

THE BLUE BERET

THE NEWSPAPER FOR CIVILIAN, MILITARY
AND POLICE PERSONNEL WITHIN UNFICYP

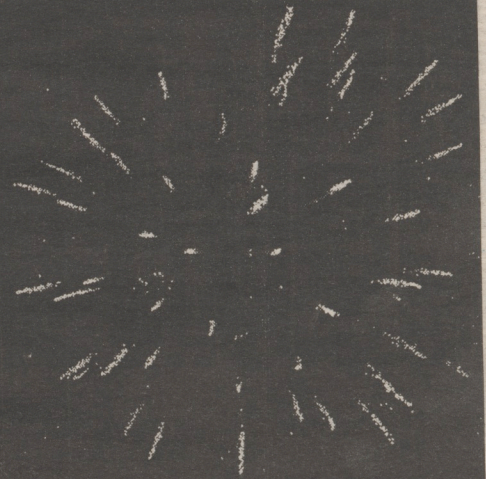


VOLUME Nº 1

Issue No 20

11 NOVEMBER 1999

GUY FAWKES NIGHT



It was the 16th century. The king of England was James the First, son of Mary Queen of Scots. At that time, Catholics were burnt or tortured for their beliefs. If Catholics didn't go and pray at their local Protestant church, then they were fined or even killed.

Catholic Guy Fawkes joined a group of plotters to help blow up the Houses of Parliament and the King. The plotters rented a cellar under the Houses of Parliament. In it they put 36 barrels of gunpowder and got ready for the big bang. Guy Fawkes had agreed to look after the gunpowder and blow it up on 3 November, but then one of the plotters secretly told the King not to go to Parliament that day. So Guy Fawkes agreed he would light the fuse on the fifth. But the cellar was searched on 4 November and Guy Fawkes was found and arrested. A few weeks later he was tortured and brutally executed

(for details on the quaint old English practice of hanging, drawing, and quartering, consult the Internet).

Every 5 November, British children celebrate Bonfire Night. In the weeks beforehand, they make "guys" – models of people, destined to be burnt on the bonfire as a memorial to Guy Fawkes' execution. Many kids parade their creations through the streets – calling out "Penny for the guy". The idea is that with those "pennies" (more likely to be pounds these days) they will buy fireworks to set off around the bonfire.

UNFICYP celebrated Guy Fawkes night close to the old control tower on old Nicosia International Airport on Saturday 6 November. Although some two hundred people joined in the celebration, a lot had clearly decided to stay at home and watch the Australians beat the French in the rugby world cup (shame!).

British bonfire parties traditionally feature toffee apples, but here, in true multinational UNFICYP style, the apples were served in the form of Apfelstrudel. There were also hamburgers, Glühwein, beer and juice.

The festivities started with a fancy dress competition. Knight Martin Adams won the under eight category, while a mystery guest, dressed in what was called "a Major Gogin lookalike costume," won the nine and older category.

And then, at around 18.15 hrs, fire officer Paul Nadeem assisted Colonel Jeremy Brooks in lighting the bonfire. The "guy" on top of the woodpile was quartered when Mark Kingston tossed the figure as high as he could.

Just as people began to warm up, Paul called out: "Watch out: what goes up, must come down," sending a fabulous fireworks display sky high. Millions of stars, showers of colours,

and some great loud bangs ensured a cracking evening for all.

Thanks to the Brits for sharing this tradition with the rest of us, to the Austrians for enhancing the food and drink element, and to the fire officer for taking time out from extinguishing fires to light one.



Fancy dress competitors wait for the verdict

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The newspaper for UNFICYP's
civilian, military and police
personnel

Published fortnightly by the Public Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, HQ UNFICYP, PO Box 21642, Nicosia, Cyprus

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QUOTATIONS

Actions are destiny's pen. The line of actions drawn today becomes tomorrow's destiny, so be sure that your pen is drawing a work of art.

Anon

The most courageous act is to think for yourself - aloud.

Coco Chanel

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power

Abraham Lincoln

Do not believe in a thing because you have read about it in a book. Do not believe in a thing because another man has said it was true. Do not believe in words because they are hallowed by tradition. Find out the truth for yourself. Reason it out. That is realisation.

Swami Vivekananda

EDITORIAL

Anyone who's spent any time around UNFICYP HQ recently will have heard a lot about "the auditors". People are busy answering audit questions, making sure that everything is up to date, and briefing the auditors on what they have been doing, what they are doing, and why.

So I thought it might be helpful to give a brief explanation as to why the auditors come, and why their visits are so important. Throughout the United Nations, staff try to make the best possible use of the organisation's funds. Not only to be able to initiate and uphold new missions (Kosovo, East Timor), but also to make clear to all the 188 Member States that their financial contributions are well spent. Sending teams of auditors to mission areas is key to making this happen.

UNFICYP has recently seen the visit of an external audit team from one of the UN Member States, the Philippines. Teams like these are independent groups of highly experienced auditors. The auditors have the mandate to visit any place in the mission area, interview any staff member and see any documentation they need in carrying out their work. Their findings, along with recommendations on how to improve the Mission's cost effectiveness, will be put in a report and will be available to member states. Previous audit recommendations on UNFICYP have resulted in the outsourcing of janitorial and catering services

The day the external auditors team left Cyprus, an internal (UN) audit team arrived. Internal auditors are also independent, but they are UN personnel who report directly to the General Assembly. Another important distinction is that while the external group mainly concentrates on the financial side of the operation, the internal auditors also take the operational side into account. They carefully review whether the available money was spent on areas where it was supposed to be spent and if it was spent in accordance with the many UN rules and regulations. For example: are soldiers getting the rations they're entitled to, is money being spent on maintaining patrol tracks and is the work being done properly?

To establish all this, the second group of auditors has been out to one sector to look at how rations and supplies are being controlled and utilised. They also visited a troop location and UNCIVPOL stations in another sector to observe operations in the Buffer Zone.

Rauno Halme,
OIC Administration

Quien quiera que haya estado recientemente en UNFICYP, ha escuchado hablar sobre "los auditores". Nadie presta ayuda pues todos están ocupados atendiendo a los auditores. Las reuniones se tienen que posponer debido a los auditores. Se le pide al personal que deje lo que está haciendo para hablar con los auditores. Pareciera que la presencia de los auditores lo afectara todo.

Es por esto que, pensé que sería útil dar una breve explicación del por qué vienen los auditores y por qué su presencia es tan importante. En toda la ONU, el personal trata de ahorrar dinero lo más posible, no sólo con el motivo de iniciar y mantener nuevas misiones (p.e., Kosovo, Timor Oriental, etc.), sino también para verificar que el total de las contribuciones de los 188 países miembros, sea bien utilizado. Para lograr esto, la ONU envía equipos de auditores a las áreas de misión.

