

THE BLUE BERET



APRIL 1989



UN MP COY MEDAL PARADE



CCWO Burbury handing over MP Coy to the FPM, Maj Nault.



Above: Force Commander, Mr Ioannides and FPM with the artist's picture.



Above: WO2 J Larsen accepting his number 11.



On 24th February 1989 UN MP Coy held a medal parade which was somewhat unique. Not only did 26 MP Coy members receive their numbers/medals, but also included were two members of the Cyprus Defence Animal Support Unit, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Sgt D J Hughes and Cpl Inkpen for having completed 80 days of service with the UN in support of related tasks with



Above: Sgt D Hughes receiving his UN Medal accompanied by his sniffer dog.



their dogs. Also a special presentation was made to the Force Commander Maj Gen G G Greindl from the MP Coy on his forthcoming departure from UNFICYP. The gift, which was created by artist Mr Antis Ioannides, is a depiction of the MP badge surrounded by flags of the seven nations and UN flag highlighted by a bust of Aphrodite.

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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.

Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper size 160mm by 210mm. This is an official publication prepared under the direction of the Force Commander. The views expressed are, however, those of the author concerned and do not necessarily conform with official policy.

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Front cover

UNFICYP WORKSHOPS

REME

by: SSgt K Webster

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

The Blue Beret for the month of April returns to its normal size and content. Due to March's issue being a special edition the material for April is somewhat dated. Nevertheless we hope it will keep you up to date with UNFICYP's activities.

The statistics accumulated in relation to the various Contingents will be published in four parts commencing with the May issue, and we apologise for the printing error on page 20 of the March magazine where Major General Greindl's name appeared in a caption instead of Lieutenant General Prem Chand's!

Welcome

On behalf of all Blue Beret readers, the editorial staff are extremely proud to welcome our new Force Commander, Major General Clive Milner OMM, CD. We wish him every success in the difficult task that lies ahead and whilst assuring him of all possible support we are also confident that he, together with Mrs Milner and their family will enjoy Cyprus, its people and customs.

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THE ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS



The Royal Canadian Dragoons (RCD) have taken over from the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) in Sector Three.

The RCD are the senior regiment of the Corps. It was formed as the first regular cavalry establishment in Canada and it has continued with unbroken regular service since 21 December 1883.

The first campaign in which the Regiment saw actual combat was the Boer War in South Africa. The Regiment played a distinguished part in this war and many of our most valued traditions originated there. Our badge – a Springbok bounding – commemorates an incident that occurred during the war. The Regiment was acting as a rear guard, a sentry noticed that the Springboks grazing in the tall grass were suddenly startled and bounding into the air, he called the troop "TO". Boers were approaching the position and the timely warning given by the little antelope allowed the troop to repel the attack. In appreciation for this warning the Regiment later adopted the Springbok as its insignia for its cap and collar badge.

Mobilized in 1914, along with the Lord Strathcona's Horse (RC) the Regiment was dispatched to England as part of the first Canadian Contingent. The Canadians fought both in the line as infantry and mounted as cavalry, but because of the terrible conditions of the Western Front and the firepower of modern weapons, there was little scope for cavalry action and most of the battles fought were dismounted actions. During the

First World War the Regiment received 13 battle honours, ten of which are displayed on the Guidon.

The Regiment was placed on active service in September 1939; however, there was no place for cavalry in the Canadian Contingent, and for a year, regimental staff were used as infantry instructors. After the success



WO Skelding, SSM Riggs and WO Gosse prepare to march the RCD Guidon on parade during the Sector 3 Change of Command on 9th March 1989.

of the German Blitzkrieg in May 1940 the need for armour was finally acknowledged. The RCD, along with the LDSH (RC) and a militia unit provided personnel for a composite unit – the 1st Mechanized Cavalry Regiment.

The Regiment later became the recce unit of the 1st Canadian Corps landing in Sicily and

Italy, taking part in the hard fought campaign up the Italian boot. The RCD moved to NW Europe in March 1945 and took part in the liberation of the Netherlands making a spectacular sweep from the Rhine to the North Sea. The Regiment received 10 battle honours in World War II and displays 6 on the Guidon.

After the war, the Regiment remained as one of the regular force armoured regiments and was initially stationed in Camp Borden. In 1948 it was moved to Camp Petawawa, and C Sqn was sent to Germany as part of 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade (NATO) in 1951. In April 1954 D Sqn was sent to Korea where it served until Nov 1954. The Royal Canadian Dragoons have the distinction of being the first armoured regiment to be sent to Germany as a unit, becoming part of the 4th Cdn Inf Bde in Oct 1957. Having left Petawawa in 1957 for Germany, the unit was repatriated to Gagetown, N B in 1959 to become part of 3CIBG. From Gagetown, the Dragoons sent Recce Sqn to Egypt in 1961 and Cyprus in 1964. In 1970 the Regiment left Gagetown to again serve as the armoured regiment of Canada's NATO Bde.

