPA sports field. Raffles and other fund raising activities will also be organised, so keep your eyes out on all notice boards for further information.

The Blue Beret wishes Dawn and Cherrie every success in their venture.



The route that Dawn and Cherrie will take

## FIELD SERVICE OFFICER: MR MIGUEL LOPEZ

The 29 September 1995 will be a sad day for colleagues of Miguel Lopez in UNFICYP, for it is the date that Miguel retires after more than 21 years service for the organization.

Miguel is from Colombia and joined the United Nations in January 1974. Since then, he has served in different missions of UNTSO on five occasions, in UNDOF twice and in UNFICYP twice, having spent the last twelve years as a Records/Management Officer. Before joining the UN, Miguel worked for the detective division of the Colombian Police Force

dealing with narcotics.

Miguel is married to Palmira and between them they have six children. His hobbies include reading, cycling and clay pigeon shooting.

Miguel intends to retire in Cyprus. Hopefully, we shall still be seeing him around the UNPA!



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

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FRONT COVER:  
UN FLIGHT PATROLLING  
IN SECTOR ONE

BY CPL WILLIE QUAIN

# The Blue Beret



## The Financial Crunch!

Just when the 185 Member States of the United Nations are preparing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Organization – whose Charter came into force on 24 October 1945 – the gloomy message came from UN Headquarters: the UN is confronted with an unprecedented shortfall of cash. Nations of the world continue to ask the UN to undertake an ever widening variety of peacekeeping and other tasks. But too many of the members are not paying their dues on time. The Secretary-General recently issued a staff bulletin outlining the bad news: the amount owed by Member States has risen to \$3.7 billion. If the current situation continues, the UN's numerous peace-keeping operations will be placed in great jeopardy.

UNFICYP and all other UN operations and agencies have to tighten their belts. A freeze on recruitment has been ordered, as well as other measures such as suspension of purchases of equipment and furniture. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has asked all concerned for their continued loyalty and support in this critical moment. As for the countries which are behind in paying their bills, the 50th anniversary is the right time to make those overdue payments.

## Farewell Willie Quain

The time has come to say goodbye to Cpl Willie Quain, the outgoing UNFICYP Force Photographer, who is leaving Cyprus to return to his native Ireland after a six-month tour. In his short stay, his earnest approach to the job and his willingness to please members of UNFICYP as a whole has earned him a reputation to be admired. The Spokesman's Office wishes him all the very best.

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## BRITISH CONTINGENT MEDAL PARADE



The Commanding Officer is presented his medal by the Force Commander

played by the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, Britannia Royal Naval College and under the command of Lt Col IR Sinclair RA. Not only were members of the Regiment being presented with their UN medals, but also men of the many units making up the augmentees to Sector Two.

The medals were presented by the Force Commander, Brig Gen ATP Vartiainen, the Honorary Regimental Colonel, Maj Gen BT Pennicott

Tuesday 5 September saw the majority of 29 Commando Royal Artillery presented with their United Nations Medal in the presence of the Chief of Mission, Mr G Feissel. The Regiment paraded on the Ledra Palace car park, marching



CVO, the Acting British High Commissioner, CB Jennings Esq, and the Commander British Forces Cyprus, Air Vice-Marshall P Millar RAF.

The parade was a great success, with the Regiment turned out immaculately and the drill sharp

as you like. This is all due by and large to the hard work put in by the Adjutant, Capt PHS Baker, Capt DM Halpin and the Regimental Sergeant Major, WO1 (RSM) GM Lindsay.



The Regiment paying its compliments to the Force Commander



The Officers from HQ Battery prior to the parade

After the Regiment had marched off, with the Force Commander and the Honorary Regimental Colonel taking the salute, the band returned to Beating of the Retreat and the Sunset Ceremony,

before themselves marching off to the rousing "Life on the Ocean Wave".



Mr G Feissel, the Chief of Mission, is welcomed by the Chief of Staff, Col JSW Powell OBE



The Regiment marches on, led by the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, BRNC



## HELLO AND AU REVOIR!



With the departure of Waldemar Rokoszewski on temporary mission in Tajikistan and the arrival of Charles Gaulkin to replace him as UNFICYP



Mr Akay Cemal (Halkin Sesi), Mr Özcan Özcanhan (Ortam), Mr Metin Çatan (ATV) and Mr Charles Gaulkin

Spokesman, the one week hand-over period allowed time for a gathering of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot journalists at the Ledra Palace Press Club.



Mr Waldemar Rokoszewski with Mr Andreas Bimbishis (Agon)

In addition to meeting the two Spokesmen, the news-men and other guests had an opportunity to discuss current affairs with their colleagues from both sides.