Recientemente, UNFICYP tuvo la visita de un equipo de auditores externos procedente de las Filipinas, uno de los países miembros de la ONU. Equipos como éste son independientes y están compuestos por auditores de alta experiencia. Los auditores tienen un mandato que les permite visitar cualquier lugar en el área de la misión, al igual de entrevistar cualquier empleado y tener acceso a toda la documentación si así lo desean. Sus conclusiones junto con las recomendaciones de como mejorar la efectividad en costos aún más, se condensan en un informe que está a disposición de los países miembros. Como resultado, siguiendo previas recomendaciones de parte de otros equipos de auditores, UNFICYP ha logrado mejorar los servicios de mantenimiento y abastecimiento de provisiones de alimentos.

El mismo día que el equipo de auditores externos se fue de Chipre, llegó un equipo de auditores internos de Naciones Unidas. Este equipo de auditores internos es también independiente, pero son empleados de la Organización. Otro aspecto importante a destacar es que al igual que los auditores externos que se concentran básicamente en los aspectos financieros de la operación, los auditores internos se concentran además en el aspecto operacional. Revisan cuidadosamente si el dinero disponible ha sido utilizado correctamente para los fines programados originalmente. Por ejemplo, reciben los soldados las dotaciones a las que tienen derecho? Se utiliza adecuadamente, el dinero destinado para el mantenimiento de los vehículos de patrulla?

Para cerciorarse de que todo esto se lleva a cabo, este segundo grupo de auditores ya ha ido al sector 1 para corroborar qué tipo de alimentación se sirve; también ha visitado las localidades de las tropas en otro sector y ya ha verificado una de las estaciones de Policía.

Personalmente, pienso que hospedar un equipo de auditores, es como ir al dentista. Uno espera que sólo le encuentren una pequeña caries antes de tener una cirugía mayor. Las opiniones y consejos de los auditores son definitivamente bien recibidos, no obstante que algunas veces las novedades no son las que uno quiere escuchar.

Rauno Halme,
OIC Administration

Jeder der sich in der letzten Zeit in der Nähe des UNFICYP Hauptquartiers aufgehalten hat, hat schon von den "Auditoren" gehört. Viele Leute sind zu beschäftigt um andere zu unterstützen, weil sie mit den Auditoren beschäftigt sind, sogar Treffen werden verschoben weil diese hier sind. Viele Stabsmitglieder müssen alles liegen und stehen lassen weil die Auditoren hier sind. Die Auditoren, so sieht es aus, beeinträchtigen alles.

Daher haben wir daran gedacht eine kurze Erläuterung darüber zu geben, was diese hier mache, warum sie hier sind und warum sie so wichtig sind. Überall bei den Vereinten Nationen versucht man natürlich so viel Geld wie möglich zu sparen, nicht nur um neue und bestehende Einsätze zu finanzieren und vor allem den 188 Mitgliedsländern auch das Gefühl zu geben, daß ihre Mitgliedsbeiträge sinnvoll verwendet werden. Solche Auditoren sind der Schlüssel um dies alles geschehen zu lassen.

Bei UNFICYP sind jetzt seit kurzem unabhängige Auditoren eines UN Mitgliedsstaates, den Philippinen, tätig. Solche Teams sind sehr erfahrene Gruppen die Berechtigung haben jeden Ort, jeden Einsatzbereich, jeden Angehörigen und jedes Dokument eines Einsatzes zu sehen. Ihre Ergebnisse, gemeinsam mit Empfehlungen die Kosten-Nutzenrechnung zu verbessern, sind in einem Bericht der jedem Mitgliedsstaat zugänglich ist, zusammengefaßt. Vorhergehende Überprüfungsberichte haben bei UNFICYP haben bereits zur Auslagerung von verschiedenen Diensten geführt.

An dem Tag als die nicht UN Auditoren Zypern verlassen haben ist ein internes Auditoren Team eingetroffen. Interne Auditoren sind genauso unabhängig allerdings UN Angestellte welche direkt der Generalversammlung berichtet. Ein großer weiterer Unterschied zwischen den beiden Auditoren ist, daß sich das externe Team in erster Linie um die finanzielle Seite und das interne Team auch um die operationelle Seite des Einsatzes kümmert. Sie überprüfen auch sehr gewissenhaft ob das eingesetzte Geld auch in den dafür vorgesehenen Bereichen eingesetzt wird, wie zum Beispiel: Bekommen die Soldaten ihre ihnen zustehende Essensrationen, wurde Geld zur Reparatur von Patroltracks verwendet und wurde diese Arbeit vor allem auch zur Zufriedenheit ausgeführt.

Um zu all diesen Ergebnissen zu kommen, war die zweite Gruppe in einem Sektoren um zu kontrollieren was bei den Mahlzeiten serviert wird, in einem weiteren um Truppenunterkünfte zu besichtigen und haben auch eine Polizeistation kontrolliert.

Ich persönlich glaube, daß eine Gruppe von Auditoren zu Besuch zu haben so ähnlich ist wie zum Zahnarzt zu gehen, man hofft daß er nur Kleinigkeiten findet bevor eine größere Operation notwendig wird. Ihre Meinung und Vorschläge sind natürlich sehr willkommen, obwohl manche Nachrichten auf den ersten Blick nicht diesen Inhalt haben, den man selbst gerne hören möchte.

Rauno Halme,
OIC Administration

In The Blue Beret 10 years ago - November 1989

Three charity events took place:

- * **Fund for the Blind:** The UN MP Coy organised a fundraiser for the blind children in Cyprus. Just over CYP900 was collected for the charities, both north and south.
- * **United for Children:** soldiers from the British Contingent ran the complete length of the Buffer

Zone, west to east, coast to coast to raise money for Save the Children.

- * **The 1989 Terry Fox Run:** Runners, walkers, bikers, skateboarders, roller skaters and many more took part in a 10km run in aid of cancer research. Over CYP2,100 was collected, surpassing the 1988 total.

In The Blue Beret 20 years ago - November 1979

- * Swedish female soldiers arrived in Cyprus.
- * UNFICYP beat UNTSO at tennis: 13-5.
- * Representatives of the two communities in Cyprus got together to discuss the new "Master Plan for Nicosia".
- * Ch Insp Jack Thurgar, an

Australian civilian police officer who risked his life by walking into a minefield to rescue a seriously injured Cypriot tractor driver, was cited for bravery.

Ch Insp Thurgar was also made an honorary life member of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadian) Regiment.

SECTOR 1'S MEDAL PARADE

By Lt (Navy) Gastón Grasso

ARGCON's most recent medal parade was a happy occasion, held in bright sunlight under a blue sky.

As you know, in ARGCON we are accompanied by friends from Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. To honour them on this special day, the Argentinian band played all their national anthems – along with Argentina's.

The medals were presented by the Acting Chief of Mission, Force Commander, Chief of Staff, and Chief Administrative Officer. A military march past concluded the parade.

Then, it was time for the show – a feast of Argentinian dances, songs, and food – plus pictures from home projected onto a massive screen.

Three days after the main parade, a second ceremony was held for all the soldiers who had been on duty that evening. This second event was staged at UN PB 11, in the middle of the mountains with incredible views.

For all of us who serve with UNFICYP, receiving the UN medal is something very important and valuable. We are now close to our departure, and will soon be looking back with pride and affection on our peacekeeping days in Cyprus.