Between 1970–77 the RCD were equipped with Centurions in the Tank Sqn and Lynx in the Recce Sqn. The Leopard C1 replaced the Centurion in 1977 and continues to be used today.

The Regiment is presently the armoured backbone of the Special Service Force, equipped with Cougar tank trainers, having returned to Base Petawawa in July 87.

IMPROVEMENT IN AUSCON'S MEDICAL CENTRE

With the rotation on the 1st of March the AUSCON medical centre received the long awaited X-ray machine Mediscope 100/60.

Dr Neumayer and Dr Helwig are now capable of making their own X-rays and even lung screening.

Unfortunately Dr Neumayer, immediately had the chance to test the new machine on MCpl Hirschhoffer, who broke his hand, some say especially for this purpose!



WATCHFUL EYES

Security in CDL V is maintained by the guard platoon, which perform duty in 3 shifts of 6 men. Their responsibilities include recording and checking the in and outgoing traffic, conducting patrols around the Camp, and to secure fuel distribution during non-duty hours. The stand-by guards also provide men for the Sector Reserve and guard of honour.

Left: The change of guard



CHANGE OF COMMAND

Right: From Left to Right: Lt Col MW Appleton CD, CO RCD, Col CR Wellwood CD, DCOS and Commander Canadian Contingent, and Lt Col KT Eddy CO LdSH(RC).



UNCIVPOL NEWS



On Thursday 26th January, 1989, Australia was 201 years old. All members of the Australian Contingent were invited to attend a mid-day reception hosted by the Australian High Commissioner to Cyprus Mr Eddie Stevens and Mrs Stevens.

That night the Commander and Deputy Commander of UNCIVPOL Mr Campbell-Thomson and Mr Lennart Petersson hosted another reception at the Blue Beret Camp Officers Mess as the presentation of United Nations medals to members of

UNCIVPOL by Major General Griendl (the Force Commander).

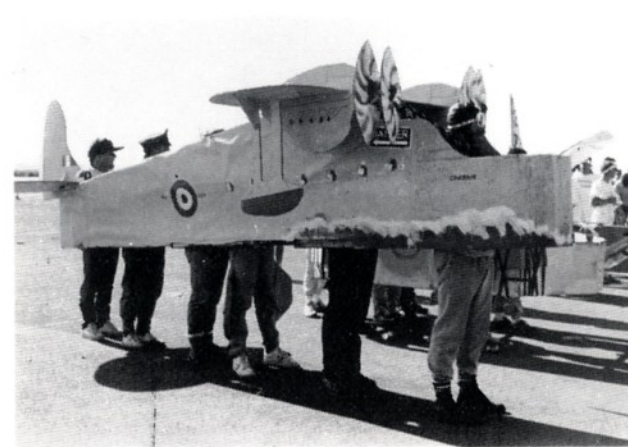
An Australian tourist publication the other day disclosed this paragraph: "It was the inland that fashioned so much of the Australian character. Resourcefulness, lack of humbug, the ability to take people as we find them. Friendliness. The wry element in our sense of humour. (Where else in the world but Alice Springs would you find an annual boat race on a dry river bed?)" In Cyprus of course.

On Sunday 29th January to

enable everyone to celebrate Australia Day the members of the 29th Australian Contingent organised the annual Henly-on-Pedhieos Regatta. It was won by members of Sector 2 in their catamaran "Turbo" from the Australian crew in "Killer-Kanga" and the Swedish Police in "Cór-rona".

A great day was had by all and the Cyprus weather couldn't have been better for Australia's 201st birthday.

On Wednesday 22nd February, 1989 a farewell dinner



party was held at UNCIVPOL Headquarters to say goodbye to Commander Chris Campbell-Thomson and his wife Sheila. The couple with their daughter Chloe left Cyprus to return to Australia on Tuesday 28th February, 1989.

Mr Lennart Petersson, made a presentation on behalf of the Swedish Government and the

PMC and the UNCIVPOL members presented the Campbell-Thomsons with the Lefkara Lace and an UNCIVPOL plaque.

On his return Commander Campbell-Thomson will retire from the Australian Federal Police and he and his family will settle in Cooma in the Snowy Mountains District of New South Wales.

