

THE BLUE BERET



MAY 1987



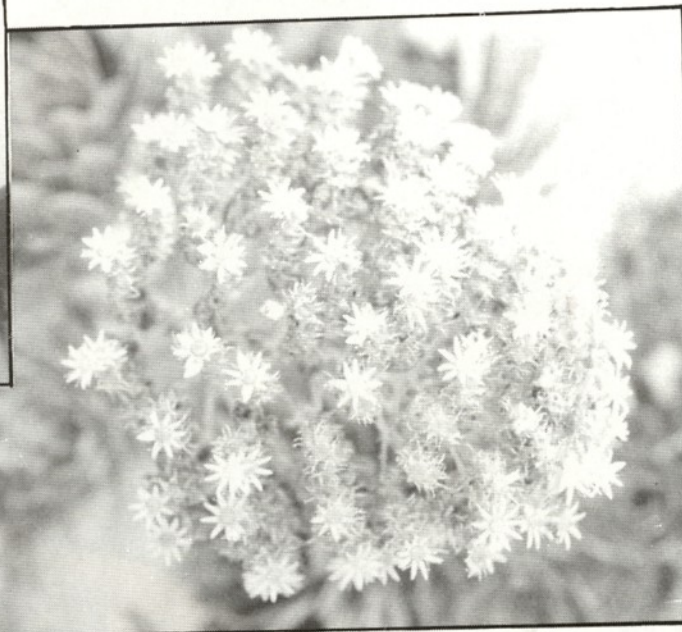
MAY - A MOST PLEASANT TIME OF THE YEAR



is healthier as well, not having to use the gas heaters.

Most of the animals produce their young at this time, nature supplying the food and warmth they need. All around, the beautiful spring flowers cover the ground seemingly to come from nowhere, their vivid colours brightening up even the most barren land. Theirs will be only a short life before the scorching sun burns them down.

Take time to look around you, enjoy and appreciate this lovely season.



When the rainy season has passed by and before the hot season has started, it is a most pleasant time to live in Cyprus. The temperature is very comfortable, neither too cold at night or too hot by day. Of course it



A SAD LOSS FOR UNFICYP

It is with deep regret that we have to inform you of the death of Driver Lee Garland of the Transport Squadron. He was driving a 4 ton Water Bowser on the patrol tracks in Sector One. His vehicle left the track and rolled down the hill.

Our deepest and most sincere sympathy go to his family who live in England.

He died in the service of Peace, a more honorable way there cannot be.

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Editorial Staff

Editor

Major ARFNZ Twickel

Editorial Assistant

Mrs Karen Morgan

Secretary

Mrs Gail Mylett

Photography

Staff Photographer - S/Sgt Angus Beaton
Contingent Photographers

Unit Press Officers

Sector 1	Major P Larsen
Sector 2	Major C Bowes-Crick
Sector 4	Capt J Bouchard
Sector 5	Capt U Wallin
Sector 6	Capt H Bergmann
Sp Regt	Major N. Oxley
FSC Sqn	Lt A Ibbotson
MP Coy	CWO D MacNeil
AUSTCIVPOL	Insp B Kirk
SWEDCIVPOL	Insp B Weckfors
FINCON	Capt J-E Juslin

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

RAVC Support to UNFICYP

By: S/Sgt A Beaton

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

Now that the hot weather appears to have settled on the island, those of you who don't relish getting sunburnt every weekend may wonder how to stay cool. One very agreeable way to achieve this is to take to the hills if you can.

Many of these places are off the beaten track and not always easily accessible which makes them even more attractive as you are often the only visitor and you can enjoy these places in relative privacy.

Leave your car when you arrive and walk for a while along the well marked tracks through the woods and very soon you can enjoy Cyprus at its best.

For those of you who cannot do without sand and seawater-keep your shirts on! The sun here is very much hotter than what you are used to at home. Try and get accustomed to the heat gradually. Sunburn can be very painful and need not happen if you are sensible.

The Troodos hills can offer not only spectacular views of the whole of the island and beyond, but also have many delightful and interesting villages and churches to visit.