Argentina" se destacó por los bailes típicos, canciones folklóricas y sabrosas comidas. Las escenas de la fiesta, a la vez que se desarrollaban en el escenario central, eran proyectadas en pantalla gigante.

Tres días después de la ceremonia de Entrega de Medallas, se celebró la segunda formación que contó con la presencia de aquellos que durante la anterior ceremonia se encontraban trabajando en la línea o cumpliendo con diferentes actividades. Esta, se realizó en la UN PB 11, entre medio de montañas y vistas increíbles.

Para todos nosotros que servimos en UNFICYP, recibir la Medalla de la NU es algo muy importante y valioso. Estamos próximos a nuestra partida y muy pronto miraremos hacia atrás con orgullo y afecto de nuestros días de "Soldados Mantenedores de la Paz" en la memorable isla de Chipre.

La más reciente celebración realizada por el Argcon fue la entrega de medallas de UNFICYP, cuya ceremonia se realizó bajo un cielo azul y un sol radiante. Como ustedes saben, en el Sector 1, tenemos compañeros provenientes de Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay y Uruguay. Para honrarlos en este día tan especial, la Banda de Música Argentina, les brindó a nuestros camaradas la introducción de todos sus Himnos Nacionales, ejecutándolos junto con el de Argentina.

Las condecoraciones fueron entregadas por el Jefe de Misión Actuante, Embajador James Holger; el Comandante de Fuerza UNFICYP, General de Vergara; el Jefe de Estado Mayor UNFICYP, Coronel Jeremy Brooks; CAO Clement Adams y el CO Sector 1, Teniente Coronel Rodolfo S. Mujica. Al pasar las tropas desfilando con un marcial y correcto desplazamiento, se dió por concluida la ceremonia.

Luego, fue el momento del show, donde la "Noche



Sector 1's second medal parade (the first took place in San Martin Camp). This one took place at UN 11.

LET'S TANGO

ARGCON medal parade guests were treated to a stunning exhibition of our famous dance – the tango. The stars of the show were "Arrabal", Maj Pedro Amarfil and Ptes Alejandra de Leon and Alejandra Lopez, whose performances left more than one spectator breathless. They were the surprise of the night, transporting all of us back to Argentina. The tango is at the core of Argentina's customs, and we were proud to have the opportunity to share it with our audience, and show our colleagues and friends how we live and feel this special dance.



*Arrabal: a typical expression used by the Buenos Aires citizens who loves Tango. It literally means: "humble neighbourhood of Buenos Aires City".

EXHIBICION DEL TANGO ARGENTINO

Durante la fiesta de la Entrega de Medallas del ARGCON, nuestros invitados tuvieron la posibilidad de ver una imponente exhibición de Tango. Las estrellas del show fueron el "Arrabalero"*, Major Pedro Amarfil, primer "maestro" de Tango en el Sector 1, y las Soldados Voluntarias Alejandra López y Alejandra de León, cuyas figuras y movimientos le quitaron la

respiración a más de uno. Ellos fueron la sorpresa de la noche, y nos transportaron imaginariamente hacia nuestra querida Argentina. El tango está en el corazón de nuestras costumbres y nosotros estamos realmente orgullosos de haber tenido la oportunidad de compartirlo con nuestra audiencia y de mostrarles de que manera sentimos y vivimos este baile tan especial.

*Arrabal: Es una típica expresión usada por los ciudadanos de Buenos Aires que aman el Tango. Literalmente significa: "Humilde vecindario de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires."

MASTER CHEF '99

By Gnr Adam Bailey

Four budding chefs recently gathered at City Troop's Headquarters, Maple House, for this year's Sector 2 East hobby chef competition. The contest was part of the overall best troop competition and the competing soldiers were: LBdr Colin Groake (City Troop), LBdr Chris Edis (Ortona), Gnr Vicky Eastwood (Liri) and Gnr Adam Bailey (Ledra).

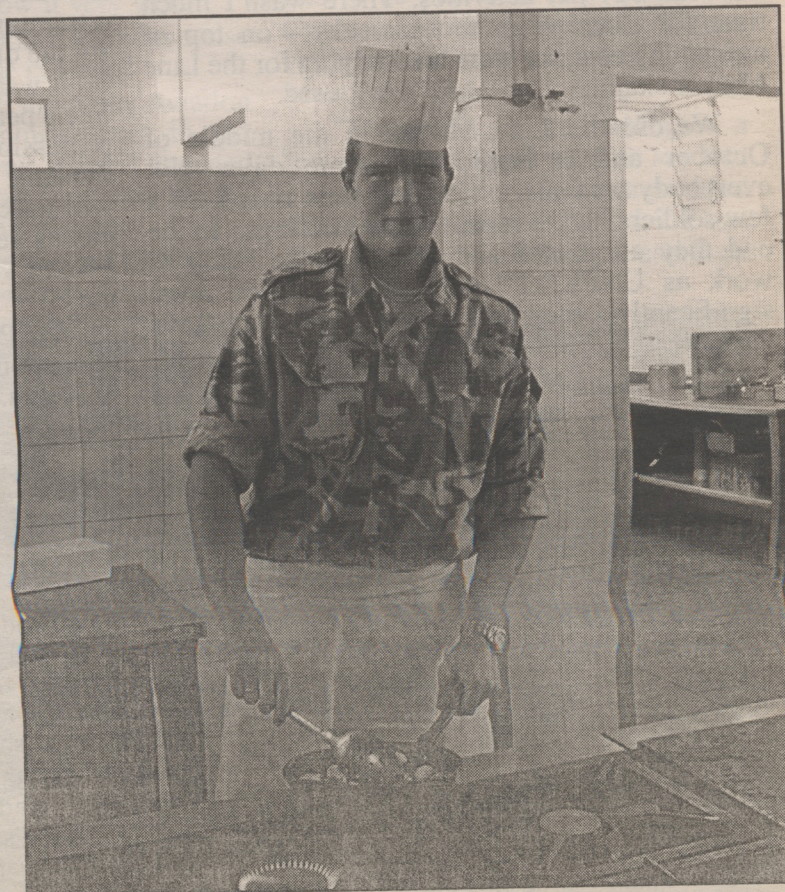
The chefs arrived with no idea what to expect, not even knowing what ingredients they were getting. Each was presented with a box with meat and two veg and given two hours to get on with producing their culinary masterpieces.

The unlucky tasters doing their best impressions of food guru Lloyd Grossman were Mrs Shellard (wife of the

Regimental Honorary Colonel, Maj Gen Shellard) and W02 Fox, the Sector 2 master chef.

These hapless souls "tasted, digested and deliberated" the meals, which were roast lamb from City Troop, stir-fry from Ortona Troop, steak from Liri Troop and Ledra Troop's stuffed chicken. After the tasting, the chefs set about cleaning the kitchen down whilst the judges re-tasted the food and came to their decision.

Final results were Ortona and Liri joint third, with Ledra and City Troops sharing the first prize. It was a very close-run event, and special mention must go to City Troop for the use of their kitchens and W02 Fox for organising the whole event.



A future master chef?