The kids at that Sydney convent have done it again, after singing Happy Birthday to the baby Jesus at the conclusion of the childrens Christmas Mass at their local church, a six year old boy startled the congregation by breaking into a chorus of "Why was he born so beautiful".

SP REGT NEWS



Mrs Shelly Sharpe making her first descent.

A group of six from Sp Regt, took to the air over Kingsfield near Dhekelia recently. Having been trained how to get into and then jump out of the aircraft on the Saturday they actually jumped on the following Sunday morning.

There was plenty of happy smiling faces in the bar on Sunday afternoon as they all relived their experiences.

Anyone wishing to undertake a one jump course at Pergamos should get in contact with the UN Parachuting representative Major G Burton on Ext 2410 for further information. Courses can be arranged for most weekends.

CROSS COUNTRY WINNER



Signalman Jolly, winner of the UN Cross Country.

LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL PRESENTATION



Lt Col RCA Thwaites, Royal Signals, presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to Sgts Holden and Hartshorne in the Signals Club "The Wire Inn". Lt Col Thwaites was visiting the Squadron from the Sovereign Base Area at Episkopi. Pictured are: Back row, left to right: Sgt Holden, Lt Col Thwaites, Major Peck (FSO) and Sgt Hartshorne, Mrs Holden, Andrew Hartshorne and Mrs Hartshorne.



UNFICYP SKIING COMPETITION



Technique and posture – the secret of a good skier

UNFICYP SKIING COMPETITION

This winter it seemed as if the Troodos mountains were covered with more snow than the Austrian Alps.

The weather couldn't have been better to give the spectators and the 63 participants of the annual skiing competition a healthy looking "mountain tan".

12 teams representing all Sectors, UNCIVPOL, FSC Sqn, MP Coy, UNFICYP HQ and the Cyprus Ski Club did their best to master the difficult course, set up by Mr Xerofontos.

The results were:

1st place: Sgt Geissler
2nd place: MCpl Völkl
3rd place: LCpl Lengauer

But the motto being: "taking part is all the fun" all competitors must be congratulated, especially the ladies team with Mrs Esterer, Mrs Burton and Mrs Smedley. The practice during the winter holiday paid off for COS Brig W Courage, who was the highest ranking contestant and finished 13th. SSgt Thompson who attacked the slope for the first time ever received a special prize for taking his time!

After the race, skiers and spectators regained their strength at the "Austrian Snow Bar". Timid skiers were said to have had a couple of Glühweins before they even started.

Finally, due to several requests here is the recipe for Glühwein:

dry red or white wine
cloves
cinnamon bark
lemon peel
sugar

Put all ingredients into the wine and heat it!





Brig Courage finds himself surrounded by the runners, back-up team and support vehicles prior to the start of the D Battery run to Mount Olympus from the Box Factory.

NEWS FROM SECTOR TWO

As we said in our first article, 3 RHA has been looking forward to getting involved in the sporting side of the UN. This we duly did when we entered a team selected from D, J and head-quarter's batteries for the DANCON Cross Country. The competition ended with 3 RHA taking

first place in the team event and Bdr James coming second in the individuals. Very soon after this the Regiment also competed in the UNPA Cross Country. Again the 3 RHA team came first and a team from D Battery took second place. Meanwhile, on the ski slopes our downhill team was beaten into third place by a strong team from AUSCON and the Cyprus Ski Club. We had hoped that these "professionals" might have fallen over or missed one of the gates! "Sport" for the period was rounded off with two major events. SSgt Webster helped organise and run a very successful Clay Pigeon Shoot which "pulled" a crowd of up and coming John Waynes. Last, but not least, on the sporting front was the Australia Day Boat Race.



L/Bdr Wilson prepares himself for the Trapper Shoot Competition which he went on to win, having darned the holes in his trousers caused by some stray practice shots!



The Head of the Chancery of the British High Commission, Mr Davis McLennan meets WO1 (RSM) Ferguson during his visit to Sector 2.



The 3RHA team with the trophy having won the DANCON Cross Country.

For a few weeks the Regiment's resources were channelled into the construction of submarines (J Battery) Pirate Ships (D Battery) and the world's lightest ocean going catamaran (St David's Camp) weighing in at only 9lbs. After many knockout rounds in the blistering heat the final was announced with all three of the above boats still in contention. In the end the light-weight boat of St David's Camp stormed to a decisive victory.

The Regiment has also just completed a daunting charity event. D Battery, in response to an article in the Newcastle Evening Chronicle, raised over £1000 when 20 members of the battery ran from B32 the Box Factory (height 390 feet) to the top of Mount Olympus (height 6404 feet) in 4hr 38 mins. This money will be presented to the North of England Childrens' Cancer Research Fund.