Mr Andreas Kannaouros and Mr Mehmet Ali Akpinar, Chairmen of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot Journalists' Unions respectively

In keeping with traditional practice of the Spokesman's Office, there were no speeches.



Ms Maria Miles (Cyprus News Agency) with Ms Perihan Aziz (TAK News Agency)

## UNFICYP WEDDING

On 22 July, LCpl Sean Poulson, the UNFICYP Chief of Staff's driver, married Cpl Debbie Butler, RMP. The couple met in Londonderry a mere 11 months earlier, and it wasn't long before Debbie popped the question, half-way down a mountain in France!

Sean was stationed in 8 Brigade Commander's CPT (Close Protection Team) and worked in close cooperation with the Royal Military Police where Debbie was based. One day, Sean was taking a NAAFI break and was sitting in the corner, quietly reading his book. It happened to be a book that Debbie wanted to read, and she enquired whether there was any chance of borrowing it.... The following day, Sean was going into town and Debbie needed a lift - and Bob's your uncle! It only took six months for Debbie to propose, which isn't bad going in these days of women's lib.

The couple were married in Saint Columba's Church on the UNPA by the Rev Ray Hayter, and the honeymoon will take place at the end of Sean's tour. We all wish them a long and happy future together.





## KEEP COOL - SOME TIPS ON HOW TO COPE WITH THE HEAT

by Mrs Jill Powell

The summers in Cyprus are long and hot. Even by this time of year, there is still a lot of heat in the sun, so here are a few ideas on how to handle the heat and stay cool.

"When in Rome, do as the Romans do" ... and in Cyprus, the pace of life is noticeably slower in the summer months. Take a leaf out of the local Cypriots' book and try to live life at a more gentle pace. If work/children/time permit, it can be very restorative and cooling to have a siesta in the afternoon. Most of the shops are closed from approximately 1.00 to 4.00 pm, so this is an ideal time to take a nap, preferably under a fan indoors, or in the shade.

Also, try to keep in the shade. If you are outside, it makes a big difference if you can stand under something shady. The temperature is lower and this can help to stop you overheating. A hat with a shady brim is a good idea and keeps the head and body temperature lower, whether you are walking around outside, or relaxing at the swimming pool. In fact, the pool is probably one of the best places to keep cool. A swim in the clear blue water of the UNPA pool is the best way to take exercise when the sun is hot and avoid the potential dangers of heat exhaustion.

If you do have to be out in the sun (along with the "mad dogs and Englishmen" who Noel Coward made famous for their love of the midday sun), then put on plenty of sun-block. Tan gradually, and your tan will last longer - but beware of the dangers of skin cancer. Perhaps "pale and interesting" is a better look for today.

Anything energetic, from running or tennis to housework or cooking, is best done in the cooler times of day - in the early morning or in the evening. Allow



plenty of time to cool off after taking exercise, and remember to drink plenty of liquids to avoid dehydration. Non-alcoholic liquids are healthier, so drink lots of water before trying local Cypriot drinks like brandy sour or beer. Although a cool shower is tempting, some people advocate a slightly warm shower to lower the body temperature more effectively. Cotton clothes are much cooler than polyester or viscose. Other natural fabrics, like linen and silk, are cool and comfortable to wear too, and light colours are best.

So, slow down, take a siesta, stay shady and remember the Cypriot saying "siga, siga" (slowly, slowly). Enjoy the rest of the sunny weather!

## KARPAS COMMANDER CELEBRATES HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY

On 17 August, WO1 Heinz Rehschützecker celebrated his 50th birthday. Born in Zeltweg (Styria), Heinz's first apprenticeship was as a baker. Then in 1962, he joined the Austrian Army at the Air Force base in Zeltweg. In 1964, he attended the NCO training centre in Enns (Upper Austria), which included a number of specific training courses. He has been working in his unit as a Deputy Platoon Commander, Radar NCO and Chief Instructor.

This is Heinz's eighth tour with the UN. He has served four times in Syria, and this is his fourth (and last) tour with UNFICYP as Commander of the LP in Leonarissio.

Heinz is married with two sons and one daughter. His hobbies include classical music, motorbikes, playing tennis and diving. We wish him good luck in the future.



## HELP!

The charity HELP! was founded in 1989 as a registered charity with the aim of assisting children, families and individuals in need in the northern part of Cyprus. The Committee's Chairwoman is Ece Umar, who took over earlier this year from Marion Hayes.

The main institutions which benefit from Help's fund-raising activities are the School for the Deaf in Lapithos, as well as the School for the Mentally Handicapped and the Boys' Hostel in Kyrenia. The charity works in cooperation with the Directorates of Education of Social Services, but much of their assistance is in areas which the authorities are unable to cover.

