

# THE BLUE BERET



SEPTEMBER 1987





THE SWEDCON MEMORIAL CARTOON PART 1



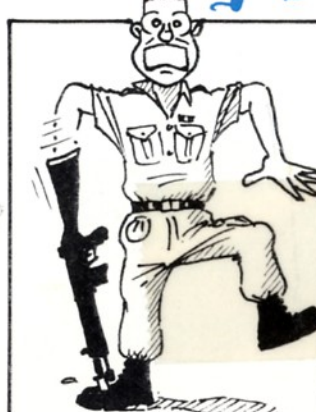
THIS IS THE SWEDISH UN-SOLDIER ON CYPRUS. LET'S CALL HIM SVEN. SVEN IS A COMMON SWEDISH NAME.



SVEN HAS BEEN IN CYP-RUS FOR 23 YEARS NOW TO KEEP THE PEACE ON THE ISLAND.



SVEN IS NOT A PROFESSIONAL SOLDIER. IN SWEDEN HE'S A PLUMBER. HE JUST APPLIED FOR THIS JOB.



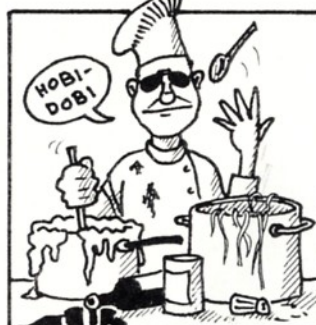
SVEN IS CHOSEN AMONG GOOD APPLICANTS FOR THIS MISSION SO HE'S ALWAYS DOING HIS BEST.



SVEN'S WORK IS TO MAKE SURE THAT NOBODY, WHO IS NOT ALLOWED, ENTERS THE UN-BUFFERZONE AFTER 23 YEARS HE'S PRETTY GOOD AT THIS.



SVEN IS USED TO ALL DANGERS IN THE BUFFER ZONE AND IS NOT AFRAID.



SVEN LIVES AT AN OP. SO HE HAS TO DO THE HOUSE-HOLD DUTIES HIMSELF.



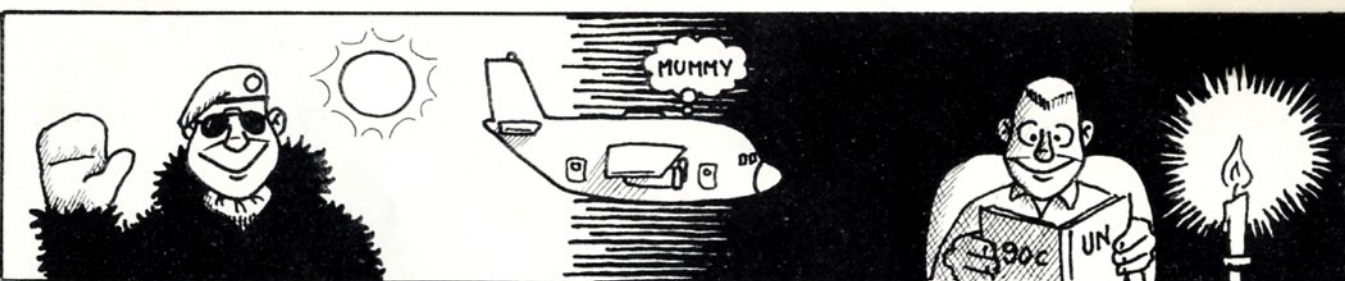
AT WORK SVEN MEETS MANY FRIENDS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. ONE FRIEND'S NAME IS CARLSBERG.



HE ALSO HAS LEARNED TO KNOW THE CYPRIOTS AND THEIR CULTURE DURING HIS STAY IN CYPRUS



ON HIS FREE TIME SVEN LIKES TO GO TO AYIA NAPA AND STUDY THE PELICANS. THEY ARE NICE BIRDS.



BUT SOON SVEN IS GOING TO FLY HOME TO "MUMMY" IN SWEDEN. THERE HE WILL ENJOY THE COLD CLIMATE, GET SPOILED BY MUM AND SIT AND LOOK AT HIS MEMORY BOOK UNTIL HIS NEXT UN-MISSION.

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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 THE LAST WATCH SWEDCON

By: S/Sgt A Beaton

THE BLUE BERET



MESSAGE FROM THE FORCE COMMANDER



In October, the Swedish Battalion in Sector Five will board their aircraft for the last time and head for home. This will be a sad moment for UNFICYP since Swedish soldiers have been involved with peace-keeping in Cyprus since the formation of the Force in 1964 and have had many years of experience in the role of maintaining peace in different parts of the world. Their approach to all the situations with which they have been faced in Cyprus has always followed closely the UNFICYP motto: "Fair, Firm and Friendly".

In carrying out their duties, the Swedish have built up a very close rapport with many members of the island's community, as well as all the other national contingents in the Force, and have earned the respect and admiration of the military and civilians alike. We shall all miss their cheerful and dedicated contribution to life in Cyprus. It is always difficult to say farewell to friends, especially if one has gone through difficult, as well as happy, times together over many years.