We have also been kept fairly



Capt P Watkins (Humanitarian Officer) finds something else to shoot at! – during the monthly Humanitarian Conference.

busy with visits. The main one being a British Parliamentary Select Committee comprising a selection of MP's from different political parties and areas of the UK. This was followed by the visit of Mr David McLennan who has just taken over as head of the Chancery of the British High Commission here in Cyprus.

P.S We do man the line when we aren't being sporty!



The Tenko Tearaways after receiving their prizes from the Australian High Commissioner.

7 SQUADRON ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

7 Squadron RCT, known throughout the Royal Corps of Transport as "SHINY SEVEN", took over the role of UN Tpt Sqn in January from 1 Squadron RCT. 7 Squadron RCT is normally based in Aldershot and forms part of 27 Regiment RCT.

7 Horse Transport Company ASC was formed in February 1870, from 12 Troop Military Train. After early service in the south of England, the Company served in the First Zulu War. In 1882, the Company first arrived in Cyprus en route for the Egyptian campaign.

The Company was moved to Dublin, then served in the Boer War and stayed in South Africa until 1914. During the Great War it formed part of the 1st Divisional Train. The Second World War saw the Company serve in the Western Desert with the 8th Army, and then at Anzio where it was heavily involved in the defence of the beachhead.

After the war the Company stayed in the Middle East: in Palestine, Tripoli and participating in operations in Suez Canal



7 Squadron RCT took over from 1 Squadron RCT at the beginning of this year

Zone and Jordan. The Company supported the Internal Security Forces in Cyprus in 1958 and 1959, sending supplies into the Troodos on requisitioned donkeys – the only type of transport suitable for the terrain.

Since 1960, the Company has been based in and around Aldershot as a General Transport 2nd line unit, supporting the Air Portable Brigade, later the United Kingdom Mobile Force, and currently the 1st Armoured Division

in the British Army of the Rhine.

The Company was redesignated 7 Squadron RCT on the formation of the Corps in 1965. The Squadron's association with the island of Cyprus has continued, elements being deployed here during 1964. The Squadron was also here during the 1974 Turkish Intervention. Presently the Squadron is on its ninth tour with UNFICYP and consists of 130 all ranks commanded by Major B S Price RCT.

THE DANCON FUNNY FARM

The DANCON Medical Centre in Viking Camp, Xeros, consists of two doctors (Papa-doc and Baby-doc), one Warrant Officer and five medical assistants.

We also have two ambulances (one either on its way to Nicosia or Akrotiri and the other almost always in for repair!)

The daily work (yes we did say work!) is varied. Every day we are consulted by people with many different kinds of problems, however it is rare for all four beds at the medical centre to be occupied all at once. Surgery hours are from 0730–1200 hours Mondays to Saturdays and we

are able to keep these beds free so that the medical assistants can relax and enjoy life in Cyprus!

Some people say that you have to be something of a sadist to work at the Medical Centre probably because of the Danish vaccination programme that we carry out here, where everyone from Commander to private soldier has to be vaccinated – it is, after-all only a 5cm needle. We consider it as an extra bonus to their monthly pay.

One of our many duties is to inspect hygiene in the Danish camps and OPs. This often includes solving one or two med-

ical complaints in more home-like surroundings.

We also keep an eye on the water quality in Sector One and hope to install a UV-cleaning device very soon.

Among patients we receive many comfort visitors from the camps who like to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea before returning to work (we use bottled water in case you wonder!). We feel that if we can make them welcome and comfortable they may not be so reluctant about their vaccinations!



C SQUADRON THE LIFE GUARDS IN 1964

25 Years later and C Squadron The Life Guards are back in Cyprus with, would you believe?, the same Ferret Scout Cars!

We are indebted to the Squadron for supplying us with these photographs of their very first tour.



FORCE COMMANDER'S COMMENDATION AWARD

On Tuesday 24th January 1989, Sgt Ken Vivian of the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) stationed in Cyprus received the Force Commander's commendation for his actions during the last fatal shooting in the Buffer Zone which occurred on Sunday 11th December 1988.

Sgt Vivian's commendation noted that with disregard for his own safety, he oversaw and gave critical first aid treatment to a wounded Turkish Force soldier. He also provided a calming influence on his fellow soldiers and more importantly on a second



Sgt Ken Vivian is presented the Force Commander's Commendation by Maj Gen Greindl.

Turkish Force soldier. His actions were instrumental in threatening situation, providing assistance to a wounded soldier and defusing a tense situation.