Recently, the dangers of fire have been much in the news, especially since the massive devastation on the Kyrenia mountain range. So, in response to a recent request for financial assistance, the UN Families' Social and Welfare Committee granted a donation of C£500 towards the cost of installing a fire escape for



Jill Powell handing the cheque to Ece Umar

the Boys' Hostel. This Hostel is home for about 20 young boys aged 11-18 who are orphans or who cannot live with their own families, and it is important that the building meets all fire regulations. Fortunately, there was no damage during the blaze in July 1995.

On behalf of the UN Families Social Committee, Jill Powell, Val Dales and the Rev Ray Hayter visited the Hostel to donate the cheque. All Help's finances come from their own fund-raising efforts or donations, so this assistance was much appreciated.

The next charity event run by Help! will be a Half-Marathon and "Fun Run" (some may think that this is a contradiction in terms?) which will take place on 15 October. Now is the time to help Help! - so start training, find some sponsors and take part in this worthwhile cause. The day run is between Kyrenia and Bellapais, so it takes in a few steep sections, but also some beautiful scenery. Entry forms are available from HQ BRITCON and the HIVE, UNPA.

## PRESENTATION OF CHEQUE TO THE CYPRUS KIDNEY ASSOCIATION

To help towards the purchase of a much-needed additional kidney dialysis machine for the Kidney Dialysis Unit at the Nicosia General Hospital, the United Nations Families' Welfare and Social Committee donated a cheque for C£500. On Monday 21 August, Jill Powell, Ann Doyle and Padre Ray Hayter from the Committee visited the Hospital and presented the cheque to Dr Akis Pierides, President of the Cyprus Kidney Association.



From the left: Nurse, Mrs Alike Economidou (President of the Association of Patients), patient, Mrs Ann Doyle, Mrs Jill Powell, the Rev Ray Hayter and Dr Akis Pierides

dialysis machine at this specialist unit. Although this unit comes under the Ministry of Health, it is largely self-supporting in terms of financing the purchase of new equipment. The Cyprus Kidney Association has to rely on donations and fund-raising, both for research and for the purchase of new equipment, in particular the kidney dialysis machines. As many as two-thirds of all the dialysis machines in Cyprus are donated or bought by the Associations's fund-raising activities.

In Cyprus, there are between 50 to 60 new cases of kidney disease every year, which is a high incidence. In overall terms, this averages out as 90 new cases per one million population, and it is an expensive and labour-intensive condition to treat.

Patients with more advanced stages of kidney disease who cannot be "cured" by a kidney transplant have to undergo long and regular sessions on a

This is a big challenge, as each machine costs C£8,000. The Unit in the Nicosia Hospital has nine machines working permanently, with two more in reserve. The dialysis machines are so much in demand that they are run on a shift system, making maximum use of time and equipment available. They are operated by a dedicated nursing and maintenance staff, headed by Dr Pierides.





## ERGOTHON CHALLENGE AT THE LEDRA PALACE HOTEL

by Lt C Harris and Gnr I Marsh (7 Bty)

On Saturday 26 August 1995, the 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery Ergothon Challenge was held at the Ledra Palace Hotel, Sector Two. The setting, next to the swimming pool, was well chosen and taken full advantage of.

The competition took the form of three 10-man teams rowing for ten hours, each man completing three exhausting 20-minute shifts. Those who had delusions of a 20-minute sprint soon dismissed the idea when the first shift began at 0755. All three Batteries (7, 79 and 23) got off to a flying start, and it soon became apparent that this was going to be a very closely fought competition indeed.

The running skill and fitness of 23 Battery was to prove insufficient and they soon started to fall behind, with the technical rowing of 7 and 79 Batteries turning the event into a two-team race. The competitors were giving everything they had, the crowd was beginning to build and it was promising to be a photo finish. The team members of 7 Battery knew they had to secure a sufficient lead to counter 79 Battery's ace-in-the-hole in the guise of L/Bdr "Harry" Harrison, whose rowing feats are now legendary. 7 Battery's lead was built up over the last round of nine rows to 280 metres, and as L/Bdr Harrison for 79 and Cpl Craig Renney for 7 took to the machines, there was literally all to row for.



Cpl Renney

For 20 minutes the spectators, supporting competitors and judges coerced and cajoled the final two competitors to give the performance of their lives -



Top L to R: Cpl Renney, Mne Burdis, Mne Day, Gnr Scott and Lt Harris RM. Bottom L to R: Lt Kilpatrick RA, L/Bdr Burkat, Gnr Marsh, Spr Jefferson and Spr Wilds

which they did. At the command of 'STOP', the pulleys were dropped and a silent crowd waited for the wheels to stop spinning. Cpl Renney pulled off 7 Battery's best row of the competition, and his 5,300 metres was enough to win. Over 155,000 metres and ten hours of rowing resulted in a final margin - in 7 Battery's favour - of just 6 metres.