REAL LIFE

HANDICAPPED AND CANCER PATIENTS RECEIVE CHEQUES

UNFICYP handed over two CP500 cheques to children's charities in early November – proceeds from the summer go-kart event organised by SSgt Ron Patterson and his wife Wynne.

The first cheque went to the El Pida foundation in Nicosia, an organisation concentrating on cancer research and treating children who have cancer. The foundation said it would spend the money on blood testing equipment.

The second cheque was handed over to the Education and Rehabilitation Centre for Mentally Handicapped Children. The centre provides education and care for 29 children aged between 6 and 18 years.



Children playing in the yard of the education and rehabilitation centre

There are well-established links between UNFICYP and the centre – witness the pictures of previous UNFICYP Civil Affairs Teams hanging in the director's office.

In 1998 British soldiers serving with the 1st Royal Tank Regiment in Sector 2 revamped the playground in their spare time and painted some of the woodwork on the main building. The director, Mr Denkay, also recalls help and donations from Canadian and Danish soldiers.

Mr Denkay says he will use this latest gift to buy some urgently needed articles such as electrical hand dryers, an electrical insect killer and a welding set.

SICON'S FIRST MONTH IN CYPRUS

By Capt Valter Bizjak

At the end of September, Sector 4 rotated and the Slovenian Contingent (SICON) got an infusion of new peacekeepers. Most of us are members of 3rd Platoon in 2nd Company, located in OP 139 at Camp Triglav (the old Salamis carton factory), and in OP 135.

The Area of Responsibility (AOR) of 3rd Platoon is the corridor road between two British Sovereign Base Area territories. The main task is patrolling along the link road, manning OPs and OPTs. In addition, this is the permanent force reserve platoon in Sector 4.

The first three weeks after we arrived were very tough because we had to do normal duties and learn all about our AOR. We also had a lot to do with OPFOR activities. There wasn't much time for sleeping in those weeks – on top of everything else, we were all studying for the Line Matura exam.

We did the Line Matura in the middle of October and it lasted for some days. Not everybody was successful first time round, so a few soldiers had to repeat some briefings. In the end they all passed and proved to be ready to work as UNFICYP peacekeepers. Even more significantly – they had earned the right to have days off.

Cpl Janez Vidic described his first

impressions of UNFICYP: "I felt the difference in climate when I arrived – in Slovenia it was already the beginning of autumn, while here it was still summer.

"Line Matura wasn't as hard as I'd expected but I still had to learn the briefings. I am working in Liaison Post Strovilia, which is a village surrounded by SBA territory and manned by one UN and one TCSF soldier. We have good relations with the soldiers and with the inhabitants of the village. The villagers are very hospitable.

"In Slovenia we'd gone through a training process which prepared us for the operations we are doing here. So it was not a surprise for me to act like a peacekeeper. But because I'm a professional soldier, I'm used to doing more dynamic tasks than we do here in Cyprus. Still, I will make sure I do the job here properly. Time passes very fast when you're busy and suddenly, I find I've already got one month of duty behind me."

Sgt Petek told me: "I had a rather unrealistic idea about the mission when we were training in Slovenia. The sessions were intensive because of



Newly-arrived peacekeepers being briefed about their sector

time constraints, but here the system is stable and everybody knows what their jobs are so it feels more relaxed.

"I've met a lot of new people, especially among the UN soldiers in 2nd Coy. At the moment I spend most of my free time in Ayia Napa, but later I'll try to explore whole island. I hope that my time in Cyprus will pass quickly, and that I'll go home with happy memories."



Chris and Maria playing that well-known melody

AustroIrish evening

By Capt Andreas Vas

Irish and Austrian members of UNFICYP proved the real value of integration at the end of October when they staged the second Austrian/Irish evening of 1999. Venue: Camp Duke Leopold V. Menu: Irish stew made in the Austrian kitchen.

Entertainment highlights included Tony, a singer and musician who normally plays at O'Rourke's in Ayia Napa, but who kindly moved over to Famagusta for the evening. Also on the programme: Maria Conway, a former member of

IRCIVPOL, who, supported by our Austrian MSgt Holzkecht on his banjo, performed some well-known songs. A couple of local students demonstrated their prowess on the guitar, and Supt Murphy played the guitar and sang.

The dinner and the music weren't the only features of the evening. There was also a raffle in which Cpl Anfang, one of the camp cooks, won the main prize – a weekend at the Capo Bay Hotel in Protaras.

PEOPLE

FATHER AND SON

By Sgt Michelle Lomas-Travers

In early 1963, Pte Richard Streeter arrived in Cyprus with the British Parachute Regiment. Richard was a young man from Bristol, just married and not long joined the regiment. His first impressions of Cyprus contrasted starkly with Bristol at the beginning of the swinging '60s and his home with the paras at Aldershot.



Pte Richard Streeter outside a British military site (Elizabeth Camp in Nicosia, January 1964)

Here in Cyprus, bombings and shootings were not uncommon. Tensions were increasing and world interest in the island was intensifying. The British Army patrolled, was ambushed and carried out cordon search operations. The situation deteriorated, and in March 1964, the United Nations launched a peace-keeping operation.

Richard was proud to be a para and he treasured his maroon beret as dearly as any other para. He could hardly believe his ears when the regiment was told that it would become part of a United Nations effort to resolve the problems of the island. It was unthinkable to trade his maroon beret for a blue one. Even more confusingly, he now confesses, when he heard that Cyprus was to become a United Nations mission, his first comment was "United Nations who?"

The first few months were an interesting time. Soon after joining

UNFICYP, whilst out on patrol in his blue beret, he noticed an astonishing thing. The local villagers, who had shown a less than sociable attitude when he turned up in his maroon headgear, started to smile and greet these young men from the UN. So this was the United Nations. Sure enough, Pte Streeter became proud to wear his blue beret.

Five years later, he left the British Army and emigrated to Australia with his wife and two children. He is now a senior lecturer at a University in the United Arab Emirates. He has collected several degrees and is now completing his PhD.

35 years later...

If you remember, Pte Richard Streeter had two children. One of these was a son - Adrian Streeter. Does that name sound familiar to anyone?

It should do: Adrian is currently



Sgt Adrian Streeter

working with UNFICYP. A Federal Agent with the Australian Federal Police, Sgt Adrian Streeter is currently attached to UNCIVPOL at Pyla, and is continuing his family's proud tradition of service with the United Nations.

THE ENGLISH TRANSLATOR

By Lt (Navy) Gastón Grasso



Mario in the Sector 1 JOC

In Sector 1 we speak Spanish amongst ourselves, but to communicate with the outside world we need to be able to speak English. For this reason, we have one person who acts as the English translator in the Joint Operation Centre (JOC). His name is WOIII Mario Araoz.

Mario told us: "I was born in a small, sunny city in the north of the country called Jujuy on 2 August 1960. I have been in the Army Aviation for 20 years. I started by working as an aircraft mechanic with helicopters. I worked with the BELL UH-1H-1, so I know it very well."

Have you worked anywhere else outside your home country?

