

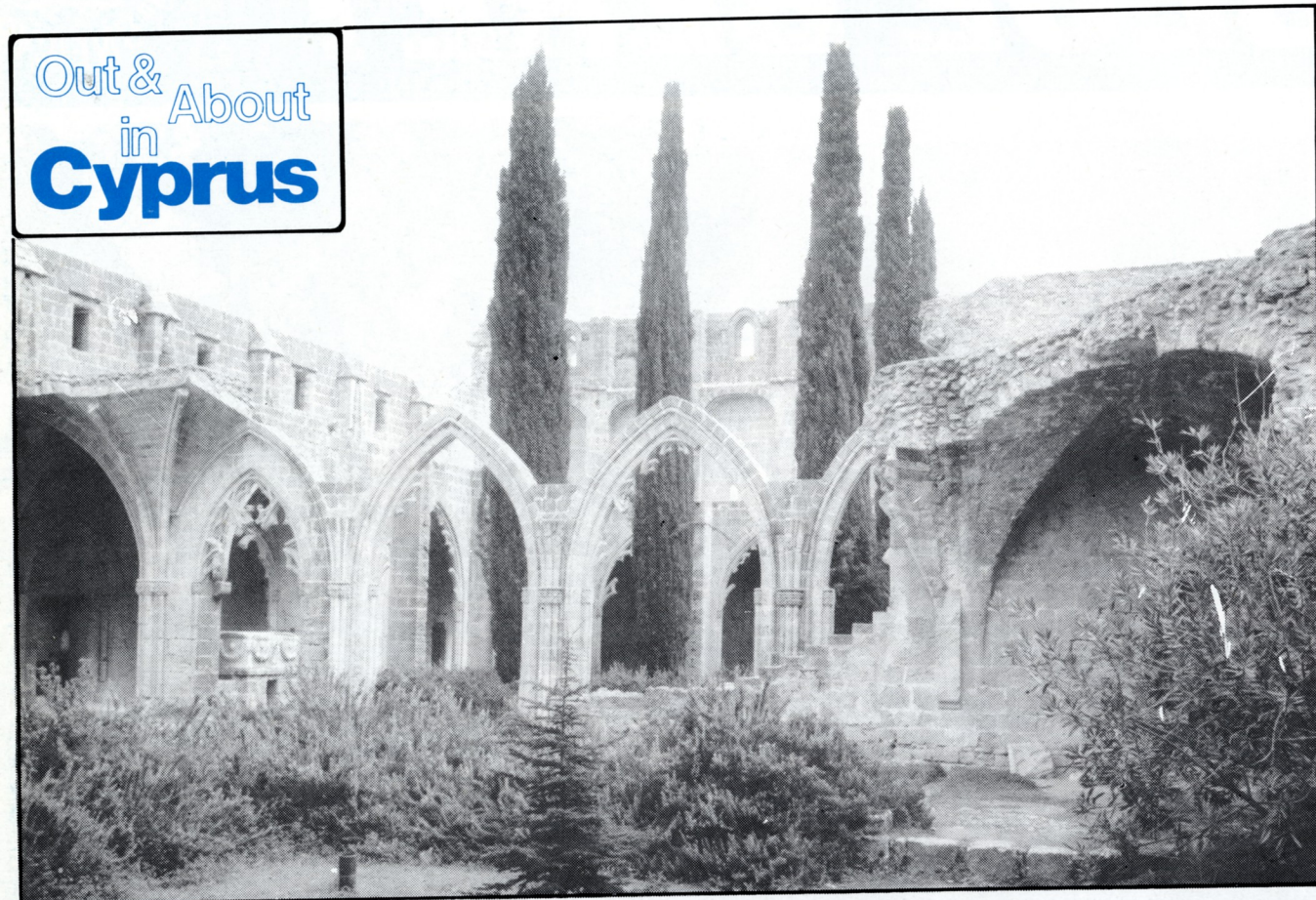
THE BLUE BERET



FEBRUARY 1988



Out & About in Cyprus



The marvellous 14th century Bellapais Abbey, a place of great beauty and interest. The Abbey is approximately three miles east of Kyrenia and is built right on the edge of a fifty foot high cliff.



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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

FUNSKIING

ON TROODOS

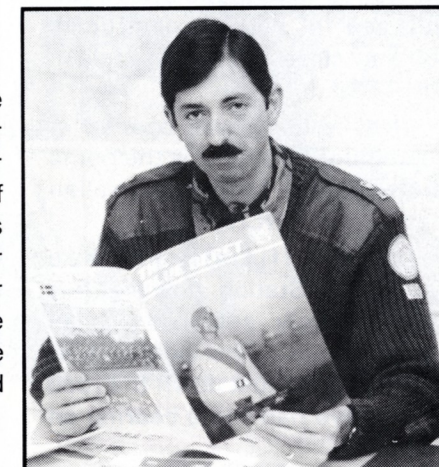
BY: S/SGT G. SAKOPARNIK

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

As the new Editor of the Blue Beret I would like to thank Major Alex Twickel for handing over such a good magazine, but of course the editor really relies upon all members of UNFICYP for material, and it is your contributions which influence the quality of the journal, so please keep up the flow of articles and photographs.