All in all, an excellent event which was well organised by 79 Battery (thanks for the T-shirts lads!) and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took



Mne Burdis

part. Special congratulations go to Gnr Ian Marsh who trained and captained the winning team.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GUNNER G BALDRY

Members of 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery held a Memorial Service in Waynes Keep Military Cemetery for 243419538 Gunner G Baldry who died in Cyprus on 10 August 1958 at the age of 22. Gunner Baldry was serving with 29 Field Regiment RA when he was killed. The service was conducted by Rev Ray Hayter, Padre for BRITCON, and attended by the Commanding Officer, Regimental Sergeant Major and members of 79 Commando Battery.



## THE AUSTRO-AFRICAN PRIEST OF AUSCON



With the last rotation, a new era of religious and psychological welfare has begun for the Austrian soldiers in UNFICYP. For the very first time in an Austrian UN mission, this work will be carried out by a priest of African origin.

Dr John Ekemezie Okoro was born on 21 August 1949 in Kano, Nigeria, and attended primary and secondary school in his home country. From 1967 to 1970, he served as a soldier in the Biafran civil war.

Then in 1971, he decided to study philosophy, and gained his Bachelor's degree in 1973. From 1974 to 1980, he studied theology and psychology in Innsbruck. During this time, he was ordained in Dornbirn in 1977. In 1978, he gained his Master's degree in theology at the University of Innsbruck, and became a Doctor of Psychology in 1980, again at the same University.

In 1981, he returned to Nigeria as a lecturer of psychology, and stayed until 1988, when he returned to Austria and took charge of the parish of Dornbirn. He was the first African to take over an Austrian parish, and he stayed in Dornbirn until 1995. During this time, he worked as a psychotherapist in his own practice from 1991 to 1995, and took out Austrian

citizenship in 1994. He also undertook education as a military priest in 1994, and since 4 July, John has been serving in AUSCON.

So far, John is enjoying his tour and is looking forward to completing one year in Cyprus. He expects to gain a lot of experience during his time with UNFICYP, as he feels that accompanying his soldiers and serving alongside them will give them hope and courage to carry out their duties to the best of their ability. He believes that everyone is an individual and will be treated as such by him. John quotes: "The beginning of wisdom is when one is able to accept other individuals as characters in their own right, regardless of their appearance".



## OH DOCTOR, I REALLY DO FEEL BAD TODAY



Another first for Sector Four is Dr Sylvia Szegedi, who is not only the first female doctor to serve with AUSCON, but the very first woman to serve with the Contingent in its history in UNFICYP.

Sylvia was born on 8 April 1957 in Vienna, and attended the American Kindergarten and the Lyceé Française, where she passed the Matura in 1975.

Between 1975 and 1985 she studied medicine, working during that period as an actress, tourist guide and in other odd jobs! Then from 1985 to 1988, she was employed by the Austrian Company "Biochemie" in the medical-scientific branch.

From 1988 to 1991, Sylvia passed the "Turnus" (practical education and training for an Austrian doctor) at the Kaiser Franz Josef Hospital, and between 1991 and 1995, she worked as a doctor for various cruise lines, travelling as far away as the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, the North and South Atlantic and the

Indian Ocean.

"Frau Doktor" considers that this was a very interesting time of her life which she would not have liked to miss. However, a new period of her professional life is now starting, which she is looking forward to. She hopes to cooperate well with the medical team of eight in Sector Four, and trusts that she will be needed as seldom as possible for the personnel within AUSCON!







## SAFE DRIVING IN CYPRUS

by the Force Provost Marshal



Since the last article, yet more of you have been involved in some potentially nasty accidents resulting in more vehicles being very badly damaged and "written off" - but worse, individuals receiving some pretty horrific injuries.

It will come as no surprise to you when I tell you that, once again, speed was the main contributor to those accidents. The distance that some of the vehicles travelled, having skidded off the patrol tracks, is unbelievable: one vehicle was actually airborne for at least 20 metres!

Moving on, my safe driving topic this week is on **night driving**. The expression "night" in this context applies to the period at the end of the day when light begins to fail until full light the following day. During this time, vehicle lights must be switched on.

In built-up areas where visibility is poor, dipped headlamps should be used so that the driver's view is extended and other road users can see your vehicle. On unlighted roads, the headlamps should be on main beam, unless dipped beam is required because of opposing traffic or when following other vehicles.

All vehicle lamps must be kept clean and headlamps correctly set so as to provide maximum illumination of the road without causing other drivers to be dazzled. The weight of your load, be it due to its cargo or passengers, can affect the beam alignment.