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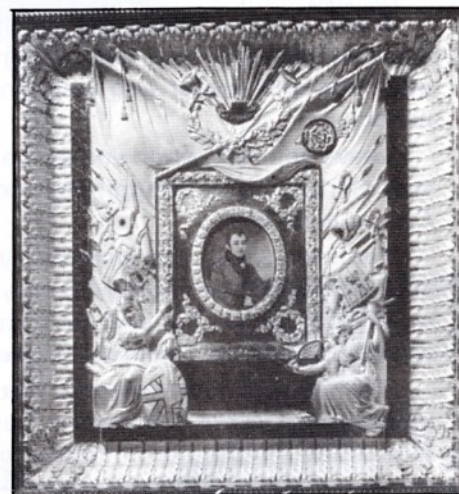
FUSILIER BATTLE HONOURS - ALBUHERA DAY



The 16th of May each year is celebrated by the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in remembrance of the battle of Albuhera fought on that day in 1811. Below is a short account of that battle for the readers of Blue Beret's interest.

"In 1811 Wellington's forces were laying siege to the fortress of Badajoz on the frontier of Portugal and Spain. Marshal Soult, the French Commander in southern Spain, brought a force of 24,000 men to relieve the garrison. The Allied force of 15,000 Spaniards, 12,000 Portuguese and 10,000 British soldiers took up a position at Albuhera to meet the French.

On 16th May the French attacked. They surprised the Spaniards and threw them into utter confusion. The remaining British regiments stood firm, but, being greatly outnumbered by the French, were in dire straits. The only British reserve was the Fusilier Brigade, commanded by Sir William Myers of the Royal Fusiliers, and composed of the 1st and 2nd Battalions Royal Fusiliers and 1st Battalion the 23rd or Royal Welch Fusiliers.



"This", said Sir William Myers "will be a proud day for the Fusiliers" - and a proud day it was. So fierce and determined was the Fusiliers' attack that the French wavered and hesitated. The

Fusiliers closed with the enemy and, as it was later recorded in history, "Nothing would stop that astonishing infantry". The Fusilier Brigade captured the heights of Albuhera and history tells us that

the French "giving way like a loosened cliff, fled headlong down the ascent". It is recorded of Albuhera that, when the battle was won, "fifteen hundred men, the remnants of six thousand unconquerable British soldiers, stood triumphant on the fatal hill".

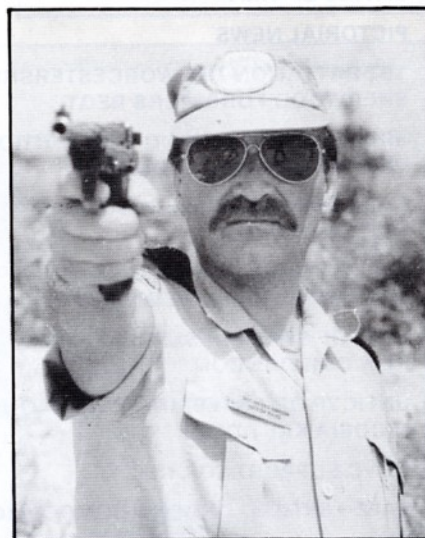
Of the Battle of Albuhera, perhaps the most treasured of the 7th Royal Fusiliers Battle Honours, it was said "Then was seen with what strength and majesty the British soldier fights".

The British guns, lost earlier in the day, were recaptured by the Royal Fusiliers, and the Regimental Colour of the Buffs was recovered and restored to that Regiment.

The losses at Albuhera were very heavy and the two Royal Fusilier Battalions were amalgamated, the staff of the 2nd Battalion going home to recruit a fresh battalion. Sir William Myers was killed; General Cole and the three Colonels, Ellis, Blakeney and Hawkshaw were all wounded.

WILL THEY DO IT AGAIN?

SWEDCIVPOL are at present in the middle of a intensive training programme, preparing themselves for the UNFICYP Pistol Competition. The new members are being trained by JAN-ERIK HANSSON, who comes from TARNABY in the north of Sweden. JAN-ERIK actually won the last SWEDCON and UNFICYP Pistol Championships, so obviously he is a good person to have as an instructor. During 1973-1979 he competed as an active pistol shooter and as a Tarnaby citizen he also won a Swedish Police Skiing Shooting Competition. JAN-ERIK is also renowned for the click of his heels when presented with a medal.



SWEDCIVPOL have been trained in the handling of the 9mm Husquarna model 40 and

some of our men are very good - so crouch down chaps, the SWEDES are reloading!



CELEBRATION IN CYPRUS OF THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF VIMY



Saturday, April 11th, the Second Battalion of the Royal 22e Regiment celebrated in a dignified manner the seventieth anniversary of the Battle of Vimy, France.