It is, however, some consolation that Sweden will continue to be represented in UNFICYP and I am particularly happy that the Swedish Civilian Police, as well as a number of Staff Officers, Clerks and Military Policemen, will remain behind. In this way our links with Sweden will be maintained.

I therefore bid farewell to all our Swedish friends who are leaving and extend my thanks to them, and all their countrymen who have served in the Force, for supporting the United Nations so ably in the cause of peace.

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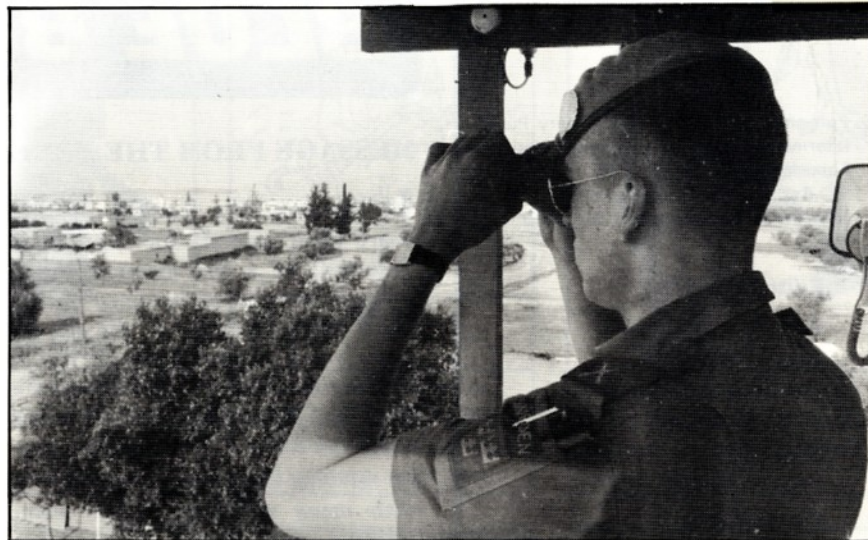




## THE SWEDISH UN BATTALION



After 23 years of peacekeeping in Cyprus the Swedish government has decided to withdraw her troops. This decision was taken for two reasons: Firstly because of the unsatisfactory way the force continues to be funded through voluntary contributions and secondly because there does not appear to be a political settlement of the Cyprus problem in sight. This is the last Swedish UN battalion in Cyprus, but we will leave a force of civilian police officers, MP's and HQ Members within UNFICYP. So the other nations will not forget us.



A Swedish UN soldier is guarding the buffer zone in Athienou. During the 23 years in Cyprus, the Swedish soldiers have built up a good reputation.



More than 20,000 Swedish soldiers have served within UNFICYP, but now it's just less than a month before the Swedes leave the island.

During the 23 years of peacekeeping in Cyprus, nearly 21,000 Swedish soldiers have worked on this beautiful island. The total number of Swedish soldiers in different UN missions is so far more than 53,000. Today, before the withdrawal from Cyprus, Sweden has the highest number of UN soldiers. In UNTSO, UNMOGIP, UNFICYP, UNDOF AND UNIFIL we have 1126 soldiers. Finland is in second place with 963 persons.

Sweden has served in several areas on Cyprus during UNFICYP's history. From spring 1964 to autumn 1964 in the Lefka area. From autumn 1964 to spring 1970 in the Famagusta and Larnaca districts. From spring

1970 to autumn 1977 in the Famagusta district and from autumn 1977 in the Larnaca and Nicosia districts. The Swedish contingent totals 395 soldiers, the 18 police officers and 10 women included.

All members within the contingent - regulars, reservists, conscripts and civilians are volunteers from all parts of Sweden and all the various branches of the Swedish total defence. The average age is approximately 25, but in the rifle companies the average is a little younger.

It is very popular in Sweden to apply for UN service. For every new six months missions there

are more than 6000 recruits for the 395 posts.

In Cyprus the Swedish contingent is responsible for Sector 5. The task is to maintain the status quo within the buffer zone between Nicosia and Dhekelia. The Swedish part of the buffer zone is approximately 60 kilometres long, with 18 permanently manned OP's. The most sensitive areas have been the two villages of Pyla and Louroujina, in these villages our relationship with the local population is very good. The soldiers from the Swedish battalion 90C visit the village during their spare time. This has not happened since 1974.

In the sports events the Swedish soldiers from 90C have had a lot of good results. Especially during the swimming competitions, the orienteering competition and the volleyball tournament.

Before the withdrawal decision the Swedish Contingent had many important visitors. The Swedish Minister of Defence, the Swedish Supreme Commander, the Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs and many more.

Many of the soldiers going back to Sweden in the beginning of October will probably apply for new UN service elsewhere in the world.

## AN AUSTRIAN TREAT



The following culinary delights have been selected by the catering specialists for you to try for yourself...

### The "SACHERTORTE"

In the Austrian capital of Vienna the "SACHERTORTE" was first created. Nowadays this cake is very well known all around the world. In Vienna there still exists the famous hotel "SACHER" where you can order this special cake and enjoy it with a cup of good Viennese Coffee.



Who can resist it!