It is imperative that the driver should always be in a position to stop his vehicle well within the distance he sees to be clear. Even in ideal conditions, with the windscreen clean inside and out, proper ventilation and

correctly aligned headlamps, the driver's view at night is restricted and he should adjust his speed accordingly.

When driving out of brightly lit areas, speed should be kept down to allow sufficient time for the eyes to become accustomed to the change of environment.

Any light inside the vehicle which is allowed to reflect on the windows will cause distraction and affect the driver's ability to see clearly, so unless stationary, keep the interior light switched off.

Many drivers have problems caused by the dazzle of approaching vehicle lights. In these circumstances, refrain from looking directly at oncoming lights and look slightly to the kerb side. Should the approaching vehicles have headlights on main beam, a quick flash of your headlights will serve as a reminder to the other driver. The aim of this is *not* to dazzle the other driver in retaliation. Be prepared to slow down or even stop if the dazzle becomes too much.

Driving at night calls for great concentration and this, combined with dazzle and even changing conditions of visibility, quickly results in tiredness. Good ventilation and driving with a window open can help delay the effects, but once a driver realizes that his driving skills are deteriorating, he should reduce speed and, if necessary, stop until he feels alright again. A walk or a hot drink may be all that is needed to improve the driver's capabilities and thus prevent him becoming another statistic on the monthly UN MP traffic accident report.

Safe driving until next time.



## GOSHI MEMORIAL ON 14 AUGUST



This date serves as a reminder to the Austrian UN soldiers of the tragic events on that day in 1974 when an unexpected air attack by three TF combat aircraft killed three Austrian soldiers. 1Lt Izay, Sgt Decombe and Cpl Isaak lost their lives in the service of peace, and LCpl Sattlecker was lucky to survive.

This year's ceremony was conducted by one honour platoon and attended by many soldiers from AUSCON. Following a wreath-laying ceremony by Lt Col Victor Horaczuk, CPLO and, Lt Col Ernst Eder, CO Sector Four, speeches were conducted by Chaplain Dr John Okoro and Lt Col Eder. The highlight of this year's memorial service was a musical performance, making this a solemn yet unique occasion.



Capt Reeh, Maj Kashofer, WO1 Pressler and Lt Hirsch on their musical instruments

John Daly  
#1

## RETIREMENT OF INSP JOHN DALY, IRCIVPOL

by Sgt Rita Delaney

Insp John Daly, IRCIVPOL, Pyla, a well-known personality and contributor to the "Blue Beret" magazine, retired from the Garda Siochana on 5 September 1995.

To our regret, he has also left IRCIVPOL, Pyla, where he served for the past ten months. John was an active and valued member of our team, and will be missed from our company. His many "hair raising" experiences on the Pyla Plateau gave rise to a number of jokes among our Contingent.

John is from County Tipperary in Ireland, and retires from the Garda Siochana after 31 years of service. Much of his service was operational, and he also spent many years in the Garda Training College. His tour of duty with UNFICYP was John's second UN tour, having spent one year in Namibia in 1989.

On 24 August 1995, a barbecue was held at Pergamos by IRCIVPOL in his honour, where a presentation was made to him by Ch Supt Patrick



John (left) receiving a presentation from Comd Culhane

Culhane, IRCIVPOL Commander. It was a successful and enjoyable occasion, as all Irish functions tend to be.... Again, on 25 August 1995 at Camp Pyla, presentations were exchanged between John and the AUSCON members there.

Following his retirement, John will move to fresh fields in the transport industry. We wish John and his wife Carmel all the best for the future.

John Daly  
#2

## NEW UNFICYP FORCE PHOTOGRAPHER

It's strange - but true! There is more than one John Daly in Ireland, and the incoming holder of this famous name is the new UNFICYP Force Photographer, Cpl John Daly, who is taking over duty from Cpl Willie Quain. Back home in Ireland, John is the Staff Photographer with the Irish Defence Forces Public Relations Section and with "An Cosantoir", the Irish Defence Force's magazine.

Although this is John's first tour of duty with UNFICYP and his first visit to the island of Cyprus, he is no stranger to UN service. He has served two tours of duty with UNIFIL in South Lebanon, where he has documented the work of the Irish Battalion which has served there since 1978. John has also documented the work of the Irish peace-keepers who served with UNOSOM II in Somalia and, prior to arriving in Cyprus, he was involved in photographing the first Military World Games in Rome in early September.



Cpl John Daly (left) with Cpl Willie Quain

John is looking forward to the challenge as the UNFICYP Force Photographer, and we look forward to seeing his work in the pages of the Blue Beret over the coming months.

The Blue Beret would also like to thank Cpl Willie Quain for his contributions to the magazine, and wishes him good luck in his new posting.