"Yes, in 1992, the Army Aviation sent me to Virginia State, to the United States Army, where I attended a course on Aircraft Structural Repair. I was there for five months."

What is your job in UNFICYP and where did you learn English?

"I am an operator and English translator in Sector 1's JOC. I learnt English at school and in institutes, but I have also studied the language on my own."

Has anything special or strange happened during your tour?

"I've been here a year now and one of the most interesting things about my tour is that I reckon I've spoken English with almost all the people who work in UNFICYP - civilians, police, and military."

And Mario's final words: "I'd like to be part of a new mission in Cyprus, and bring my wife, Liliana Beatriz, and my children to this beautiful island."

"Meanwhile, I am leaving in a few days, and I just want to say that I'll miss the warm and kind friendship of those people that I met here. I wish you all the best and hope to see you again."

TRADUCTOR DE INGLES

En el Sector 1 todos nosotros hablamos español, nuestra lengua natural. Pero para poder comunicarnos con el resto de los componentes que conforman a UNFICYP necesitamos hablar inglés. Por esta razón, tenemos una persona que es capaz de hacerlo y de realizar las traducciones necesarias para que el imprescindible Centro de Operaciones Conjuntas (JOC) funcione adecuadamente. Esta persona es el WO III Mario Araoz.

Mario nos contó: "Nací en una pequeña pero soleada ciudad en el Norte de mi país llamada Jujuy, el 2 de Agosto de 1960. He trabajado en la Aviación del Ejército durante 20 años. Comencé como un mecánico de aeronaves, especialmente en helicópteros. Trabajé mucho tiempo con el famoso BELL UH-1H, por lo tanto lo conozco muy bien!"

Ha trabajado en algún otro lugar fuera de su país de origen?

"Sí, en 1992, el Ejército me envió a el Estado de Virginia, en los Estados Unidos. Allí aprendí mucho con el Ejército americano donde hice un curso

de "Reparación Estructural de Aeronaves. Estuve allí durante cinco meses."

Cual es su real oficio en UNFICYP y donde logró aprender inglés?

"Soy operador y traductor de Inglés en el JOC del Sector 1. Aprendí inglés en la escuela e institutos de inglés, pero también por mi propia cuenta."

Le ha sucedido algo especial o gracioso durante su estadía en Chipre?

"Ya hace un año que estoy aquí, y lo gracioso es que creo realmente, haber hablado con todos los miembros que componen el HQ UNFICYP y el resto de los Sectores, ya sean civiles, policías o militares."

Concluye: "Me gustaría ser parte de una nueva misión en Chipre, y traer a esta hermosa Isla a mi señora, Liliana Beatriz, y a mis hijos. En muy poco tiempo estoy regresando a mi hogar y quiero expresar que voy a extrañar esta cálida y amable amistad de las personas que he conocido aquí. Les deseo todo lo mejor y espero que algún día nos volvamos a encontrar."

NEWS

BENGAL - A PIECE OF CAKE

By A-section, Bengal Troop

That's what they told us before we came out here: "Bengal troop is the most uneventful AOR in the whole line. It's a very boring and very big AOR, and nothing ever happens."

Well, the 18 men from 13 PALUABT find the very opposite is true. We have a 15km ceasefire line to patrol which makes it is very easy for civilians to enter the BZ.

Now we all know that it's fine for civilians to come into the BZ, as long as they have a valid pass to do so. It's part of our job to ensure that conditions are as close to "normal" as they can be. But it's also part of our job to safeguard the military status quo. And that means no unauthorised entry into the BZ.

Almost every day we have to deal with people walking their dogs in the BZ. People who like to race in the BZ. People who dump their rubbish in the BZ. Couples who come in search of a bit of privacy. And in the past two months, we've had a lot of unauthorised fires. It's got to the stage that when we call UNCIVPOL they reply: "Ah, Bengal. Intrusion or fire?"

On top of all this, of course, we deal with incidents relating to the two opposing forces. Our troophouse has kept us busy too. Since we've been here, we've been trying to improve the infrastructure. We had to give the kitchen a thorough clean - the last cooks seemed better at putting grease on the walls than in the frying pan. The water system was decidedly antiquated so that needed overhauling, and then there's the constant battle to keep the helicopter landing pad neat and trim.

When we arrived, the Ops room boasted two tables and one garden chair. Conscious that section commanders have to work 12-hour shifts in here, we made them a nice desk. At the moment we are rebuilding our bar. It's tough work as all we have is a hammer, a few nails and a saw designed for felling trees, not cutting timber. But we're getting there.

That doesn't leave a lot of time free, but when we do find spare hours, we can watch Dutch TV beamed in by satellite. So as you can see, the life at Bengal troop is anything but boring.



TRAVEL ADVISORY: MILLENNIUM BUG

The Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator issued the following travel advisory for all staff members of the United Nations.

As a consequence of the so-called Y2K Millennium Bug, on or about 1 January 2000, some automated systems throughout the world may be unable to process information correctly causing unpredictable system malfunctions. While many governments and businesses have taken steps to address potential problems associated with the Y2K phenomenon, no one can accurately predict what systems could be affected or where.

United Nations staff members and their families who are contemplating travel in the period late 1999 to early 2000 should be aware that their plans could be disrupted if computers are unable to correctly process information involving the change in dates. This could lead to disruption in a wide range of essential services.

- * Transportation services (including air, sea and land) could be disrupted both internationally and within countries. The degree of disruption will depend on the area and the country. Disruptions could include cancellations, delays, unconfirmed bookings, and unannounced changes in scheduled services. Staff members travelling over the New Year period should anticipate delays in flights and should allow plenty of time for connecting flights. Essential possessions such as passports, medications, eyeglasses, emergency telephone numbers and contacts for your place of destination and at your parent duty station, etc. should be kept in carry-on luggage.
- * Government services, including visas, entry and departure procedures, emergency services, could be disrupted.
- * Telecommunications services in many countries may fail or may not be readily available due to excess demand. Staff members should ensure that someone at their destination as well as at their home duty station is aware of their itineraries and plans.
- * Financial services, including use of credit and/or debit cards, Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and international banking transactions, may not be available on demand; travellers should therefore have adequate funds and should make alternative arrangements (such as pre-payment) before travelling or be prepared to use vouchers for certain services.
- * Medical services including availability of medications and hospital services may not be available; travellers should ensure that they have an adequate supply of required medications before they leave.
- * Power supplies could be disrupted. Staff members may wish to consider packing a supply of flashlights and batteries to include in their carry-on luggage.
- * Water and sanitation services could be disrupted. Travellers may wish to consider having a supply of bottled water available at their holiday location prior to the roll-over period.
- * Distribution of food and other goods may also be disrupted. Travellers may wish to consider having a supply of non-perishable food supplies available at their holiday location prior to the roll-over period.

Travellers should consult travel agents and airlines for information on how the potential problems for travel, hotels, food, etc. are being addressed at their planned destination. In addition, staff members are advised to check their insurance policies to ensure that their policies cover Millennium Bug-related risks.

All United Nations staff who are planning to travel during the roll-over period should be aware of the potential for problems and should stay informed about Y2K preparedness in the location(s) to which they will be travelling.