### Ingredients:

140 grams butter  
160 grams icing sugar  
180 grams chocolate  
120 grams flour  
2 grams baking powder  
10 eggs (separated)

### Method:

Mix half of the sugar with the butter, baking powder, softened chocolate and egg yolks. Stiffen egg whites and add the rest of the sugar. Mix together and add the sieved flour to mixture carefully. Bake in the oven for at least 45 minutes at 200 C. Cool on wire tray, cut and fill with hot apricot jam. Lastly, cover all over with chocolate icing.



Some of the mouthwatering Austrian cakes

### The "GUGLHUPF"

You can prepare the "GUGLHUPF" for an everyday treat as well as for special occasions. Usually children enjoy it at Easter time or for their first name celebration day. It is quite easy to prepare and for some of you it could be the beginning of a career as an "Austrian Patisserieur"!!

### Ingredients:

240 grams icing sugar  
240 grams butter  
240 grams flour  
2 grams baking powder  
2 grams vanilla essence  
6 eggs  
Peel of 1 lemon

### Method:

Stir in half of the sugar with the butter and egg yolks until foamy. Stiffen the egg white and add remaining sugar and flour.

Carefully mix in lemon peel and put in a buttered and floured round cake tin. Bake in oven for 40 minutes at 180 C.

GOOD BAKING AND ENJOY THE RESULTS!!!

### TUG-OF-WAR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Over the period 6/7 August Support Regiment held their Inter-Departmental TUG-OF-WAR Competition. The 560 Kg Competition was won by RHQ and the 640 Kg Competition was won by UNFICYP Workshops REME, who also won the Overall TUG-OF-WAR CHAMPIONSHIP.

Support Regiment  
640 Kg Team  
Champions



Coach WO1 Ramsay with (from the front) Sgt Porter, Cpl Webster, Sgt Mason, Sgt Brunning, Sgt Beaird, Cpl Fulbrook, L/Cpl Swindells, with Capt Laurie at anchor.



## FAMILIES COMMITTEE GIVES A HELPING HAND

By: J. Biddell

The UNFICYP Families committee donated £350 for gym equipment to the EVAGELISMOS special school for mentally handicapped children.

The day school, with 77 children aged between 5-18 years tries to educate its students to help develop their full potential, become more self-reliant and prepare them for the outside world.

On behalf of the families committee, Mrs Jo Jory presented the cheque. She has been a voluntary helper at



The cheque was received with grateful thanks

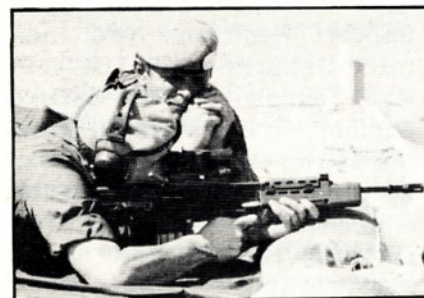
the school during her two years in Cyprus. She and her husband shortly leave us for

Blackdown, England so the school will be looking for a new volunteer??

## FORCE COMMANDER

## TRIES OUT

## NEW SA 80



## UNFICYP VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

The Annual UNFICYP Volleyball Competition was held on Wednesday 12th August. Eight teams showed up with their best players, each one of them hoping that they would be walking away with the garland of victory crowning their heads.

All the spectators were there to enjoy the "SHOW". Each match was as exciting as the last. Even non-volleyballers walked away with a new respect for the game. The first phase of elimination did not prepare us adequately for what was witnessed in the semi-finals. After the first phase, four teams were left. These were sector 4 'v' FSC Sqn and HQ UNFICYP volleyball champions



UNFICYP 'v' Sector 5. Both of the two semi-final matches were played to the end. After numerous smashes, bumps and volleys only two teams walked away as survivors; they were Sectors 4 and 5. The stage was now set for the final match. The game lovers anticipated a nerve-racking finish and indeed, they were not disappointed. Once the smoke lifted, Sector 5 were the only team still on its feet and consequently, crowned as the 1987 UNFICYP Volley-Ball Champions.

Congratulations to all competitors.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

By Geoff Mitchell

Activities of a wide and varied nature from swimming, volleyball and shooting (.22) to Bondu Bashing, Ferret Scout Car rides and beach visits have all been on offer to the children living on the UNPA between the ages of 8-16 years. They are all on the Summer School Activity Programme, which has attracted approximately 80 children so far, with that number increasing every week as the scheme goes on.



no, up a bit

Visit to AAC Fit

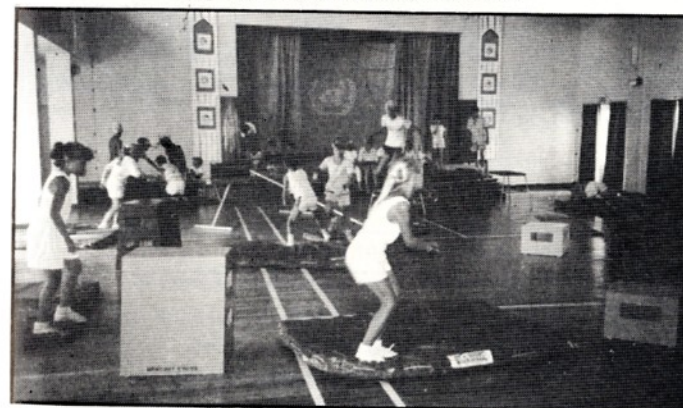


no, left a bit

ok stay there



Visit to Ordnance Detachment



Bulldogs in the School Hall



254 Signals Sqn arranged a Shooting Competition



The professionals make it look so easy!