*In order to gain an in-depth knowledge of the tasks carried out by the personnel in UN Flight, I participated in a routine daily briefing attended by a team of 16 including the pilots, the Operations Chief, the Maintenance Chief and the Commanding Officer. This briefing embraces a report of all operational activities and an evaluation by the Commanding Officer, who is assisted by the Operations Chief. Finally, the programmed activities for the next day are coordinated.*

*After the briefing, it was my turn to ask the key personnel of the team some questions:*

**Q.** As an Officer attached to the United Nations, what does working for peace mean to you?

**A.** Lt Col Brouwer (Commanding Officer): As a pilot in the Argentinian Air Force, I feel happy to offer my experience of military operations with helicopters to UNFICYP. I am very proud of the contribution my country is making through a mission such as this in the service of peace, which is so valued by the international community and the Argentinian people as a whole. It is also an honour to command a unit such as UN Flight which has been especially selected, as it is the only Argentinian Air Force unit to serve outside my country.

**Q.** What type of operations does UN Flight carry out?

**A.** Lt Maver (Operations Chief and Pilot): The principal operations carried out by this unit are, of course, air tasks and everything connected to air tasks. Given the characteristics of the Hughes 500 helicopter and its versatility, it is possible to provide an infinite number of assignments, however very briefly, those attached to our mission here in Cyprus include the transfer of personnel; MEDEVACs (transfer of the sick); CASEVACs (urgent transfer of the sick);



Lt (N) Acosta (left) watching Lt Col Brouwer (centre) briefing three of his pilots

# A DAY IN UN FLIGHT

by Lt (Navy) Eduardo Acosta, Press Officer, Sector One

reconnaissance and air patrols; transport of VIP visitors and pilot training.

In addition, we participate in emergencies such as fire fighting operations, and have also operated as a secondary communications net. Our capabilities are such that we can be where we are needed, when we are needed. In order to fulfil these tasks, the Hughes have a capacity to transport three passengers (a load of up to 2,000lbs), or two doctors and two stretchers.



**Q.** Considering the variety of activities carried out by this Unit, I imagine that your flight programme must be very demanding. Is this so?

**A.** Lt Rivero (Flight Security Chief and Pilot): Yes it most definitely is. ARGAIR has a predetermined quantity of flight hours per month which are allocated to the three Sectors, the HQ and also pilot training. The variety of requests we receive means that our programme of activities must be strictly adhered to. Of course, the pilot should attempt to strike a balance between his orders and the requirements of his passengers in a courteous and professional manner since we are fully aware that our mission is UNFICYP support.

**Q.** From the pilot's point of view, what are the difficulties that he has to overcome in order to complete his tasks, keeping in mind that these are carried out mainly within the BZ?

**A.** Lt Vartorelli (Meteorology Chief and Pilot): In addition to the briefing we receive prior to our arrival on our responsibilities in the Buffer Zone, it is vital that we receive a good handover. The objective of this period is to familiarise ourselves with flight procedures within UNFICYP, so that we can operate without provoking incidents with the two sides. We need detailed knowledge of the land so that we can ensure security for our passengers, and the most difficult flights are those carried out in the mountainous area of Sector One. When the weather is bad, the demands on the pilot are even greater.



**Q.** Can you describe a day in the life of a UN Flight pilot?

**A.** Lt Luzardo (Communications Chief and Pilot): My day begins with a briefing for the pilots, the Operations Chief and the Commanding Officer. Although we know the schedule for the next 48 hours, we review the flight plan and the Sectors we shall be flying over. When the passengers arrive, we give them a briefing in order to coordinate activities, and we also instruct them on the helicopter's security systems. Following the flight, we concentrate on the administrative aspect and study or review flight procedures within UNFICYP.



1/Lt Maver, 1/Lt Rivero, Lt Luzardo and Lt Vartorelli

All pilots have at least one flight per day. At the end of the morning, we carry out a final briefing in order to analyze the activities of the day and coordinate future assignments.

During the afternoon we carry out physical exercises especially designed for helicopter pilots, and the day concludes with some recreational activities. The mechanics carry out helicopter maintenance after working hours, so we sometimes join them for a short period. We retire very early, since the worst enemy of any pilot is the feeling of fatigue during flight.

**Q.** Could you tell me something about maintenance activities?

**A.** Capt Santilli (Technical Officer): Maintenance of the helicopters within UN Flight is a very important and responsible task, since mistakes can be critical. The aircraft are in constant daily use, so maintenance has to be carried out during dark hours and at weekends. Although the work of the maintenance staff is not immediately visible, it is reflected in the execution of all programmed operations. In addition, this small group of technicians is responsible for the provision of fuel, the control of materials and security checks.