Should Y2K-related problems occur at a particular duty station, the United Nations security management system will be hard-pressed to provide assistance. It is incumbent upon each traveller to take personal responsibility for being informed and prepared for possible disruption.

In order to make an informed decision as to whether to travel to a particular duty station or not, staff members may obtain further information by consulting the following web sites:

Canadian Dept of Foreign Affairs:	http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/travelreport/y2k
UK Foreign Office:	http://www.fco.gov.uk
US State Department:	http://travel.state.gov
IATA:	http://www.iata.org/y2k
ICAO:	http://www.icao.int/y2k
US FAA:	http://www.faa.gov
Cyprus:	http://www.y2kcommittee.cytanet.com.cy

Additional information may also be obtained from the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator or from the CAO's office at UNFICYP.

MFR MEDAL PARADE



Normally the MFR soldiers receive their peacekeeping medals during their respective contingents' medal parades. On Tuesday 2 November, however, 42 MFR staff of different nationalities received their well-deserved medal on the first ever special MFR medal parade.

CLASSIFIED

ITEMS FOR SALE

CARS FOR SALE

Mitsubishi Gallant, 1990, 1750cc automatic with power overdrive, a/c, p/s, c/l, radio cassette, 67,000 km, good condition. £1,750. Tel: (02) 864-441.

Rover 600, metallic gold, 4-door saloon, EMN registration, excellent condition, 63,000 km, duty paid, £10,000 ono. Tel: (02) 353266 any time.

Mitsubishi Galant saloon (red), 1983, very good condition (many renewed items: brakes, tyres, etc), £1,000. Tel: +43-664-330.27.81 (Alex) or (03) 821463 (Capt Holzer).

Opel Astra 1.4, 1996, 19,000 km. Dark red, a/c, c/l, automatic doors, very good condition. Price: £4,500. Tel: (02) 590941 or 357619.

Toyota RAV4, 5 doors, 1996, 54,000 km, 2.0 litres, 95 PK, injection, e/w, p/s, a/c, 4-w/d, dark green, new tyres, excellent condition. £6,995 ONO. Tel: (02) 469677 (O) or (02) 623920 (H).

Mazda 626 Estate 2.00, 7-seater, d/f, a/c, e/w, sun roof, only 41,000 km. £2,000 - price negotiable. Tel: (02) 753001 (O) or (02) 660997 (H).

OTHER ITEMS FOR SALE

W/Westinghouse refrigerator: £300. **Siemens washing machine**: £200. **General gas cooker** - white: £100. Call Avedis on (02) 864432 during working hours.

Leaving Cyprus - entire household for sale including:

- * Regency dining table + 12 legency-bound chairs
- * 2 antique Chinese side-boards
- * 1 Chinese sofa table
- * 1 desk, 2 bookshelves/cup-boards, 2 chairs, examining couch, shelves, lamps, etc at very reasonable prices.
- * Occasional tables, Persian rugs and many, many other household items.

For further information/ prices, please call (02) 353266 any time.

For items below, please call Shane Smith on (09) 684956.

* **4-piece bar**, black (2 wall units; bar with wooden top; top with light; 5 stools) + 1 large and 2 small black tables with glass tops. All for £450. Tel: (09) 684956 any time.

* **Queen-size bed**, white (including mattress) with matching bedside tables, large dressing table with mirror and stool. All for £400.

* **Keyboard Korg Poly 800II**; Yamaha DX27 digital programmable algorithm synthesizer; Peavey KB15 portable keyboard amplification system; Stand and various accessories included. All for £250.

All items can be delivered.

Washing machine, large load, £120. Tel: Ann on (02) 864402.

Firewood for sale. Home delivery. Tel: (02) 777422 or (09) 678812.

French-fry eating cat (neutered) looking for a home. All vet. documents provided. Owner leaving Cyprus. Tel: (02) 376544.

Bunk beds (Danish made, as new) with mattresses and ladder: £245. **Double bed** (Danish-made, wooden) with two mattresses and side table: £95. **Electric heater**: £15. Tel: (09) 607007 or (04) 642168.

Bargain Prices! Children's clothes from birth to four years, summer and winter, from only 20 cents to £5. Also play mats, play pen, sterilizer, bouncy chair, etc. Tel: (02) 670600 from 0730 to 1530 or 351349 after 1600 hrs.

WANTED

Motorcycle Helmet for female rider. Please call (09) 852414.

ITEMS FOR HIRE

HIVE ITEMS FOR HIRE

The NICOSIA HIVE operates a comprehensive loan store. Items available are: VAX machine, child's car seats, pushchairs, backpacks, high chair, travel cots, children's toys and bikes, cool boxes, sun loungers, golf clubs, radio/cassette players, BBQ, etc. Call the HIVE to check availability.

DISCO FOR HIRE

The UNPA WO's & Sgts' Mess (The Vic Club) has upgraded its disco equipment to a high standard. This is available for hire for functions etc. The cost of hire is now £50.00 per event. Two DJs are also available and separate arrangements should be made with either DJ regarding fees. Bookings for the disco should be made through the PMC, WO2 Miller on (02) 359760 ext 126 (W) at least seven days in advance.

HAVING A PARTY?

The Youth Club is now available for hire. Many facilities including new disco equipment and lights, barbecue and plenty of space! Contact Pam on (02) 359112 for more details.

PROPERTY TO LET

New large house in Ayios Andreas area. 4 bedrooms, one with shower and a/c, hall, sitting room, dining room with a/c, large oak kitchen with electric oven, etc, two garages, c/h and solar water heater. £550. Tel: (02) 781477 any time.

House in Anthoupolis (fully furnished, if desired). 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully equipped kitchen, c/h and a/c in every room. 10 mins from UNPA. £450. Call (02) 382098 after 7:00 pm.

Flats for rent near UNPA. Very reasonable prices. Tel: (09) 650700 or (02) 355470.

2-storey house (close to Forum) with 3 bedrooms (master with a/c and shower), large, open-plan living area with all electrical fittings in kitchen, c/h, garage (two cars), solar heater. Tel: (02) 352991 or (09) 680551.

FACILITIES

WHY DON'T U.NETWORK@ THE UNPA?

The next meeting will take place on **Wed 24 November** at 10.00 am in the HIVE.

Come along for a cup of coffee and exchange information with a friendly group of spouses from UNFICYP and diplomatic missions. More info at (02) 591933 or (02) 489553.

THE NICOSIA LIBRARY is located at 23 Sycamore Road, UNPA. Tel (02) 359317.

A new selection of books, audio tapes, videos and CDs have arrived. Language courses available on long-term loans.

STOP PRESS: The Nicosia Library now has Internet facilities available. Come and read your favourite newspapers, research your school or university project, or simply search for news and information in cyberspace.

Library hours

Monday to Friday:

1000-1300 and 1500-1700 daily

Please ask Anthe or Rosemary for further details.

NICOSIA HIVE NEWS

The NICOSIA HIVE is open for information and advice and is located at 21 Sycamore Road, UNPA (within the Married Quarters area).