Welcome to 'A' Squadron The Life Guards and 15 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, both of whom have articles in this edition.

The current good snow conditions in the Troodos should ensure that the UN Ski Competition, which is being held on 11 February, sets off to a good start. They are followed at the end of the month by the NEFSKI Championships on the 25/26 February (for those of you on duty on the line, hopefully your free time will come!

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CAMP DINGO



On the right as you pass through Peristerona Village, twenty five kilometres west of the UNPA, you will see a newly constructed building close to the old Liaison Post LP36.

This building was opened in September 1987 and is the home and workplace for five Australian members of UNCIVPOL.

It is officially named Peristerona Station, however it is affectionately referred to as 'Camp Dingo'. (The existence of Bulldog Camp just down the road might have had some bearing on that title).



By: Insp G. Gartside

The new Peristerona Station, with Sen Sgt Peter DeBritt and Sgt Terry Parker



The old "shack" - LP36

Senior Sergeant Peter (Sooty) De BRITT is the Officer in Charge, the staff consisting of Robert (Bob) AITKEN, Sergeant Terry (Three Words) PARKER, Sergeant Gary (Woody) WOODS and Sergeant Steve (The Swede) OLINDER.

First established in August 1986 in the LP36 'Shack' to develop liaison at a local level and to assist in the restoration of normal conditions in the farming districts, it is now a well established and successful operational unit.

The Station works in support of Sectors 1 and 2 by assisting the Farming NCOs and the

Humanitarian Officers in the Ovgos River project, the issue and control of farming passes, short and long North Wind patrols and most importantly, provision of civilian police support in the Buffer Zone.

Their rapport with the local community has developed to such an extent that they have even been called to provide counselling services and to mediate in family disputes, naturally they had to decline.

The country lifestyle, close contact with the locals and access to fresh farm produce appears to suit these Australians who are fast becoming experts in rural affairs.



Sen Sgt Sooty DeBritt with one of the local shepherds



THE BLACK WIDOWS



By: M/Cpl Debbie Currier

Photos by S/Sgt A. Beaton

With all the changes that seem to be taking place within these days, one of the main ones seems to be the role of women, and here in Cyprus is no exception. Early this year women soldiers were finally tasked with serving a six month tour. To date the problems have been minimal, the experiences an eye opener and the compatibility with the men has been great. To say there have been no problems would be false, but the few problems that have occurred were resolved with little conflict, thus keeping the morale of all quite high.

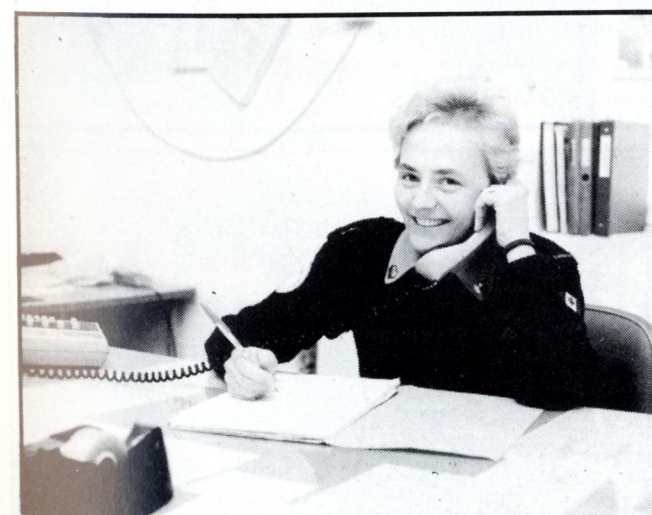
To date there are eleven women on camp, all occupying positions for the support of the Regiment and CANCON HQ.

These jobs are postal, supply, finance, administration, movements and the tel-ops trades. The camaraderie amongst the girls is as it should be... great. When you are the minority, you have to stick together for the sake of morale, for support and of course, for the social aspect of a tour away from home.



MCpl Debbie Currier - Cashier for the Regiment and CANCON HQ from CFB Calgary.

Even though there are a lot of mixed feelings of women being infiltrated into a male environment, I truly believe the introduction of women to Cyprus is a step in the right direction. Once people stop anticipating the problems which may happen between the men and women, the feelings amongst everyone can be much more relaxed. We are all here to do our jobs, to have a good time both at work and after working hours and especially to have Cyprus as a memorable experience. Having women soldiers in Cyprus is working out just fine, and with more women, due to arrive on the island, the atmosphere can only improve.



Sgt Lynne Gallant - Chief Clerk CANCON HQ from CFB Winnipeg.



Cpl Sylvie Trudeau - Postal Clerk from CFB Moose Jaw.