**Q.** Is there something that you would like to add?

**A.** Lt Col Brouwer: Yes. Our efficiency has been tested during the CASEVAC of a young Austrian girl, and also the fire in the Kyrenia area, where undoubtedly UN Flight contributed to the saving of lives.

Finally, I would like to thank to all contingents and personnel of UNFICYP for the constant support we receive and the feeling of friendliness shown to us by everyone.

## UN FLIGHT 3

The new UN Flight crew arrived with the first rotation of AFT 5. Lt Col D Julio Brouwer de Koning remained as Commanding Officer, and the current members are as follows, in rank order: Capt Guillermo Santilli (Technical Officer), 1/Lt Carlos Maver (pilot), 1/Lt Nestor Rivero (pilot), Lt Gustavo Vartorelli (pilot), Lt Oscar Luzardo (pilot), WOII Orlando Ruiz (Insp General), WOII Eulogio Gomez (Operations), SSgt Ruben Palavecino (Electrician), SSgt Norberto Oliva (Radio), SSgt Jose Herrera (Aeronautic Mechanic), Sgt Julio Sanchez (Electrician), Cpl Diego Velazquez (Aeronautic Mechanic), Cpl Gustavo Felippini (Aeronautic Mechanic), Cpl Hector Vargas (Aeronautic Mechanic) and Cpl Conrado Morel (Aeronautic Mechanic).







Continuing the Blue Beret review of members of the "UN family", Part Three covers the ITU, WMO, IMO, WIPO, IFAD, IAEA and GATT.

## 7. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



**7.1 History of the Establishment.** The ITU was founded in Paris in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union. Its name was changed to the International Telecommunication Union in 1934, following the adoption of the International Telecommunication Convention at Madrid in 1932. ITU became the United Nations specialized agency for telecommunications in 1947 as a result of an agreement concluded between the United Nations and the plenipotentiaries of the Union.

**7.2 Aims and Activities.** The purposes of ITU are to maintain and extend international cooperation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing their usefulness and making them generally available to the public, and to harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of these objectives. ITU coordinates efforts aimed at harmonizing the development of telecommunications facilities, notably those using space techniques, so as to take full advantage of their possibilities. It fosters collaboration among its members aimed at establishment rates at levels as low as possible consistent with an efficient service.

**7.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The supreme organ of ITU is the Plenipotentiary Conference, which meets normally every five years and is responsible for laying down ITU's basic policy. The Administrative Council, composed of 43 members of the Union elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard for equitable geographical representation, meets annually and coordinates the work of the five permanent organs at ITU Headquarters.

ITU's Headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.

## 8. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO)



**8.1 History of Establishment.** The WMO was established by its Convention in 1947 as an intergovernmental organization to replace the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), a non-governmental organization which had been in existence since 1873. In 1951, the United Nations General Assembly approved the Agreement between the United Nations and WMO, thereby conferring on WMO the status of a specialized agency responsible for all matters falling under its Convention.

**8.2 Aims and Activities.** WMO provides the authoritative scientific voice on atmospheric environment and climate change issues. It aims to facilitate worldwide co-operation in the establishment of networks of stations for the making of meteorological observations, as well as

hydrological and other geophysical observations related to meteorology, and to promote the establishment and maintenance of centres charged with the provision of meteorological and related services; promote the establishment and maintenance of systems for the rapid exchange of meteorological and related information and ensure the uniform publication of observations and statistics; further the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, water problems, agriculture and other human activities; promote activities in operational hydrology and further close cooperation between Meteorological and Hydrological Services; and encourage research and training in meteorology and, as appropriate, in related fields and assist in coordinating the international aspects of such research training.

**8.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The World Meteorological Congress is the general assembly of delegates representing members, and as such the supreme body of WMO, which meets every four years. The Executive Council, composed of 36 directors of national Meteorological or Hydrological Services serving in an individual capacity, meets at least once a year. There are six Regional Associations: Africa, Asia, South America, North and Central America, Europe and South-West Pacific; and there are eight technical commissions: Aeronautical Meteorology; Agricultural Meteorology; Atmospheric Sciences; Basic Systems; Climatology; Hydrology; Instruments and Methods of Observation; and Marine Meteorology.

WMO's Headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.

## 9. The International Maritime Organization (IMO)



**9.1 History of Establishment.** The Convention establishing the IMO (formerly called the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization) was drafted in 1948 at a United Nations maritime conference in Geneva. The Convention came into force on 17 March 1958, when it was ratified by 21 States, including seven with at least 1 million gross tons of shipping each.

**9.2 Aims and Activities.** IMO provides machinery for cooperation and the exchange of information among Governments on technical matters affecting shipping engaged in international trade. It encourages the adoption of the highest practicable standards in matters concerning maritime safety, navigational efficiency, and the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships.