The Nicosia HIVE Coordinator is Karen McCormack.

All nationalities are welcome!

New opening hours from 1 November 1999:

Mon: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm
Tue: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm
Wed: 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Thur: 9:00 am to 11:30 am
Fri: Closed.

JUST A SECOND, the nearly-new clothing exchange in the Nicosia HIVE, has opened again. So spring-clean your wardrobes and bring in your autumn/winter clothes. Sellers receive 80% of the selling price and the remaining 20% goes to the UNFICYP Community Welfare Fund. Make some money and support a worthwhile cause. Opening times are every Mon and Thurs, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. For more information, phone Karen at the HIVE on (02) 359316.

SERVICES

DECORATIVE ART LESSONS.

Qualified teacher gives daily lessons to children aged 5-12 years in ceramics, drawing and handicraft using clay, paper, wood, etc. Ring Andri on (02) 424598 or (09) 648333.

BEAUTY TREATMENTS BY NIKI.

16th December will be Niki's final session before the Christmas Holidays. So ladies, why not treat yourselves to a facial, pedicure or one of Niki's special occasion treatments. Prices start from as little as £1.

Gents, why not give your beloved a **gift voucher** which can be used all year round. Call at the Hive for more information on (02) 359316.

SANDRA'S HAIR FASHIONS

Sandra's Hair Fashions is situated at 21 Sycamore Road on the Married Quarters Patch. Open Mon-Fri between 0900-1800 hrs. Tel: (02) 776454.

ENGLISH LESSONS

Qualified and experienced teacher available to teach English to small groups or on a one-to-one basis. Tel: (02) 772991.

EVENING BABYSITTING AND ASSISTING AT PARTIES

Lady available for evening babysitting and assisting at drinks/dinner parties. Tel: (02) 330296 after 1600 hrs.

MATURE BABYSITTER Reliable, mature lady available for babysitting. Tel: (02) 623850 after 1600 hrs.

UK-TRAINED SEAMSTRESS available for alterations, zip replacements, costume making, etc. Also specialises in beautiful creative home fabric decorations. Contact Stella on (02) 491840.

JOB WANTED: Woman is looking for houses, offices and staircases in Nicosia + area to clean. Own transport available. 12 years

experience. Call (02) 489961.

BRITISH TRAINED SEAMSTRESS

Specialises in dressmaking for formal occasions, ball gowns, wedding dresses and outfits, etc, also alterations and repairs. Mrs Chris Broad, 28 Vyzantiou Street, Ayios Dhometios, (close to UNPA, near Astra garage). Tel: (02) 773206.

ALKIONIDES CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Wed 24 Nov 1999

4:00-8:00 pm at the

Asty Hotel,

12 Pringkipissis Annis,

Ayios Dhometios, Nicosia.

Entrance fee of £1 includes

coffee and sweet - in aid of

Cypriot families in need



DVD Films

The children's film is moving from Saturday morning to **FRIDAY EVENING at 17:00 hrs** at St Michael's School.

SHOWING SOON:

19 Nov: Babe, Pig in the City

26 Nov: The Elm-Chanted Forest

Sunday Evening Films: 20:00 hrs

14 Nov: Arlington Road

21 Nov: The Blair Witch Project

Read the notices in the International Cafeteria for more details

YMCA NEWSFLASH!!

The YMCA is announcing its new hours.

Now open from 08:00 to 1400 and 16:00 to 21:00 hours.

Now adding burgers and chips to the menu!

NB: We are always looking for relief staff for the YMCA. If you fancy working a few hours now and then with a friendly team, contact Rose at the YMCA or ring (02) 359308.

When did you last see an offer like this?

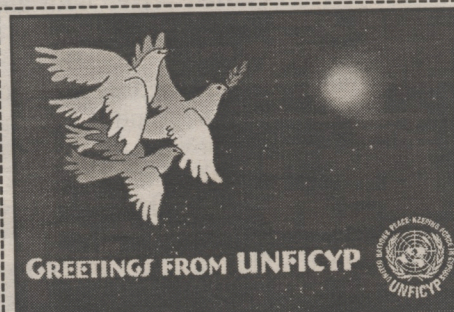
Fast women looking for male partners who can stay the distance on 4 Dec 99.

For more information, contact the UNFICYP Personnel Office, Ext 4480.

KEEP US INFORMED

Are there any charity functions, concerts, UN-related events, etc coming up in the near future?

Sectors/branches/UN-associated clubs are invited to advertise well in advance all events of interest to our readers.



UNFICYP Christmas Cards now on sale:

£2:00 for 10 cards. Call in at the Public Information Office at HQ UNFICYP any time.

To advertise in the Blue Beret, send your ads to the Public Information Office at HQ UNFICYP or e-mail to blueberetcyprus@hotmail.com. NB: Advertisements will be

kept in the Blue Beret for a **maximum of three consecutive issues.**

If readers wish to continue to advertise, they are requested to call/re-apply in writing.

BLUE BERET SPORTS SECTION

HEROES OR MASCHOCHISTS?

By Maj Zános Hatos

Training and concentration - that's what it's all about, according to three Hungarian soldiers who willingly cut their heads open, caught fire, and submitted to a severe beating in the martial arts demonstration on UN Day. Each of them has more than seven years of experience in the fine art of self-defence.

"I showed my soldiers you can break roof-tiles with your head, something they maybe thought was impossible," says MSgt Róbert Weiszhaár. "This teaches them a human being can do a lot more than first expected. This could prove to be valuable to them as soldiers."

"But you got hurt in your demonstration, doesn't that show it is risky?" - it

was Róbert who cut his head open.

"Well, there's always some risk involved in giving a demonstration such as ours," the maestro conceded. "In this case, I think it was because I let my concentration slip for a second. On the other hand I showed that even an injured soldier can fight on, you should never give up."

You clearly need to be a real man to do this sort of thing. Cpl Róbert Szekeres didn't even realise he'd caught fire while he was breaking burning roof-tiles with his bare fist. "I was concentrating so hard on breaking the tiles that nothing else mattered. That's why I only noticed after a while that my jacket was on fire."

Standing 1.93m and weighing in at 105kg, nobody in their right mind would mess with MSgt Lajos Széki. On UN Day however, friends and colleagues had a go at him, beating him with battens so hard that the sticks broke.

"This was to show I can endure pain. The good thing is that the blows are expected," ensures Lajos. "I tighten my muscles just before the batten hits me. Even if I do feel pain, there is so much adrenaline going through my body I don't actually notice it till after the demonstration, while I'm having a shower."

All three sportsmen are convinced: "Whether it is the fear of fire, the fear of hurting yourself or the fear of failing to do your demonstration well, by training hard and by concentrating on your task, you can achieve your aims."



Lajos Széki demonstrates how to break roof-tiles

SHELLARD TROPHY '99

By Sgt Cameron Scott

"What time does the bus leave?" asked Capt Peter Houston on his way to get changed at 08.55 on Friday 29 October.

"Nine o'clock sir," answered the driver, starting the engine.