The Regiment participated actively in this battle which regrouped the whole of a Canadian Corps at the foot of a German position renowned as impregnable.

After the French and British forces had made repeated attempts to capture the dominating position, Canadians were called upon to form a national corps comprising five division under the command of Lieutenant-General Byng (later Governor General of Canada).

Many weeks of preparations were devoted to the staging of the attack and although originality



Our Colors, pride of the Regiment

The attack was preceded by a precise counter-bombardment and by rolling barrages which were both innovative in their techniques. Machine guns were



The Second Battalion celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy with grace.

and initiative have been especially praised for the planning of the operation, unending labour was fundamentally the key to its success. The First Canadian Corps was finally launched against the reinforced nine mile wide hill of Vimy on April 9, 1917.

also employed in an new support role, which the Canadians had devised. The attacking forces were animated by a will to prove themselves which was later admired, even by the enemy.

The promontory was taken in the push, at the price of 11,000

casualties, becoming thereon the symbol of the Canadian sacrifice in the European theatre of war.

Many historians agree that Vimy was the greatest triumph in the history of the nation and also that Vimy served more than any other event in the life of our country to establish our place as a fully-fledged nation of the world.

The Twenty-Second Battalion (then called by its number of the line in English, later to become the Royal 22e Regiment) took its place in the order of the battle in the First Canadian Corps. The Regiment acquitted itself with courage and singlemindedness, and suffered 26 killed and 84 wounded in this engagement. Our soldiers fought well, with distinction. The battle strengthening its reputation as a hardy and professional unit.

The Second Battalion of the Regiment thus celebrated this anniversary by parading with its Colours in the City of Nicosia. It went to the Holy Cross Church, in the middle of the Buffer Zone, a very well known feature in the area of responsibility for the Canadian Contingent.

Fathers Bosse and Blizzard greeted the Colours within the confines of the church and led in the readings and prayers.

Despite the exigencies of the observation posts of the Buffer Zone, the unit was represented by almost 250 men in the church, for a short ceremony which was appreciated by all.

Many soldiers will remember for a long time to have paraded through Nicosia, proud to be able to march within a unit celebrating the seventieth anniversary of a feat of arms which leaves no doubt of the valour and character of those who compose it.

The VanDoos continue to be respected.

Je me Souviens.

PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORI



FAMILIES DAY - 14th APRIL



The weapons display at the Families Briefing was a great success



The line up for Support Regiments Athletics Meeting. RSM Biddle on the right was the Starter.



NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS

Commander UNDOF visits Commander UNFICYP



WO II Tom Murray receives the Force Commander's Commendation for helping to save a Canadian soldier's life during a Mils Skills Competition by showing his initiative.



Miss Julia Chester filling up the book case assisted by Major Oxley 21C Sp Regt.

In April a Paper Back library of 300 Books was started in the Elizabethan Club Jubilee Camp. The books were given by The Chief British Librarian, Miss Julia Chester to Support Regiment.

Australian police first served in Cyprus with the inception of UNFICYP in 1964. In these early days the AUSTCIVPOL Contingent included members from all Australian Police Forces as well as the Commonwealth and the Australian Capital Territory Police Forces.

The Australia Federal Police, created in 1979 by the Australia Government, meets the needs of the community and maintains public order in Canberra (the National Capital) and the surrounding Australian Capital Territory. It has officers attached

to Australia's Island Territory Police Forces (Christmas and Norfolk Islands) as well as here in Cyprus as part of UNFICYP. It is also responsible for co-ordination and direction of Australian coastal surveillance activities.

AUSTRALIAN MEDAL PARADE



The Force Commander has a friendly word to Sergeant P Spence



1ST BATTALION THE WORCESTERSHIRE

AND SHERWOOD FORESTERS REGIMENT

By: Capt J H Cotterill

The 1st Battalion The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment are due to begin a six month tour with the United Nations Force in Cyprus in June 1987 from their current duty station of Oakington in Cambridgeshire.

The Regiment was formed in 1970 by the amalgamation of the Worcestershire Regiment (29th/36th of Foot), raised in 1964 and the Sherwood Foresters (45th/95th of Foot) raised in 1741. It consists now of a small administrative RHQ based in Worcester with a subsidiary office in Nottingham, the 1st Battalion a regular battalion currently with a home defence role and the 3rd Battalion, a territorial battalion based at Newark in Nottinghamshire. The regiment recruits almost exclusively from the counties of Worcestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.