KIDCON

The need for such a scheme is obvious in that it provides light relief for parents and, more importantly, gives the children an active interest during their long summer holidays. I have found it a great experience working here in Cyprus and am pleased that the children seem to be enjoying themselves so well. I would like to thank all those who have assisted me and hope that they also have gained something from the scheme.

Visit to Coca Cola







## CHARITY DRIVE

## THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The UN MP Coy, with the generous support of local businesses, will hold a prize raffle draw on 25 September, 1987, to raise money for the visually impaired of Cyprus. Raffle tickets will go on sale soon at a cost of £0.50 cents each, or three for £1.00. Prizes range from beer coolers to jewellery to return air tickets to Athens.

In years past the UN MP Coy has traditionally assisted institutions which serve and assist the visually impaired, and the UNFICYP community, military and civilian, has contributed generously to this very worthy cause. In so doing it has directly improved the lot of persons less fortunate than we.

Details of this years draw are being finalized at the present time. Ticket outlets, prize lists and other information will be published shortly. Watch out for advertisements and please buy lots of tickets. Further information can be obtained from Sergeant John Hatter, UN MP Coy HQ, local 2375 or from Master Corporal Mark Levesque at Nicosia MP detachment.

Thank you for your support and good luck.

"From a Danish Ops's  
cookery book"

If you have visited any of the OP's, you are sure to have tasted the cakes made by the soldiers themselves who man the observation posts. Many people have asked for these recipes. Some of the cakes are a little bit complicated to make but others are just the opposite. Here are some of the quick and easy recipes.

THE  
AYIA NAPA  
TROOP

Wearing what has become known as their 'Puce Suits', the boys of 2 Troop A Squadron 9th/12th Lancers have taken the fashion scene of Cyprus by storm. Created by the top French designer Phillipe Duckere, using the finest local materials these fetching two-piece on-the-shoulder costumes are guaranteed to enhance even the most fashion conscious soldiers beach wardrobe. The effects, we are promised, are startling on the beaches of Ayia Napa and when observed en-masse it is advised that all

those viewing the scene wear sunglasses. This advice comes from the government health officer who has stated that "Staring at very loud 1960's style curtain material can seriously damage your eyesight".

For those of you who receive the cheap version of this magazine, without colour pictures, to achieve the correct effect simply colour in the black and white photo using as garish a selection of lumo-colours as is available.



Leaders in the world of fashion

## Orange Cake

4 eggs  
Flour  
Sugar  
Margarine or Butter  
1 Orange  
2 tsp baking powder

Weight of Flour, Sugar and Butter/Margarine should be the same as that of the eggs.

Blend all ingredients together and put the mixture into a baking tin and place in the oven for 1 hour at 200°C.

## Port Layer Cake

1 egg  
50 gr sugar

2 tbs flour  
1 tsp cocoa  
½ tsp baking powder  
25 gr finely chopped nuts

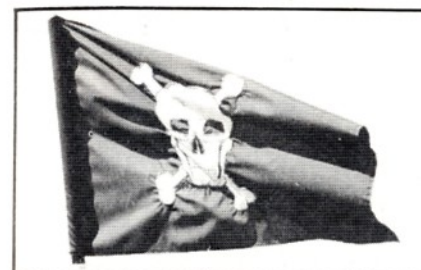
Blend all ingredients together and put the mixture into a layer cake tin and place in the oven for 6 minutes at 200°C.

## To decorate when COOL

3-4 dl whipped cream  
3-5 spoonfuls of Port (size of spoon depending on taste)  
125 gr thinly rolled marzipan to cover

Mix port with cream, evenly spread all over cake then carefully place marzipan on top.

## HOIST THE JOLLY ROGER



For reasons best known to itself the Officers Mess at the Ferret Scout Car Squadron is rapidly beginning to resemble something from a Hollywood pirating movie. The Jolly Roger with skull and crossed bones has replaced the more traditional Prince of Wales's feathers with crossed lances as the mess flag (to be flown when officers are in residence). This flutters happily above the pond which is now alive with fish, terrapins and plastic boats, ducks and squeaky

turtles and which has now been redesignated as the southern portion of the Barbary Coast. To add realism to what some people might think is merely yet more demented ramblings from a frustrated journalist affected by the heat. Captain Ian 'Woody' Woodbridge is now the proud possessor of 'Genghis' and 'Khan', two of the most aggressive parakeets this side of Treasure Island. Trained to attack all those with wooden legs, (Force Photographers saying "Come on Pretty Polly smile for the camera") eye patches and with parrots on their shoulders whilst squawking "Pieces of eight" these ferocious beasts guarantee to protect their owner and the property of the Mess.

Meanwhile the chef is working on a version of 'Parakeet au vin'!!



Trust me.....

## THE ROYAL ENGINEER DETACHMENT



Well first of all you may ask "Who are we?" We are in fact one of the smallest detachments of the Support Regiment. Our main roll being to support all elements of the United Nations in Cyprus.