The 22 RA regimental golf competition was being held at the Secret Valley Golf Club just outside Paphos that day. The contest has been aptly named The Lost Balls and Hackers Competition by Capt Brian Ransom who had, incidentally, returned to the UK leaving Sgt "Rocket" Ron Fenton and myself the unenviable task of piecing the whole thing together.

The competition was attended by the Regimental Hon Col, Rtd Maj Gen Shellard who had been entered as an 18 handicapper. Later on, he would present the Shellard Trophy for the first time to the overall regimental champion.

Having sailed past Richard Noble and Thrust 2 on the way to Paphos, we organisers set up the array of no-expense-spared prizes in the clubhouse and awaited the 27 golfers who would be teeing off in some sort of order shortly after arriving.

The Hon Col (happy with the CO's clubs) put the first round down the range at 12.17 hrs and they were off! Six hired buggies and eight flights later the course was a hive of activity with divots being replaced every few yards and cigars being lit at every other bunker.

Unfortunately, the last few flights took longer than expected and they had to finish after 16 holes as darkness fell. Everyone came in safely with no

complaints from the general public, leaving Capt Brian Ransom and his helpers to sort out the scorecards, and work out who genuinely couldn't count and who was guilty of poetic licence. The end result was a load of seemingly worthy champions.

The winner of the Shellard Trophy was Bdr Kerry Roberts whose handicap is still under investigation. Div 1 (1 - 18) winner was the Padre, Capt Phillip McCormack, who, with some divine intervention (we think), had a fantastic round. Div 2 (19 - 27) was won by Sgt Eijkelenborg from Falcon Troop and Div 3 (28+) was awarded to Lt David Blackburn who said before declaring his handicap that he had only taken the sport up at Christmas. What he failed to mention was that it was Christmas 1987.

Serious prizes over, the not-so-serious golfers lined up to accept the not-so-serious prizes. Sgt Mick Wakeling won one of his own expertly crafted prizes with an outstanding 80 (yes, 80!) over (yes, over!) par 154 winning the Buzz: Lightyear To Infinity and Beyond trophy. LCpl Billy Butlin proudly accepted a whip and cowboy hat for the most lost balls (six) and the Indiana Jones trophy. Master Chef W011 Nigel Fox spent most of the day in the sand winning the Hamlet Shield. Capt Peter Houston won the Best Putter Award.

The last prize of the day was awarded to the oldest golfer on the course. Capt Brian Ransom already upset at not having won anything, could only watch himself come a close second to the Hon Col and present him the Golden Zimmer award.

RUNNING CALENDAR

20 November 1999 Sector 4 is organising a 10.5km run around the old walls of Famagusta. There will be four categories: men under 40, men over 40, guests (i.e. those without a UN card), and women (all ages).

Participation is open to all UNFICYP personnel, members of the British Forces in Cyprus, military personnel of the TF and TCSF in the Famagusta area, dependants of all the above, and civilians of the Famagusta community.

An entry fee will be collected to cover costs of the organisation, food, etc. Registration forms are to be returned not later than 12 November to WO2 Zach at Sector 4 (03/821463 ext. 229). Registration and collection of fees will take place between 08.00 and 09.30 on 20 November.

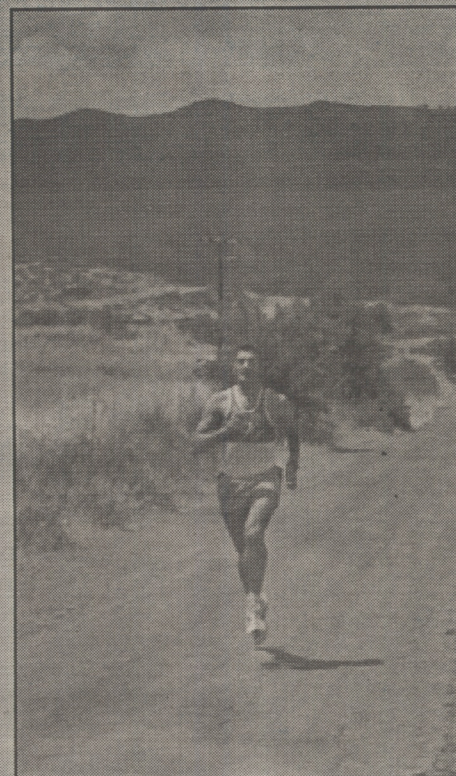
28 November 1999, Cyprus Aphrodite Half Marathon, Cypria Maris Sports Centre, Pafos. The start will be at 10.00 hrs while the 5 km Fun Run will start at 10.05. Cash prizes. Entry fee: CYP 7.00. Further information can be obtained from the Cyprus Health Runners Club, PO Box 28167, Strovolos 2091, Nicosia, Cyprus. Tel: (02) 420559, Fax: (02) 420559, e-mail: runclub@spidernet.com.cy or www.cylink.com.cy/half marathon

Application forms must be received by 13 November 1999.

2 and 3 December 1999, Cyprus Challenge Half Marathon 1999. Start and finish on 2 December, will be at the Rodon Mount Hotel at Agros. The start on 3 December will be at the square of Lefkara Village. The finish will be at Vavatsinia Village.

Further information can be obtained from the Cyprus Challenge Half Marathon, PO Box 12063, 2340 Lakatamia, Nicosia. Tel: (02)370396, Fax: (02) 370404, e-mail: skakour@spidernet.com.cy

5 December 1999, Kolossi Marathon,



Half Marathon and 10km race. More information can be obtained from Kolossi Marathon, PO Box 12063, 2340 Lakatamia, Nicosia. Tel: (02) 370396, Fax: (02) 370404, e-mail: skakour@spidernet.com.cy.

12 December 1999, 6th International Kaloderma Half-Marathon and 4km Race, Three Seas hotel near the Lighthouse at Pervolia, Larnaca. The start will be at 10.00 a.m. for both races. Entry fee for the half marathon is CYP2.00, with no entry fee for the 4km race. Registration up to 09:30am on 12 December.

Further information available at Cyprus Runners' Club, tel (09) 411411, (02) 333462, (02) 701264. Fax: (02) 420089.

THE FAMAGUSTA OPEN

By Maj Zános Hatos

It was unfortunate that only Sector 4 was able to provide contestants for the first ever UNFICYP Famagusta Open men's singles tennis tournament on 31 October. But the 14 participants who turned up to play at the sports centre of the Eastern Mediterranean University in Famagusta produced some tough, exciting matches and some great entertainment - livened up by some strong winds.

At the end of the day, there was a barbecue at Camp Duke Leopold V at which the CO of Sector 4 congratulated participants and presented cups and

medals to the winner and runners up. Later, contestants washed the tennis court dust out of their throats with beer.

Sector 4 hopes the tournament will become an annual event, and is doing its best to infect Sectors 1 and 2, UN Flight and UNFICYP HQ with tennis fever to increase the number of entrants.

Results:

Winner: Maj Zános Hatos
Runner up: WO1 Werner Eszl
Third place: Maj Peter Obermoser
Fourth place: WO1 Sigfried Stuermer



Participants of the competition at the prize-giving ceremony