B Coy 1 WFR 'hitting the beach' from US National Guard LCMs at Solo Point in Puget Sound Washington State on Exercise Trumpet Dance, Feb 87.



L/Cpl Hunt hands the colour to the RSM WO1 Brighton. The Colour Party consists of WO2 Byrne, CSgt Glover and WO2 Brothers.

The Worcestershire Regiment saw service in the 18th and 19th centuries in the Low Countries, North America, India and the Peninsula. In particular the 36th of foot fought at Culloden in 1746, the 29th were responsible for the 'Boston Massacre' of 1770 and fought as Marines aboard Admiral Lord Howes fleet at the famous victory over the French on the 'Glorious First of June' 1794. In World War I the Worcesters raised

22 battalion and won 9 VCs. At Gheluvelt on 31st October 1914, a day still celebrated in the regiment, a daring counter attack by the Worcesters plugged a gap in the line and halted the retreat of the British Expeditionary Force. World War II Worcesters fought in the Sudan, Eritrea, the Western Desert, Burma and NW Europe. They were the first allied unit across the Seine river in 1944. After the war the Regiment took



part in the Malayan Emergency.

The Sherwood Foresters fought in North America, South America, the West Indies, the Peninsula, the Crimea, the India Mutiny and the NW Frontier. The Grenadier Company of the 45th took part in Wolfes storming of Quebec in 1759 and were prominent at the storming of Badajoz in the Peninsula War on 6th April 1812, a day celebrated by the regiment to the present day by the hoisting of a scarlet coatee on a flagpole in imitation of Lt McPhersons success signal. In the Crimea war of 1854 the 95th suffered so many casualties at the crossing of the Alma river on 20th September that the colours were brought out of action by a private soldier, an event still celebrated annually by the trooping of the Regimental Colour by the top soldier on the most recent NCOs Cadre. The capture of a fighting ram by the 95th in 1858 during the suppression of the Indian Mutiny resulted in the adoption of a Ram Mascot by the regiment, a tradition continued to the present.

In World War I the Sherwood Foresters raised 33 battalion and, like the Worcesters were awarded 9 VCs. World War II the Regiment saw active service in Palestine, Norway, France, the Middle and Far East and the Italian campaign.



Pte Derby: the official mascot of the Regiment. A Swaledale ram, traditionally presented by The Duke of Devonshire, has been the mascot since the capture in 1858 of a fighting ram during the Indian Mutiny by the 95th (Derbyshire) Regiment.



A scarlet coatee is raised on the flagpole by the battalion on the 6th of April every year to commemorate the battle of Badajoz in 1812 where Lt McPherson of the 45th (Nottinghamshire) Regiment, lacking a flag, raised his own coatee on the ramparts to signify that the fortress had fallen. Lt M A Holden raises the coatee.

Since amalgamation in 1970 the 1st Battalion The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters have served twice as Demonstration Battalion at the School of Infantry, formed part of the British garrison in Berlin, completed one long and three short operational tours in Northern Ireland and spent six months in Belize, Central America. In 1984 the Battalion completed a five year tour as a mechanised infantry battalion at Hemer in West Germany as part of the British Army of the Rhine. The battalion spent 6 weeks in Feb-March of this year on Exercise Trumpet Dance in Washington State on the Pacific Coast of the USA and are looking forward to the opportunity of being part of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force for the first time since amalgamation.

3RD FUSILIERS BOXING COMPETITION

After a two month's buildup, the 3rd Fusiliers Intercompany Boxing Competition took place between 13th and 16th April at Dhekelia in a hard fought tournament.

The preliminary bouts took place on the 13th of April and the semi-finals were fought the following day. There followed a rest day and the finals took place on the evening of Thursday 16th April.

Although at close of play after the preliminaries had been fought the competition seemed quite close, it was obvious that C

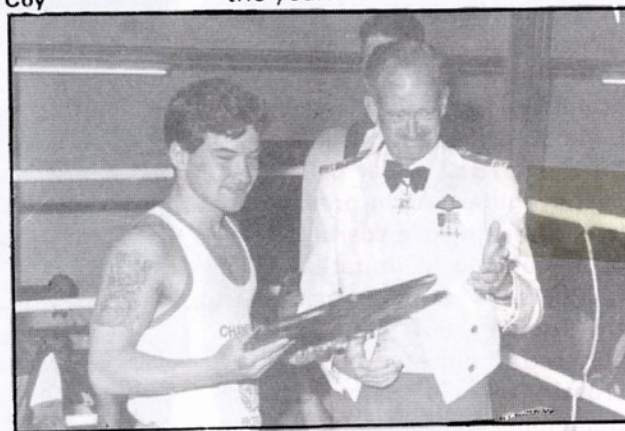


AVM Hayr presenting Champion Company Shield to C Coy

Company were the force to be reckoned with. This was confirmed when after the semi-finals they had eight fighters through to the finals out of nine weights.