The detachment consists of 2 SNCO's, 6 Sapper tradesmen, 17 civilians of Greek and Turkish origin and 2 Drivers from the Royal Corps of Transport. The trades covered by the detachment are Clerk of Works Resources, electrician, fridge mechanic, plumber & pipefitter, painter & decorator, carpenter and a bricklayer.

All of the tradesmen are sent to Cyprus for a 6 month tour with UNFICYP, the SNCO's being the lucky ones who get 2 year tours.

Our tasks vary from repairing broken locks and doors and trying to maintain the drainage system (which runs uphill in the UNPAI),



to building cold storage rooms at various locations throughout the Island, the rebuilding and panelling of the Force Commanders office and the re-wiring of HQ UNFICYP.

The 2 RCT drivers take sand/aggregate around the Island and also get attached to OP Lonelines which is the maintenance of the patrol track, carried out by engineers from Cyprus and UK plus we have the

only 16 ton Foden Tipper on the Island.

One of the main tasks we get called upon to do is the Britcon Medal Parade. The next is on 2nd October and our electrician is looking forward to the task of lighting up the area, even though he is not on the Island yet.

We would like to thank all of the contingents for making sure we were kept busy especially Sector 1 and Sector 6.



## THE UNFICYP SHOOTING COMPETITION

By Capt J. Cotterill

On Wednesday 29th July teams from all the UN Contingents and Support Units gathered at the Dhekelia ranges in the British Eastern Sovereign Base Area for the keenly contested UNFICYP Shooting Competition. The events within the competition were the Rifle Match, the Sub-Machine Gun Match, the Pistol Match and the Falling Plate competition. The British Contingent emerged as victors, winning the Rifle and SMG Matches and taking both first and second place in the Falling Plate. Much was made of the fact that 1 WFR were using the new SA80 Individual Weapon and indeed it was this weapons first competition victory outside the UK. However cynics should be aware that 1 WFR won the main British Inter-Unit annual shooting competition this year (for the 3rd time) armed with the old 7.62mm Self Loading Rifle, as the battalion only converted to the new weapon in the 6 week period immediately prior to arrival in Cyprus. Credit for



The victorious Sector 2 team

Back Row: Ptes Askew, Pownall, Penney, Skelton, Chambers and MacFarlane, Sgts Gorski and Ward.

Front Row: Cpl Lewis, CSgt Tyson, Capt Townsend, WO1 Fenton, Lt Glover, 2Lt Craddock and WO2 Hodgetts.

Nation	Rifle Match Score	Team Posn	SMG Match Score	Team Posn	Pistol Team Score	Team Posn	Overall Team Score	Final Posn
BRITCON	370	1	350	1	255	7	975	1
SP REGT	278	6	343	2	292	1	913	2
CANCON	343	3	302	3	261	6	900	3
SWEDCON	327	4	270	7	290	2	887	4
AUSCON	352	2	273	5	245	9	870	5
DANCON	293	5	273	5	287	3	822	6
FSC SQN	254	7	286	4	212	10	711	7
MP COY	-	-	252	8	264	5	516	8
FINCON	-	-	-	-	266	4	266	9
SWED POL	-	-	-	-	250	8	250	10



The winning team in the Sub Machine Gun Competition: Ptes MacFarlane and Skelton, WO1 Fenton and Sgt Ward

the results should probably be more properly attributed to the many years competition shooting experience of the more senior team members, notably the RSM WO1 Fenton, the CQMS of Western Coy CSgt Tyson and one of the Farming SNCOs Sgt Gorski. The overall team results and British individual results are attached below:-

### Rifle Match

Lt Glover 106 - 1st  
WO2 Hodgetts 103 - 3rd  
Pte Askew 97 - 5th  
Cpl Lewis 64 - 23rd

### PISTOL

Sgt Gorski 71 - 12th  
Capt Townsend 65 - 19th  
Pte Chambers 60 - 27th  
CSgt Tyson 59 - 29th

### SMG Match

WO1 (RSM) Fenton 104 - 1st  
Pte Skelton 98 - 2nd  
Sgt Ward 88 - 5th  
Pte MacFarlane 60 - 30th

### FALLING PLATE

Winners - 1 WFR Team 'B'  
Runners Up - 1 WFR Team 'A'



The winning Rifle team (and runners up in the Falling Plate): Cpl Lewis, Lt Glover, Pte Askew and WO2 Hodgetts.



## CROCODILE DUNDEE NIGHT



By Insp Graham Gartside

For those who had the pleasure of 'mixing it' with members of the Australian Contingent at the recent Crocodile Dundee night, here is some useful information.

Australia is the largest continent in the world having approximately twelve thousand miles of coastline with beautiful beaches and a land mass larger than the United States of America. It is the home to sixteen million people including two hundred thousand aboriginals whose history and culture have been traced back thirty thousand years.

Discovered in the 15th Century, Australia was not settled until 1788 when the first fleet arrived at Botany Bay. The country received its independence in 1901 and today remains a member of the British Commonwealth.

In its short history Australia has become famous for winning the Americas Cup, Golf, Tennis, Cricket, Dame Edna Everidge, Sir Les Patterson, Skippy the Kangaroo, Paul Hogan, Fosters, XXXX Beer and some excellent motion pictures.