**9.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The Assembly, consisting of all member States, is the supreme governing organ of IMO. It meets every two years. A 32-member Council, elected by the Assembly for two-year terms, is the governing body between the Assembly's biennial sessions. There are four principal committees - on maritime safety, legal matters, marine environment protection and technical cooperation - which submit reports or recommendations to the Assembly through the Council.

IMO's Headquarters are in London, UK.



## UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AND RELATED AGENCIES: PART TWO

by Mrs Miriam Taylor



## 10. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)



**10.1 History of Establishment.** WIPO has its origins in the 1883 Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and the 1886 Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works. The Convention establishing WIPO was signed in 1967 and entered into force in 1970. WIPO became a specialized agency of the United Nations on 17 December 1974, and as of 31 March 1992 had 129 member States.

**10.2 Aims and Activities.** The main objectives of WIPO are to maintain and increase respect for intellectual property throughout the world, in order to favour industrial and cultural development by stimulating creative activity and facilitating the transfer of technology and the dissemination of literary and artistic works. Intellectual property comprises two main branches: industrial property (patents and other rights in technological inventions, rights in trade marks, industrial designs, appellations of origin, etc) and copyright and neighbouring rights (in literary, musical and artistic works, films, performances of performing artists, phonograms, etc).

**10.3 Administration and Headquarters.** WIPO has a Conference of all member States and a General Assembly, composed of those member States which are also members of the Paris or Berne Unions. The International Bureau of WIPO - the Secretariat of WIPO - is headed by the Director-General, and as of 1 January 1992, its staff comprised some 400 persons, nationals of over 50 different countries.

WIPO's Headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.

## 11. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)



**11.1 History of Establishment.** The idea for this Fund arose at the 1974 World Food Conference. An agreement to establish the Fund was adopted on 1 June 1976, and opened for signature on 20 December, once initial pledges of \$1 billion had been received. The agreement took effect on 30 November 1977.

**11.2 Aims and Activities.** IFAD's main purpose is to mobilize resources for improved food production and better nutrition among low-income groups in developing countries. IFAD lends money, most of which is on highly concessional or low interest terms, and is concerned not only with raising agricultural production, but with improving local prospects for employment, nutrition and income distribution.

**11.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The Fund's operations are directed by a Governing Council, on which all 143 member States are represented. There are three categories of members: developed countries, key contributor developing countries, and other mainly recipient developing countries, each of which have equal voting power.

IFAD's Headquarters is in Rome, Italy.

## 12. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)



**12.1 History of Establishment.** IAEA's Statute was approved on 26 October 1956 at an international conference held at United Nations Headquarters, and the Agency came into existence in Vienna on 29 July 1957. On 14 November 1957, the General Assembly approved an agreement concerning IAEA's relationship with the United Nations.

**12.2 Aims and Activities.** In accordance with its Statute, the IAEA's two main objectives are to seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, and to ensure, so far as it is able, that assistance provided by it, or at its request or under its supervision or control, is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose. One of the Agency's main functions is to apply safeguards to ensure that nuclear materials and equipment intended for peaceful use are not diverted to military purposes. IAEA advises and assists Governments, at their request, on atomic energy programmes, formulates basic safety standards for radiation protection and issues regulations and codes of practice on specific types of operations, including transport of radioactive materials.

**12.3 Administration and Headquarters.** IAEA's policies and programmes are directed by the General Conference, composed of all of IAEA's member States, which meets annually, and by a 35-member Board of Governors.

IAEA's Headquarters is in Vienna, Austria.

## 13. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)



**13.1 History of Establishment.** GATT has been in force since 1 January 1948 and is the only multilateral instrument which lays down agreed rules for international trade. It is subscribed to by 103 countries (Contracting Parties), which together account for nearly 90% of world trade. A further 29 apply the Agreement on a de facto basis.

**13.2 Aims and Activities.** The basic aim of GATT is to liberalize world trade and place it on a secure basis, thereby contributing to economic growth and development and the welfare of the world's peoples. GATT is the principal international body concerned with establishing rules and disciplines for the conduct of world trade; the reduction of trade barriers and other measures which distort competition; the conciliation of trade disputes; and international trade relations generally.

**13.3 Administration and Headquarters.** The most senior body of GATT is the Session of Contracting Parties, held annually. GATT decisions are generally arrived at by consensus, not by vote. Other GATT bodies are: the Committees on Trade and Development, Balance-of-Payment Restrictions, and Textiles, as well as the high-level Consultative Group of Eighteen.

GATT's Headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.





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The Blue Beret

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## BRITISH CONTINGENT MEDAL PARADE



Photo by Cpl Willie Quain