UNFICYP CROSS COUNTRY

By 1Lt C Moller



The UNFICYP "Cross Country Competition" took place on a very beautiful day in B-Coy, Skouriotissa. DANCON was responsible for the competition which was held on 19 January 1988, over a distance of 8.0 km. Teams from all the UN Contingents and Support Units were represented by their best runners. A total of 42 runners competed in the individual and unit team events. The competition was held in parts of the BZ which had a varied terrain, with competitors passing through olive and orange groves and a Greek Cypriot village.

The Individual and Team results were as follows:

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

			Time
First	Pte L.C. KNUDSEN	DANCON	26.18
Second	MCpl SCHROTTENBACH	AUSCON	27.31
Third	Cpl McNIEL	BRITCON	28.27

TEAM RESULTS

		Time
First	BRITCON (McNIEL, SMITH, MOFFETT)	85.46
Second	DANCON (KNUDSEN, MIKKELSEN, ORSTED)	85.48
Third	FSC (KITCHING, BEBBINGTON, MATHEWS)	89.07

Trophies and medals were awarded by BGen MacInnis and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves, the winners certainly seemed satisfied with their awards.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL COMPETITORS

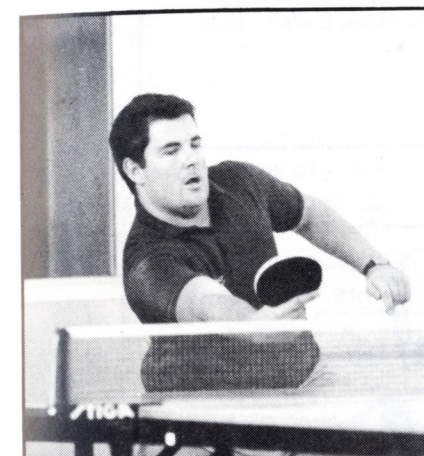


UNFICYP TABLE TENNIS - COMPETITION



Results

SINGLE:	1. Pte	K. HOILUND	DANCON
	2. LCpl	ESPERSEN	DANCON
	3. Insp	ERIKSON	UNCIVPOL
DOUBLE	1. Pte	HOILUND	DANCON
	Pte	PEDERSEN	DANCON
	2. LCpl	ESPERSEN	DANCON
	LCpl	KJAER	DANCON
	3. LCpl	BLAKE	BRITCON
	Pte	LARNER	BRITCON
TEAM:	1. DANCON		



SP REGT SHOOTING COMP.



The Workshops REME were overall winners of the Support Regiment. The photo shows Major Tom Mathews holding the shield that his team has just won.

AUSCON

Shooting

Competition



Wo Peter Steinmann



Left to right:

Sgt LINK

MCpl CURIN

LCpl ASCHABER

Results

Falling Plate - Winning Team:

Pistols: Winner:
WO Peter STEINMANN

RIFLE - Winner
MCpl Leopold Schrottenbach

Sgt Roland LINK
Sgt Hans Jurgen KRAUS

MCpl Karl CURIN
LCpl Johann ASCHABER



'A' Squadron The Life Guards was last here as Force Scout Car Squadron in 1978, so what better way to celebrate the tenth anniversary of a UN tour in Cyprus than to do another one? We had a taste of Cyprus last year in the Sovereign Base Areas for Exercise Lion Sun in April, but any rumours that a brief unofficial recce at this time was an unscheduled part of a map reading exercise are not true. Few of us have done a UN tour before and we are expecting great things of the next six months.

The official recce was in August, when the Squadron Leader and Second in Command were flown to all the out-stations and sampled Danish hospitality at Skouriotissa while the Admin Officer languished on Ayia Napa beach contemplating his handover. (He denies this strenuously, but we have photographic evidence of his sunburn).



Sodden Salisbury Plain.



Chinook lifting a Scorpion, a common sight on Exercise with 5 AB BDE.

Our tour is a break from the 5 Airborne Brigade routine we enjoy in Windsor. Endless sodden weeks on Salisbury plain, Thetford, Sennybridge, Otterburn or, more recently, in Scotland can be forgotten pro tem, as can the knots of Tactical Airland Operations and the heavy bergens, large blisters and adrenalin of 'P' Company.

Instead we are now looking forward to the challenges of Mil Skills, the DANCON Marches and the Support Regiment sponsored Road Relay. Our volley ball team is taking shape and has its first match on the 23rd against the UNFICYP wives team. We have promising cross country, rugby and football squads although being a relatively small contingent we do occasionally have to substitute ability for misguided enthusiasm. When it comes to Chess, Table Tennis and Tiddly Winks we do not claim to be gladiators but we will certainly give them our best shot.

So much to do and so little time. It seems that July will be upon us all too soon: already recce dates for D Squadron 9/12L have been signalled back to England and the handover files are growing.