Nevertheless this did not detract from a good evening's boxing on the 16th, even though C Company were the champions before the start of the first bout.

This was an excellent start to the "Champion Company Competition" which embraces all sports and military subjects competed for over the course of the year.



VISIT BY AUSTRIAN CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

The Austrian CDS, General O. TAUSCHITZ, arrived in Cyprus for inspection of the Austrian Contingent. On 1st April 1987, he was welcomed by the Guard of Honour in Nicosia. He then went to Goshi where a ceremony was held in memory of three Austrian UN soldiers who were

killed during an air raid on 14th August 1974.

On 2nd April a general information briefing was given to him by members of HQ UNFICYP in Nicosia. The actual inspection of AUSCON took place on 3rd and 4th April starting at Camp Leopold V, then going on

to all of the other OP's and LP's.

General Tauschitz was very impressed with the Austrian soldiers on UN duty and the work they were doing, taking time out of his very busy schedule to converse with the men.



CANADIAN NATIONAL REAR LINK



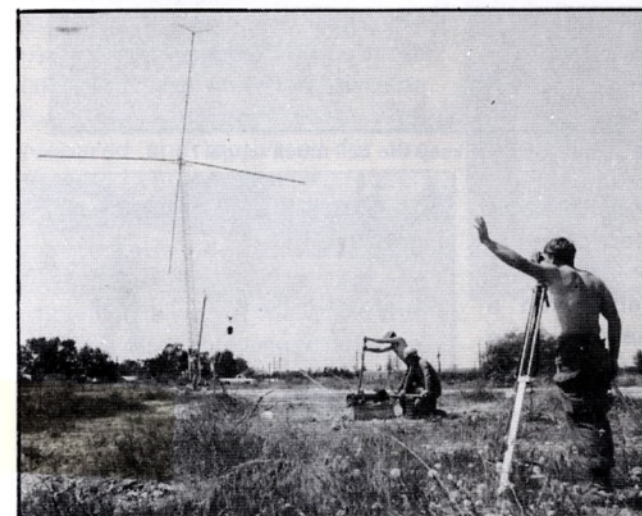
On the 29th March, 87 members of 1 Line Troop Kingston arrived in Nicosia. They had just completed two weeks in the Golan doing antenna maintenance. During their stay in Nicosia they performed cable and antenna maintenance for the National Rear Link COMM CEN and CFARS (Canadian Forces Amateur Radio Society).

The largest part of their work involved the National Rear Link GRANGER ANTENNA, which is used to communicate with LAHR-Germany. The antenna which is on a 100 foot tower takes two hours to lower, that's not including the time required to prepare it for lowering! Maintenance and repairs on this antenna alone took two days

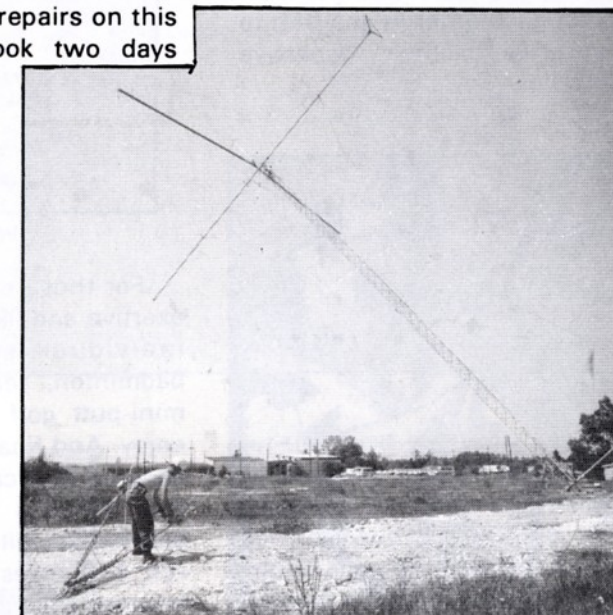
while it was on the ground.