To help you understand Australian Slang the following interpretations may be of use:



The croc never stood a chance



The start of one of the many fun races

- BLUE:** An Australian male, usually redheaded, a Queensland cattle dog, an altercation involving forceful language.
- BUSHIE:** An inhabitant of the Australian country or outback 'bush'.
- CHOOK:** An adult chicken
- CHUNDER:** Vomit, chuck
- COCKIE:** Farmer
- CROOK:** Unwell or something not right
- DUNNY:** An outside toilet
- FAIR DINKUM:** In all truth, straight up
- GALAH:** A genus of parrot. When preceded by the word 'flamin' the phrase describes a foolish person
- GOER** A well balanced female who knows what side her bread is buttered
- G'DAY:** Hello
- MATE:** A friend or somebody whose name you can't remember
- MISSUS:** Your wife (or somebody elses)
- MIDDY:** 10oz of beer
- PONY:** 5 oz of beer
- POMMIE, POM:** An Englishman or woman - generally believed to be prisoner of Mother England. The noun is rarely used without the accompaniment of 'whingeing'
- SHIELA:** A female
- SWAGMAN, SWAGGIE:** An itinerant country worker who carries his possessions in a bundle or swag slung over one shoulder.
- THONGS:** Flip flops, rubber slip on sandals
- TOP SORT:** A pretty shiela
- TUCKER:** Food
- YAKKA:** Work



## THE CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE CHARITY FUND



During our island tour, we in Sector 4, represented by the 2nd Battalion Royal 22e Regiment, have organized many activities to support local charities. The first took place on 12 June 1987. On this day the officers and NCOs replaced the soldiers on the line and manned the OPs. This gave the troops a day off to participate



Even the Padre had to go on the "DECK"

"For what I am about to receive!"

in a number of events such as sports and inter-company activities. All profits that were made were donated to local charities. A similar function was held on 24th June. On this particular date a grand lottery was held, the proceeds of which were again given away in the form of donations. As 24th June is a French-Canadian holiday, many had hopes of walking away with the "POT" to celebrate this auspicious occasion. On 31st July, Monte Carlo attested to a partial loss of its glamour as the Sector Four casino experts proved to know their jobs inside out. That's right, on that evening CANCON held a Casino Night that "raked" C£600.00 for charity.



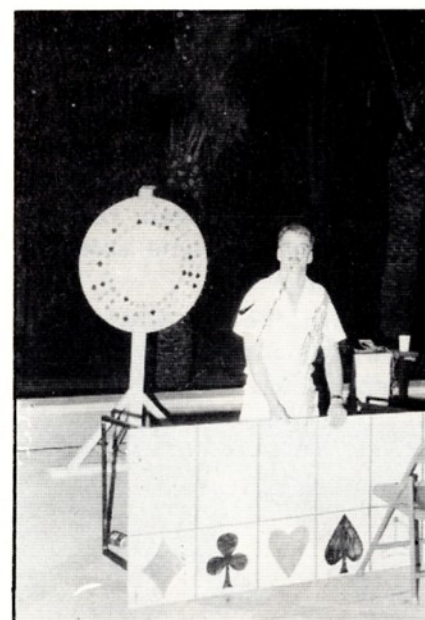
Dealing with "BIG" money; Sgt Noel from C Company was one of our table masters for the Casino Night.

These profits were donated mainly to the Red Crescent Hospital and the Theotokos Institution for Retarded Children.

Both establishments specialize in children who, due to their unique problems, require professional care.



Who's who? MCpl Roussel trying hard to catch the pig.



MCpl Routhier setting-up his game for the Casino Night.

In recapitulation, with less than a month to complete our tour of duty, we can confidently say that the Second Battalion of the Royal 22e Regiment, has upheld the CANCON's tradition of strongly supporting local charities. We believe that this is one of the many means of aiding the peace process on the Mediterranean Pearl.

Je me souviens



## THE SWEDISH MILITARY DEFENCE



Sweden has chosen a policy of non-alignment in peace-time, aiming at neutrality in the event of war. This policy is supported by a total defence based on wartime mobilization of all the resources of Swedish society.

The Swedish policy of non-alignment is part of the political balance that has prevailed in the Nordic area since the Second World War. That has helped prevent a direct confrontation of superpower interests in this area. The superpowers have stated that the preservation of this balance is in their interest.

The policy of non-alignment does not mean neutrality of opinions. Sweden has an active foreign policy with the purpose of strengthening peace and reducing tensions worldwide.

Sweden's policy of non-participation in alliances and the will of the Swedish people to preserve their national integrity demand a strong defence. Planning, therefore, aims at a total defence, using the entire population.

The military defence - armed forces - cooperates with and is



Anti-aircraft missile RBS-70

supported by the civil, economic and psychological defence. The total Swedish defence must be so well prepared for war that it serves to maintain peace.

The size of the Swedish Army is sometimes incorrectly assessed to be 40,000 men - but that is just the annual number of conscripts undergoing basic compulsory military service. 40,000 men is hardly enough to defend a 450,000 km<sup>2</sup> large and sparsely populated (8.4 million) country as Sweden.