In the meantime we will make



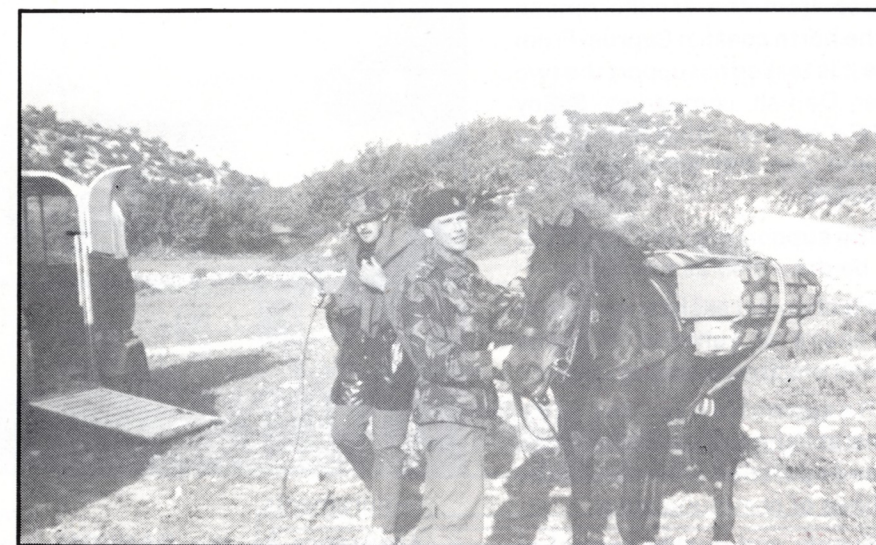
The new Ferret Scout Car Squadron.

THE LIFE GUARDS ARE BACK



the most of the extremes of snow and sun, the opportunities to make new friends of all nationalities and the convivial surroundings that are ever present.

It is so fortunate that the weather at the moment does not distract us from our crusade to divest the island of the 9/12L stickers and all the red and yellow paint that is currently to be found in even the most unlikely places -white and UN blue please, Corporal Major, (we will also attempt to explain our rank structure to everyone before we depart).



Commanding Officer Lt Col V.A.L. GOODHEW and SQMS EVANS prepare for a 'replen' on EX LION SUN!

CARTOON HIDDEN TALENTS

There are hidden talents in any Squadron or Company and A Squadron The Life guards is no exception. The Life Guards is no exception. Ours lie predominately in the personage of LCoH John ROSBOROUGH, Squadron Clerk, Movements NCO and cartoonist, (not necessarily in that order), whose handy work will hopefully grace these pages on a regular basis.

Despite being a chair-borne warrior his simplistic views of how to deal with bondu dogs have certain possibilities.



FOCUS ON

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
DANCON

The HQ-Coy DANCON is situated in Viking Camp Xeros, only a few metres from the Mediterranean on the north coast of Cyprus. From here it is tasked to support the two other Danish companies B-Coy and C-Coy (see "Blue Beret" Nov 87 and Jan 88) as well as HQ DANCON.

The support is multifarious but can be described as follows:

- Mechanical assistance for the repairs of vehicles, firearms and electronic appliances.
- Responsibility for the establishment, maintenance and operation of the DANCON lines of communication.
- Supply and quality control of food.
- Support by drivers and vehicles in cases of larger transportation tasks within DANCON.
- Mail service in DANCON.
- Medical assistance to all DANCON personnel.
- The purchase and sale of duty free goods and other



requirements.

- Assistance to the DANCON staff by clerks, paymasters and duty NCOs.
- All engineering works in DANCON camps and OP's are carried out by the Engineers section.

Within the HQ Company there are 8 officers, 27 NCOs and 60 privates. All non-commissioned ranks have volunteered for service

with UNFICYP, whereas the officers have been appointed to their posts. Prior to their tour with UNFICYP all Danish personnel undergo military basic training as conscripts for a period of 9-12 months. The normal length of service here in Cyprus is six months but in most cases the soldiers have the option of extending their tour of duty for a further half year.

LOCAL VILLAGE CELEBRATIONS



Privates Westmorland and Edmonson from Burma Company based at Bulldog Camp found their way to Peristerona on Jan 6, where they found the local population celebrating The Epiphany of Christ. This is a Greek National Holiday and the priest and village people were happy to be pictured with local UN troops.

SKIJAKING
THE BIG CHALLENGE

By: SSgt G Sakoparnik.

This young sport created by an Austrian, requires a high standard of physical condition and nerve. In Austria Skijaking is normally carried out on wild-water type rivers, but although there are no rivers of this sort in Cyprus this great sport can still be enjoyed all year through on the sea. The higher and wilder the waves the greater the fun. Anyone who feels they would like to find out more of this unusual way of spending ones leisure time should contact SSgt Sakoparnik on Ext 167 AUSCON.



COMD SWEDCON & CHO Lt Col Borggren at the Humanitarian conference in Famagusta. To the left DCOMD UNCIVPOL K G Andersson (SWEDCIVPOL) and OIC Pyla Tord Tallmarker (SWEDCIVPOL).



On behalf of Evangelismos Special School, Mr Michael Tooulakos receives a cheque for £50 from St Michael's School. The monies were raised by various means which included Carol Singing at Christmas time and donations by many people.