The crew departed Nicosia 8 April. Congratulations and thanks to the members of 1 Line Troop, SGT Ladouceur, MCPL Regal, CPL Molloy, CPL McCallum and PTE Chevarie for a job well done.

V.V.V.



Cpl Molloy checking the alignment of the Granger during lowering



Cpl Bachelder adjusting tension on the guys



LEST WE FORGET

Members of AUSTCIVPOL, their families and friends attending the traditional Dawn Service at Wayne's Keep Cemetery on ANZAC Day. On 25 April 1915, troops from Australia and New Zealand landed at Gallipoli on a small beach recently renamed by the Turkish Government as ANZAC Cove. It was part of a large Commonwealth operation which resulted in neither victory nor defeat. One quarter of the Gallipoli casualties were Australian, 8,587 killed and 19,367 wounded.

Around Australia on ANZAC Day the Dawn Service is observed in nearly every city and town. The Service is followed by a breakfast, then ex-service personnel proudly march through the streets to the



Dawn service at Waynes Keep Cemetery

cheering and clapping of civilians. The observance of this special day is no longer a commemoration of war so much as a time when Australians reflect on the qualities of sacrifice and mateship which were exhibited, and the manner in which those men from

a new country paid the supreme sacrifice.

After the march old mates, some of whom travel long distances, have a chance to renew their friendships, have a few beers together and join in the traditional game of two up.



THE PHYSICAL SIDE OF CANCON

What better way is there to blow off steam and boredom than participating in sports. With this in mind, the Canadian Contingent has organized various inter-company sports, such as soccer, volleyball and softball. Each week the company teams put their best against each other in an effort to bring pride to their respective companies.



Will Capt Jamet, Ops Off keep the ball much longer?

For those of us who are less exertive and like to participate in individual sports there is badminton, tennis and even a mini-putt golf course for us to enjoy. And finally those who like dodging cars can go for a run in the streets of Nicosia to accumulate mileage in an effort to run 410 miles, or the distance around the perimeter of the Island, after which they will receive a plaque for their efforts.

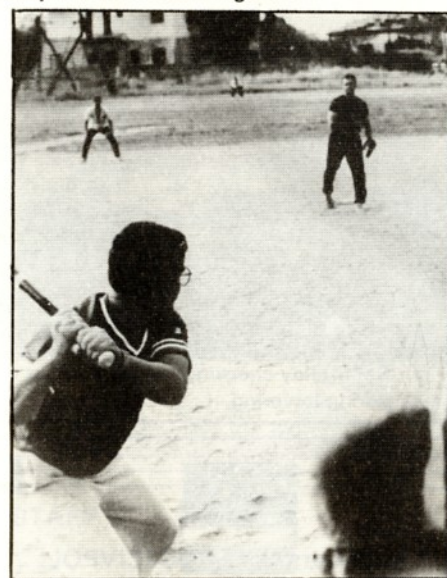
Here in Cancon the lack of physical activities is not the problem but rather the lack of time to do them all!



MINE, NO MINE!

It goes to show two hands are better than one

Je me souviens



Has Lt Boivin seen the ball or is he just posing for Major League Scouts?

THE SOCIAL HIGH LIFE IN DANCON



Recently the 225th anniversary of the Danish Guard Husar Regiment was celebrated by a number of officers from the Danish Guard Regiments (don't let the four legged one fool you!)

As tradition requires, Capt Byg, the senior Guard Husar Officer, addressed the "horse" toasting to the magnificent valour and beauty of its race, achieved ultimately through centuries of human care.

On behalf of the Royal Lifeguard - Guard Husars - We Salute You!

VISIT OF SWEDISH SUPREME COMMANDER



90C the new Swedish UN-Battalion welcomes and passes inspection of General Gustafsson!

On 10 April the Swedish Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces came to Cyprus. General Bengt Gustafsson was interested in the level of the Swedish UN-soldiers' skills. He received very good briefings at the OPs and was satisfied that the Swedish soldiers were well prepared and motivated for the tasks in Cyprus.

During his visit General Gustafsson said that good Swedish behaviour abroad showed the rest of the world that we have a reliable armed defence,



but the most important thing for us here in Cyprus is that the Swedish Government, through our presence, shows how important it regards United Nations missions are around the world.

For many of the soldiers it was their first meeting with the Swedish General and so the preparations for his visit were carefully planned. "We have cleaned and painted this place since we arrived", smiled Ove Wallinder at the QP S-20 in Pyla.