The armed forces consist of army, naval and air services. Total strength exceeds 850,000 men. Military service is compulsory in Sweden, every man between the ages of 18 and 47. Length of training varies according to the duties of the conscripts in the war and peace-time organization. Most conscripts have 7½-10 months of basic training, followed in later years by five field exercise periods of normally 18 to 25 days each in combat units. The annual military exercises normally involves about 100,000 men, to which are added special exercises for officers and other key personnel.

Overall command is exercised by a supreme Commander directly responsible to the Government. Combat units are organized by the army, navy and air force.

Each of the service commanders has the central responsibility for the organization and training of combat units.

The armoured brigades in the army are equipped with the "S" tank and the armoured personnel carrier 302. They are made in Sweden, as most of the army's other equipment is.



Strv 103 tank and the Pbv 302 armoured personnel carrier





## FINNISH BATTALIONS ON CYPRUS

1964-1977

Amid the civil unrest on the island of Cyprus in 1963-1964 the Cyprus government requested the UN to help restore peace by sending a peacekeeping force. Following a resolution in the UN Security Council, the then Secretary General U-Thant requested six nations to contribute to this force. One of the first nations to be asked was Finland. The positive answer from the Finnish government was to allocate in April 1964 a 1000 man battalion for these peacekeeping duties. This unit like all Finnish units was mainly made up of reservists.

The deployment of the battalion from Dhekelia to Omorphitao, a suburb of Nicosia, on bicycles was an amusing spectacle and also highlighted the state of the Finnish Reserve. Meanwhile one of the companies and the logistic elements of the battalion were established by that time at Kykko Camp, which is located near what has become Foxtrot Gate in the United Nation Protected Area. Sadly during the first month of operations the Finns suffered their first setback: a young corporal was shot in an ambush



Photo by Pte J. Thomas

and he died later on the way to hospital.

The Commanding Officer of the second battalion to be deployed was Lt Col Ensio Siilasvuo, who later became the Co-ordinator of all UN Forces in the Middle East.

In 1966 a Finnish Officer Major General A E Martola became Force Commander of UNFICYP, a position he held until retirement three and a half years later.

As UNFICYP became more effective the situation on the island returned more and more to

normality. Shortly before the events of 1974 the numbers of the Finnish Battalion were reduced to just under 230 all ranks.

When fighting broke out in July 1974 Finnish soldiers remained at their OPs and contributed to the UN Force which held Nicosia International Airport for the UN. At one stage during the heavy fighting Kykko Camp became the target of an artillery barrage and Finnish casualties rose to 17 killed. After the cease-fire the battalion was increased to 620 men. Due to financial pressures and other peacekeeping commitments the Finnish UNFICYP battalion withdrew. Part of the unit was re-deployed to UNE2 in the Sinai. The rest returned home.

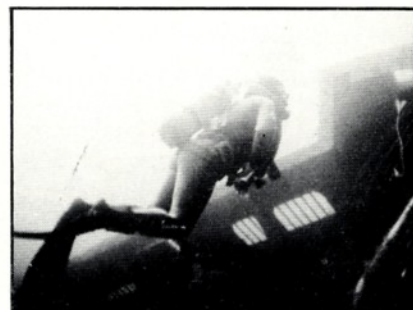
All in all 27 battalions had served on the Island for 13 years, making the number of Finnish Blue Berets 10,250. They left behind hundreds of saunas of which only one is apparently operational in the HQ and a monument which you can still find in Kykko Camp Nicosia.

What is now left of the Finnish contingent is a 10 man section serving in the HQ UNFICYP and MP Coy including four officers and six NCO's.



Photo by Dvr P. Corkill

### UNDERWATER ADVENTURE



Divers search to discover identity of mystery shipwreck.

See next edition for full story.



## POLICE IN THE BUFFER ZONE

By: Insp Bengt Weckfors



The most easterly part of the UNBZ is of course in Sector 6 and ends with the Maritime Security Line (MSL). This extends 3 miles into the Mediterranean Sea and is marked with red buoys. The surrounding area is densely populated and attracts many tourists, because of this there are many infringements of the MSL. Within this stretch of water there can be found a plentiful supply of fish and the beautiful deep blue colour of the sea resembles that of a holiday travel brochure. Many tourists spend their entire holiday diving in this area.

The Austrian soldiers based at OP A-28 have their work cut out, as any infringement of the MSL must be reported to the UN HQ who in turn informs SWEDCIVPOL.

Inspector Thomas Wrahme from SWEDCIVPOL visits OP A-28 to familiarise himself with the problems concerning the fishing boats which enter the MSL. Thomas comes from a Swedish fishing village called Simrishamn. This is reputed to be the largest fishing village in his home country where the annual catch is over 25 thousand tonnes of fish. Thomas therefore understands the problems of the fishermen when they stray into the prohibited area in pursuit of their livelihood. Nevertheless being a good policeman he must still report the offending craft.



Insp Thomas Wrahme, Cpl Sascha Petrykievich and Pte Josef Staffa



### AUSTCIVPOL CHANGE OF COMMAND

On 8 October 1987 we shall say farewell to Chief Superintendent Alan Bird, who will be returning to Australia with his wife Sheila and their daughter Chloe.