15 SQUADRON

ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT



On 12 January 1988, 15 Squadron Royal Corps of Transport formally took over the role of UN Transport Squadron. The photograph shows the outgoing Officer Commanding, Maj Keith Preston, (left) presenting Maj Colin Draper with the key to the hangar, Jubilee Camp. The key has become a tradition over the years and is presented to the incoming Squadron when they assume command.



This is the Squadron's second tour with UNFICYP, with a number of the present members serving with the Squadron here in 1985. In UK the Squadron is part of 2 Infantry Division Transport Regiment based in Catterick, North Yorkshire, together with 60 Sqn.

The Squadron can trace its history back to its conception as 15 Company, Army Service Corps when it was formed on 8th May 1878 at Woolwich.

The Company moved to South Africa in 1899 where it soon became apparent that old methods of transport and supply would not work in the Boer War. Problems of distance, terrain and climate made tremendous demands on the Army Service Corps. The Company returned to England via Somaliland where it played its part in the expedition against the Mad Mullah.

The Company, later Squadron after 1965 when the Royal Corps of Transport was formed, was based in Onsabruck, Germany as part of the 2nd Armoured Division. In 1983 the Squadron moved to its present location in Catterick when the 2nd Division moved to the United Kingdom.

The Squadron provides 2nd Line transport support for the 2nd Infantry Division. It is equipped with 8 tonne Bedford cargo vehicles and fuel tankers as well as mechanical handling equipment and domestic vehicles including landrovers and motor cycles. On mobilisation the Squadron would deploy to Germany to fulfill its role.

The Squadron has adopted the

owl as its emblem because of its role in Germany where the emphasis is on working by night and resting by day. The Squadron brings 130 men to the UN who are all looking forward to the challenge of the operational tour and the advantages of the Cyprus climate, remembering that our sister Squadron, 60 Squadron RCT is returning to the depths of the Catterick winter.

VISIT TO SECTOR 2

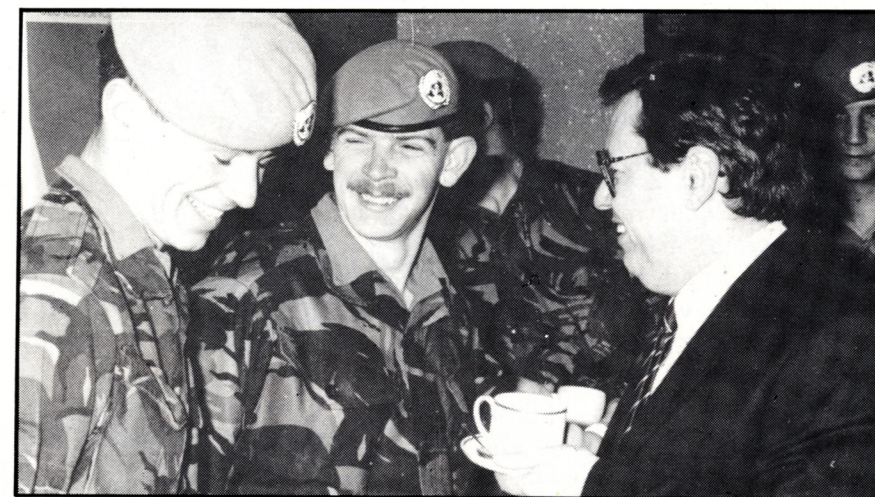
A fairly heavy-weight contingent of Japanese Journalists paid a visit to Sector 2. They were shown round B18, by Major Hudson, then had lunch at the Officers Mess in SDC (one was heard to comment that the mess reminded him of his daughter's Public School in England). They were then given a very wet tour of the Ovgos river project and received a briefing on this from Sgt Sanderson, the Humanitarian Dept SNCO. Cyprus was for them just one stop on a very long trip including Lebanon, Israel and New York.



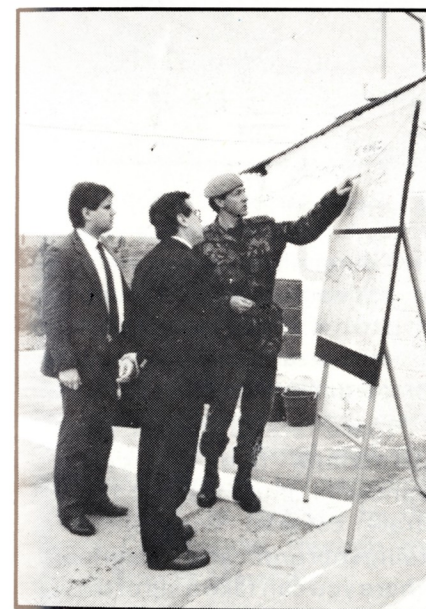
KINGS OWN BORDER NEWS



Lord Trefgarne paid a flying visit to B28, (infact he flew himself in by helicopter). He is The Minister of State for Defence Procurement, and a fairly senior figure in The House of Lords. He stopped in Cyprus on his way to Saudi Arabia, and received a brief on the ground, from Lt Col Westlake, and a formal OP brief from Pte Redhead. Then he met members of the Anti-Tank Platoon under Lt James Sharpe, who man B28.