NEW COMMANDER DANCON and SECTOR ONE

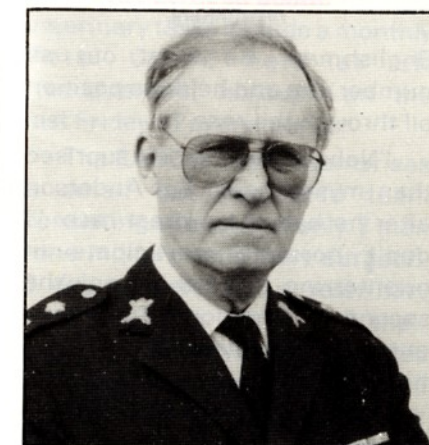


During the first weeks of May, DANCON will have rotated. About 220 soldiers will have arrived and 110 have started their second tour under the new Commander DANCON, Lt Col T F Larsen, from the Northern Jutland Artillery Regiment.

Lt Col Larsen graduated from the Army Academy in 1953 and was commissioned into the Artillery. Until 1959 he saw field

service and then joined the Army Academy as a senior officer and commanded several artillery batteries. He returned to the Artillery School, this time as Chief of Field Artillery Branch.

He was promoted to Lt Col in 1977. His last appointment was Chief Artillery Officer (CAO), Jutland Division, a post he held for four years. He will be CO/DANCON until November 1987.



UNFICYP

ORIENTEERING

CHAMPIONSHIP



"Well that wasn't very good, was it?"

That was definitely the opinion of most of the Swedish competitors at the UNFICYP Orienteering Championship, which was held at HQ UNFICYP during the middle of April.

Of course what they were referring to was the completely unexpected result of the individual class, with Sgt Mick Anderson from the Support Regiment making light work of the Swedes at their own national sport. In the M21 class nobody could beat the fast running



LtCol Bo Hultin, was among the fastrunners.

Englishman. He went out as number one and held the position all through the race.

"Nobody was more surprised than myself" said Sgt Anderson after he had run a great race. "I don't normally participate in orienteering, in fact this is only the second competition I have ever entered". It definitely shouldn't be his last, was the Swedish opinion.

"It was a little bit rough out there" was Sgt Anderson's



BGen MacInnis congratulates Sgt Anderson

comment about the 7,020 metre long course, "I certainly got my legs scratched"!

Sgt Anderson normally participates in cross country running, but he agrees that orienteering is a good sport too. When he joined his first orienteering competition a few weeks ago, the Cyprus League, he also reached winning position.

But, having said all that, the Swedish personnel didn't loose face completely. The Swedish Captain Kerry Dahlin, who was in the M-35 class, attained all over best time. "We oldies can show we're still going strong", said Capt Dahlin with a laugh after he had completed his race. The Swedish team, including Capt Dahlin, also won the team competition.

Many congratulations were passed onto the Swedes for a well organised championship. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves and the winners certainly seemed satisfied when they received their medals on the winners' stand - a construction made from upside down drink crates!



The Swedish captain Kerry Dahlin

NICOSIA KART CLUB

Nicosia Kart Club invites you to come and watch the third round of the Summer Championships on 24 May.

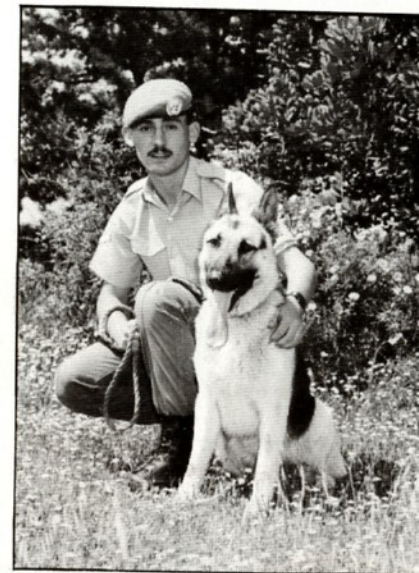
Racing starts at 1100hrs. Come along and enjoy the races and refreshments, and take a chance on the raffle. Bar facilities will be available.

The Club is looking for new racing and non-racing members with at least five months left in Cyprus. Anyone interested should contact Ken Eriksson in the Finance Department on extension 2157, Chris Calder in Transport Squadron on 2431, or come along on race day.



RAVC Support to UNFICYP

Dogs That Bite That Bit Better.