In saying good-bye, members of the AUSTCIVPOL Contingent wish to take the opportunity to thank Ch Supt Bird for his leadership and support and also Lorraine for her friendship during the past year. It should be noted that Alan admits that the only wrong decision he made during his tour was to volunteer for the DANCON March! (although secretly we know that both he and Lorraine are proud of that achievement).

Since 1984 he has commanded the Police Training Division and is presently Chief of Personnel. Ch



Supt CAMPBELL-THOMPSON is a wizard in producing Operational Orders on his personal computer which he carries as part of his luggage.

He enjoys competitive rifle shooting, writing, fly fishing and bushwalking, so he should have no difficulty in leading his men on the next DANCON March.

For those who have difficulty understanding the Australian language, relief is in sight,

By Insp Graham Gartside

because our new Ch Supt speaks the Queen's English and wait for it - Malay, Nepali and Kiswahili.

The new Commander, Ch Supt CAMPBELL-THOMPSON was born in the Argentine, educated in Kenya, East Africa and the UK.

From 1950-1968 he served in the British Army with the King's African Rifles and the 10th Gurkha Rifles. He joined the Australian Army in 1968, serving in Vietnam and as Chief Instructor, Infantry School before being appointed Lt Col on the Staff.

His police career commenced in 1978 when he was appointed Ch Insp Counter Terrorist Section and later Ch Insp Operations and Response Branch with the Australian Federal Police.





# UNFICYP SWIMMING



UN Swimming & Waterpolo Team



Back Row: L/R-Cpl Smith, Pte Wennerholm, LCpl Lloyd, LCpl Harris, Cpl Edge and Sgt Steffansson.

Front Row: LCpl Haynes, Sgt Wiles, Lt Burke, Lt Wardman, Lt Dickenson.

By Lt Burke

SECTOR 2: LT DICKENSON  
LT WARDNER  
SGT CHING

SECTOR 5: PTE WENNERHOLM  
PTE AKERBLOM

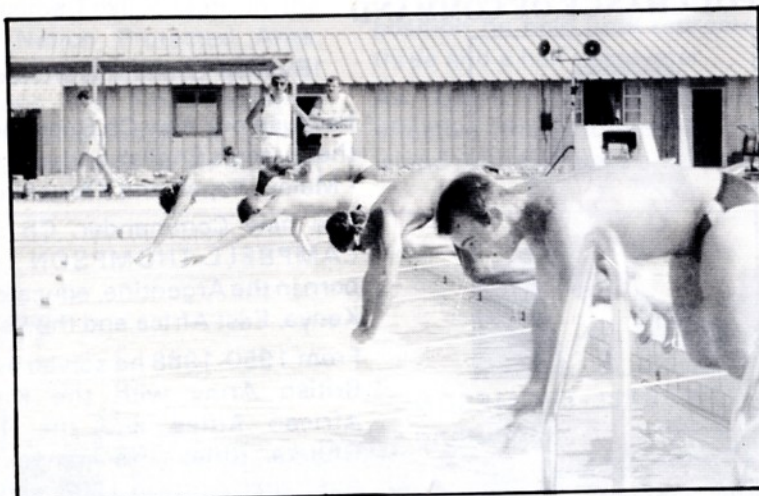
SP REGT: LT BURKE  
SGT WILES  
CPL EDGE  
LCPL HARRIS  
LCPL SMITH  
LCPL LLOYD  
LCPL HAYNES

On 5 AUG 87 the fifth and final event of the Combined Services Swimming League took place at Ayios Nikolias. It was a hot, bright afternoon and after many hard fought events the UNFICYP team came second and with that was placed second overall. The final standings are as follows:

1ST EPISKOPI	7 PTS
2ND UN	12 PTS
3RD AKROTIRI	13 PTS
4TH AYIOS NIKOLIAS	19 PTS
5TH DHEKELIA	24 PTS



Start of the 50m Butterfly



Start of the 200m Freestyle

The team actually got off to a slow start, 4th place, but with a lot of time spent in training the team crept up the ladder placings 3rd, 2nd, 1st and back to 2nd to capture its overall second place finish. The team totally shocked all other competitors after last years placing of 5th when on

Event 4, held in the UNPA, they totally thrashed all opposition amassing a grand total of 44 pts.

This was the largest points total of the league and the biggest margin of victory also; 7 pts. All this was possible through the combined efforts of all participants; they are:

During the course of all 5 events PTE WENNERHOLM amassed a total of 9 Firsts and 1 Second in 10 events, while LT BURKE had 1 win, 3 Seconds in 5 events. Other honourable mentions go out to CPL EDGE, LCPL SMITH, LCPL HARRIS and PTE AKERBLOM for vast improvements in performance while LT DICKENSON and SGT CHING maintained a steady moderating effect. A hearty well done! to all.

Besides swimming there was also a Waterpolo Competition ongoing in which the UN joined with wholehearted enthusiasm. Under the excellent coaching of UNMP SGT STEFFANSSON and after our third game, the team improved to such an extent that we almost pulled off an upsetting victory over the League Champions AKROTIRI, again well done!