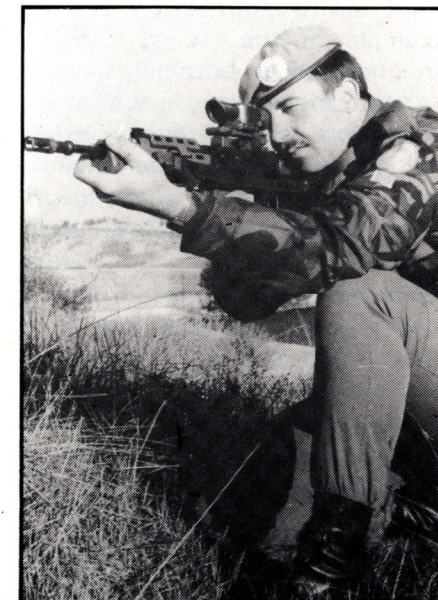
Lord Trefgarne meets two members of RE ANTI-TANK Platoon.
L-R Pte Mark Bannister and Pte Ian Leck.



Lt Col Westlake briefs Lord Trefgarne, with the Lords private secretary looking on.

Sgt Bell of the Mortar Platoon, at present serving in B18, is soon to leave Cyprus, and make his way back to England for shooting team training, at Bisley Camp. He was selected to represent The British Army at the Bicentennial Year Shooting Match being held in Australia later this year. Although pictured here with the new SA 80 weapon, he will actually be using the old self loading rifle in the competition. The high accuracy and optical sights of the new weapon make its use in competitions somewhat unfair against old generation weapons.

At Bisley he will undergo several weeks intensive training alongside team members.



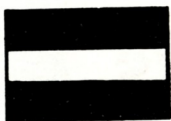
Sgt Bell of Mortar Platoon.

A word of congratulation is in order for the KINGS OWN BORDER Cross Country team on winning the UN competition. They had been training fairly hard prior to the competition, and were justifiably pleased with the result.

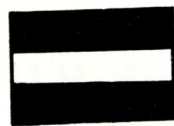
L to R Back Row - Lcpl Phil Mc Neil, Pte Andy Larna, Pte Andy Makinson.

Front Row - Lcpl Paul Mason, Lcpl Smudge Smith, Pte Darren Moffat, Cpl Ian Atkinson.





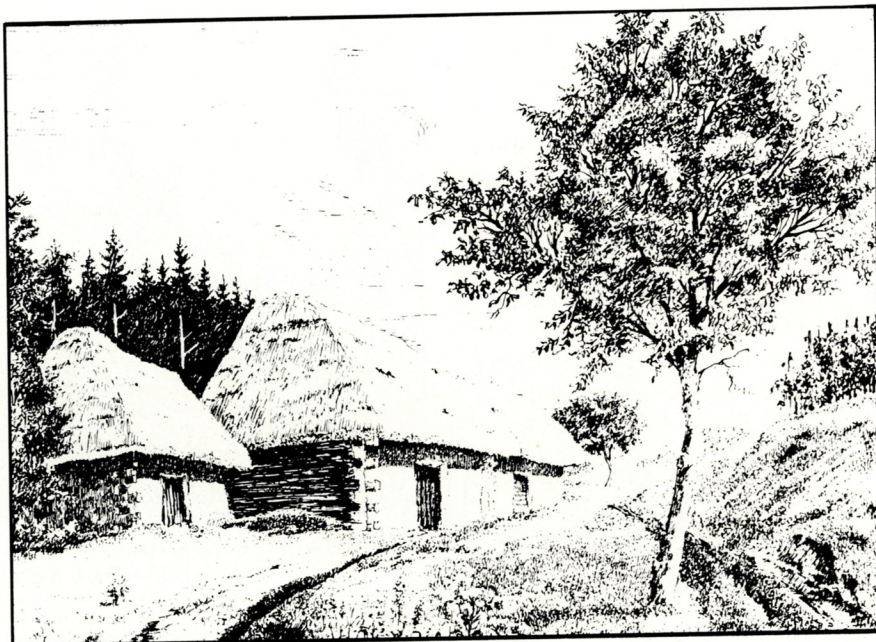
SOMETHING SPECIAL SOUTHERN BURGENLAND



In this month's magazine I would like to familiarize you with a part of Austria which is not well known, but well worth bringing attention to.

The pupils of classes 3A and 3B of the Modern School in Gussing wrote the following story about their native place, the Burgenland. It was arranged by teachers Annemarie Noval and Erwin Weinhofer:

"At the beginning of this century no-one knew that the province of Burgenland would one day be called by this name, nor even whether it would be a part of western Hungary or eastern Austria. Burgenland is an example of the typical border province with an extremely varied and colourful history, as well as a profusion of fortresses and castles. It is a place which offers the visitor fascinating contrast with a landscape which is unique anywhere in Europe.



KELLERSTOCKL IN HEILIGENBRUNN

namely Croats, Hungarians and Germans, but nearly all of them speak German.