L/Cpl Alan Inkpen and Guard Dog Brook

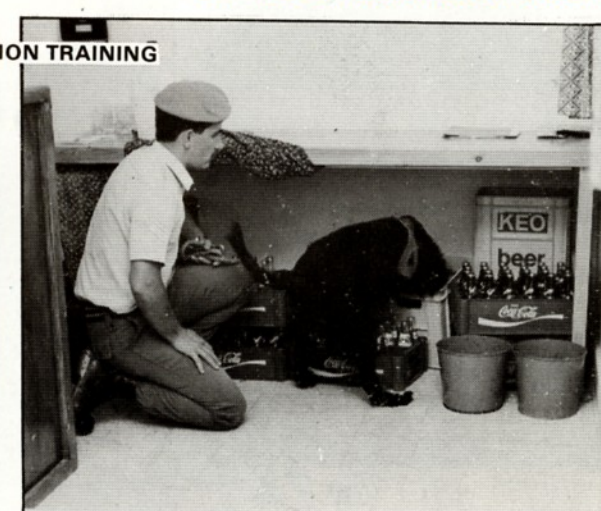
The RAVC have had a presence in Cyprus since 1959 when Number 6 War Dog Training Unit was formed in Nicosia. The unit moved to Dhekelia in 1960 where the officers and men lived initially in a tented camp. There still remains a large detachment in Dhekelia on the same site but instead of portable wooden kennels, the dogs now live in permanent brick built accommodation.

One of their operational tasks is the routine clearance of buildings and areas immediately prior to VIP visits, but in addition AES dogs will search for arms, ammunition, explosives, hides and ancillary equipment in buildings, vehicles and open areas. They will also carry out route clearances.

In addition to its dog support function CDASU also provides veterinary medical support, having on its staff the only military veterinary surgeon in Cyprus. This support comprises the inspection, both ante and post mortem, of all



Sleeve Baiting



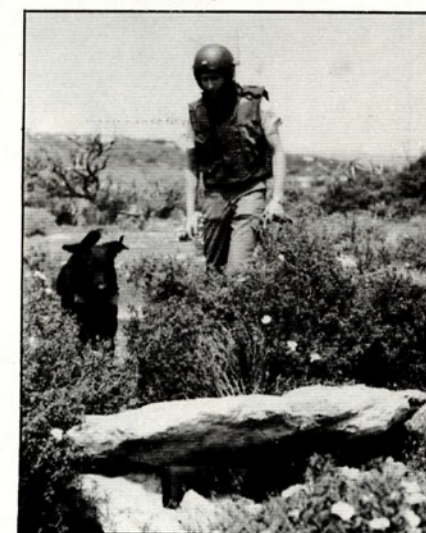
Sgt Paul Coleman

and Drugs Dog George

Re-designated Cyprus Defence Animal Support Unit RAVC on 1 January 1986, the unit headquarters is now in Episkopi but dogs are deployed in both of the British Sovereign Base Areas and at a number of retained sites.

In addition to its other roles and functions CDASU lends dog support to UNFICYP, as their specialised skills are not available within its own resources. CDASU deploys both protection (i.e. guard) and specialists dogs (arms and explosives, search dogs, tracker dogs and drug detection dogs) and with the present Internal Security situation all the specialist dog teams are kept busy.

Cpl Rodger Tredwell



and Arms Explosive Searchdog OIU

fresh meat purchases locally by RAOC and includes that supplied to UNFICYP, UNIFIL AND UNDOF. Meat inspection duties take place weekly at Larnaca abattoir. Other veterinary tasks include a monthly Pets' Clinic held at UN Headquarters, normally on the last Friday of every month.

The RAVC in Cyprus comprises a small but dedicated team consisting of a total of only 7 men - one military veterinary surgeon, 5 dog trainers and a veterinary assistant/clerk. They and their dogs are honoured and privileged to be able to assist the United Nations Force in Cyprus in their efforts to maintain the peace.

SAFE & SKILLED DRIVING COMPETITION



OVERALL WINNERS

First - AUSCON

Second - SWEDCON



HEAVY TEST

First - AUSCON

Second - SWEDCON

LIGHT TEST

First - AUSCON

Second - DANCON

INDIVIDUAL HEAVY TEST

First - LCPL Larcher AUSCON

Second - LCPL Madden TPT SQN

INDIVIDUAL LIGHT TEST

First - PTE Steinmayer AUSCON

Second - PTE Pendl AUSCON