FAREWELL TO QM SP REGT



Farewell to Lt Col Don and Peggy Smith. From Left to Right: RSM Hood, Mrs Smedley, Lt Col Smith, Mrs Smith, Mrs Oxley and Lt Col Smedley.



SPONSORED SHAVE

Left: Sgt Jason Longstaff and Sgt John David did a sponsored shave for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital in London. They were dared to have an 'all over shave' and raised £100. Seen here handing over the cheque to Lt Col Smedley.



Unicorns RFC Israel Tour Squad at Jerusalem University stadium.

UNICORNS TOUR ISRAEL

It was way back in November 1988 that we received a signal from UNTSO asking if we would like to come to Israel for a rugby tour. Twenty four intrepid players finally set off for the Holy Lands on 22 Feb 89, with two rugby matches on the agenda during the four whole days that we were in the country. Our hosting team, the Academic Sports Association (ASA) Jerusalem Rugby Football Club, were mostly Israelis, but also included nationals of other nations all of whom had some sort of affiliation with Jerusalem University. Our match against them was won in the final minute of the game, with a try scored by Sgt Taff Appleby, which pushed the score to 20-18. The second match of the tour was played in Tel Aviv against MFO Sinai, a team comprised of British, Canadians, and Fijians. Despite initial fears of the Fijian backs, we played a superb match, spurred on by the enthusiasm of our team captain,

BSM Taff Kallies. The final score of the day being 40-0. Playing on the international pitch at Tel Aviv, we were amused, and horrified to find cast iron manhole covers on the middle of the pitch! Crowd control was equally marvellous, with dog walkers and child minders intruding regularly!

With the rugby aside we also managed a day of sightseeing, taking a coach to Jericho Masada, and culminating with a swim in the Dead Sea. The team coach, Sgt Adam Fitzpatrick, decided that he was going to run up Masada, but soon changed his mind after climbing a few hundred feet of cliffs. Some members of the tour also managed a trip to the Old City, seeing the Wailing Wall on the Sabbath Day.

As with every rugby tour there was also the social side. The public of Jerusalem were intrigued by the singing expertise of the team, notably of WO2 Terry Summers whose list of

tunes was endless. Sgt Andy Gregory came close behind with his street dancing techniques, which caused many tourist cameras to click and whirr. LCOH Stan Stanlake performed an ingenious stuntman act in Tel Aviv, for which he required hospital treatment. Capt Richard Bennett managed to find the cheapest and seediest hotel in Tel Aviv, but made up for it in Jerusalem, when he negotiated the cheapest five-star hotel rooms in the world. Bdr 'Hangman' Chalk was rarely understood but never ceased to amuse us all. The characters are always what make a good tour, this one was full of them.

On 27 Feb 89 the victorious players returned. All of their money and most of their voices were left in Israel, but they came home with one of the memories of a lifetime. ASA Jerusalem RFC have asked us to return next year, so they must have enjoyed the tour as much as we did.

UNFICYP WELCOMES NEW FORCE COMMANDER MAJOR GENERAL CLIVE MILNER, OMM, CD



Maj Gen Clive Milner enrolled in Canadian Army (Regular) in 1958 and was affiliated with the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps where he underwent officer training. He served with the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) from 1959 until 1965 in various appointments including a tour with UNFICYP 1964-65. Following a year at the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College he was appointed to the Headquarters of 3 Combat Group as a staff officer. He then spent 2 years as a Squadron Commander with the Royal Canadian Dragoons and 8th Canadian Hussars in Gagetown,

New Brunswick. From 1971 until 1974 Maj Gen Milner was the Canadian Forces Liaison Officer at the United States Army Armor Centre in Fort Knox, Kentucky. He spent a year in Ottawa, Ontario in the Directorate of Land Operations at National Defence Headquarters before serving in Damascus as Deputy Chief of Staff, UNDOF and Military Observer UNTSO from 1975-76. Gen Milner returned to National Defence Headquarters for a short time before being appointed to command the Royal Canadian Dragoons in Lahr, Germany. In July 1978 he returned to the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff Col-

lege as a member of the Faculty and then attended the National Defence College, also in Kingston, Ontario. From 1980 to 1983 he was the Director of Armour at National Defence Headquarters and then attended the Canadian Forces Language School as a student of French. In 1983 he was appointed to command 1 Canadian Brigade Group in Calgary, Alberta for 3 years and then he returned once again to the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College as Commandant. Maj Gen Milner assumed his appointment as Force Commander UNFICYP on 10 April 1989.