The southern part of the Burgenland is a very quiet place

the Burgenland have music in their blood, with a little luck you could catch a Croatian "Tamburizza" during one of her temperamental outbursts.

There are a lot of tourist attractions like old castles, wonderful churches and famous straw covered winecellars in Heiligenbrunn and Eisenberg, where you can take a sip of the top quality red wine for which the area of Eisenberg is famous.

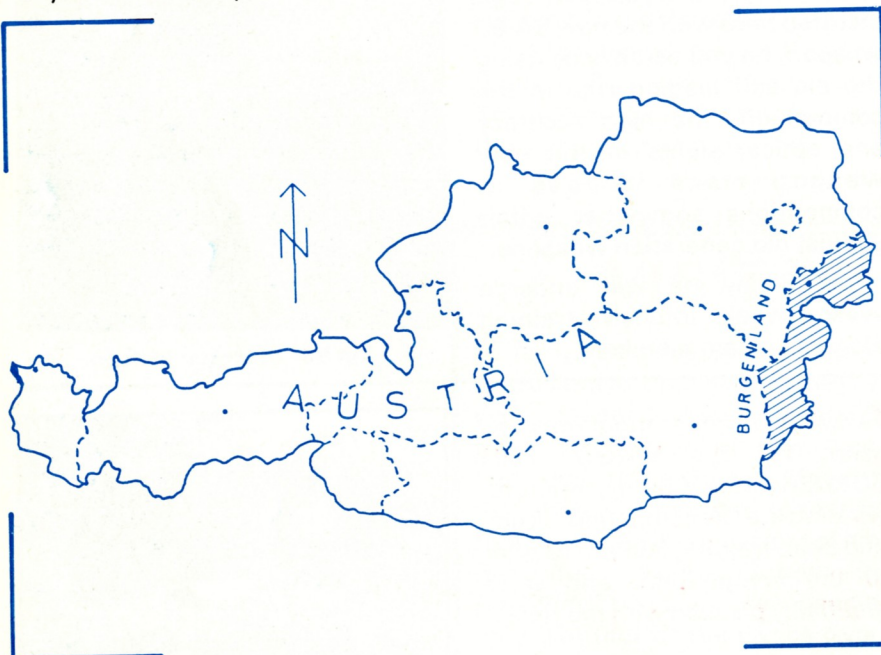
Southern Burgenland is also well known for its friendly people. A guest becomes a friend and a rest becomes an experience for the visitor. This part of Burgenland is not only province of villages and farmers but also a cyclist's paradise because of the cycle tracks and footpaths for walkers.

A land where time stands still. Take your time to enjoy the beauties of nature and the healthy climate - and perhaps make some special new friends."

I think you will agree that the children have given a good insight to their obviously beautiful part of Austria.

and makes things easy for you. Easy travelling, mostly flat - there are no mountains, at the most only gentle wooded hills.

It is said that the inhabitants of



Southern Burgenland consists of three districts: Oberwart, Gussing and Jennersdorf. About 1000,000 people live there. They belong to three different tribes,



SPECIAL INVESTIGATION SECTION (SIS)



It is late evening, dark with clear skies. On a lonely stretch of hazardous mountain road, a UN water bowser has gone off the road and crashed. The lifeless body of the UN driver, is found close to the wreck.

What happened here? Why did the truck crash? Was there any criminal involvement? How do we prevent a further occurrence of this nature? The answer to these questions, and many more, will be determined by a very capable and specially trained group of investigators from the UN MP Coy Special Investigation Section (SIS).

The SIS was formed in 1964 and is currently made up of five military policemen from Austria, Britain, Canada and Finland. They provide the comprehensive police expertise necessary to investigate fatal accidents, murder, sexual assaults, illicit drug use, smuggling, robbery, and many other serious criminal and civil incidents involving UN personnel in UNFICYP, as directed by the Force Commander through the Force Provost Marshal.

Another type of serious crime faced by SIS Investigators is a break and enter with theft. The



Sgt Gary Ellwood, S/Sgt Raimo Puranen, Sgt Ken Askew, WO2 Jim Wiggam, Sgt Serge Levesque, 2/Sgt Wernfried Stuhlpfarrer.

investigation of this crime requires a specialized investigator called the "Scenes of Crime Officer". It is his responsibility to adequately photograph and sketch the crime scene. In addition his specialized training has prepared him to identify, preserve and secure evidence left at the crime scene that might be useful in the identification of the perpetrator(s).

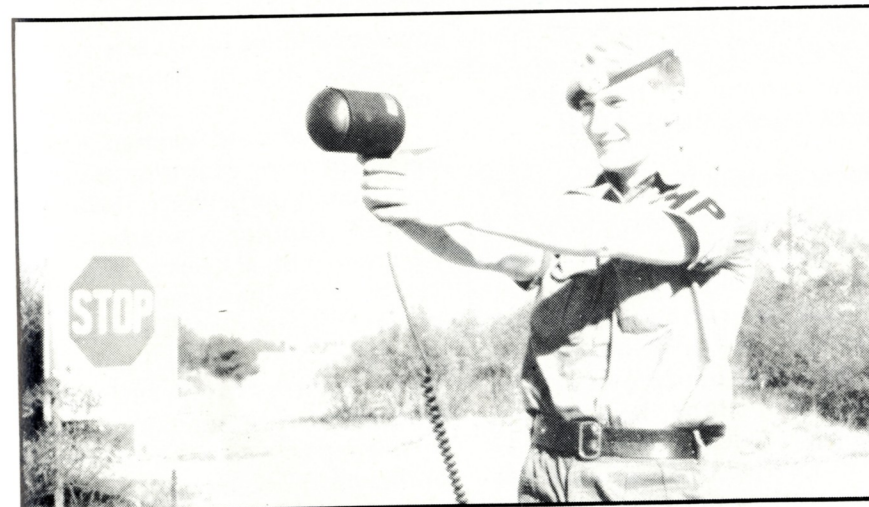
Depicted on the front cover of last month's "Blue Beret" was Sgt Gary N. Ellwood, a scenes of

Crime Officer, conducting a thorough search for latent fingerprints. In other words, he was conducting a search for fingerprints of the culprit(s) that may have been left at the crime scene.

Any latent fingerprints that may have been discovered will be classified and compared with known criminal fingerprints on file, or compared with fingerprints taken from a suspect apprehended near the scene or during the commission of any subsequent criminal offence.

As a matter of interest, latent fingerprints can also be identified on items used in criminal assault cases such as knives, guns, beer bottles etc, that may be useful in the identification of the assailant.

The uniformed military policeman depicted on the front cover of January's issue is patrolman Sgt Jakob Pedersen. The patrolman's only duty at a serious crime scene is the preservation of life, the protection of the crime scene and the identification of persons present, pending the arrival of the SIS Investigator.



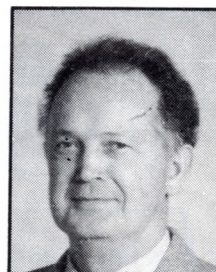
Patrolman Sgt Jakob Pedersen of the MP Coy.



COMDT. PAT NASH

ST. PATRICK'S DAY...

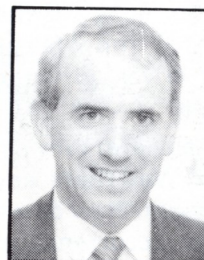
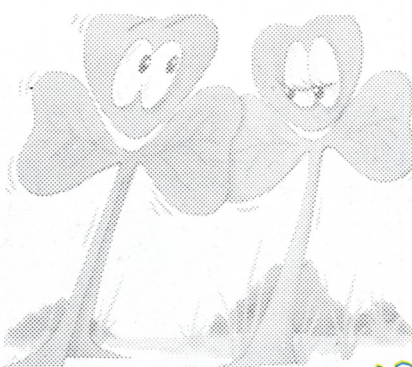
BY COMDT W O'HARA.



MR. JOHN NOLAN



COMDT. BILLY O'HARA



MR. FRANK CLANCY



RSM BARRY JACKSON

...WHEN IRISH EYES ARE
Smiling



CQMS TOM MOLONEY



CQMS JOE GARLAND

COY SGT NOEL
BUCKLEY

SGT THADY BOYLE



CQMS BEN MURPHY



Ireland's National Day is celebrated on 17 March each year. It is a day which has no military or political connotations. It does, however, celebrate a victory, or, more specifically a triumph; that of Christianity over paganism.

In the fifth century a twelve year old boy named Patrick was taken to Ireland as a slave from Wales. He was from a Roman Christian family. He tended sheep for a number of years on the mountains in the North East of Ireland but managed to escape back to Wales as a stowaway on a ship. He studied and became a priest whereupon he then returned to pagan Ireland to preach the Christian way of life. He met with remarkable success in his missionary work.

The foundations for Christ's Church were firmly laid. Patrick died amongst his adopted people but his spirit and influence lived on. Patrick was the first missionary to come to Ireland and he showed the way to the many Irish men and women, who subsequently left Ireland and who have carried on the work of spreading the Word of God.

But what about the SHAMROCK?

It has been said that while Patrick was preaching he was having great difficulty explaining the Blessed Trinity -the three Divine Persons in the One God. Then he plucked up an unusual little green plant with three leaves from amongst the lush green grass. He used the plant to explain the Trinity -three leaves formed the

Day celebrations. Apparently, one plant as there were three Divine persons in the One God. This plant, The SHAMROCK, is a synonymous part of St Patrick's shamrock only grows in Ireland, consequently, it is exported in great quantities to all parts of the world for the St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Irish men and women have settled in many countries around the globe particularly Britain, United States, Canada and Australia. St Patrick's Day is celebrated in these countries but one can also expect celebrations in any country where Irish folk reside. So it is here in UNFICYP, where the small number of Irish military and civilian members will endeavour to carry on the traditional celebration.