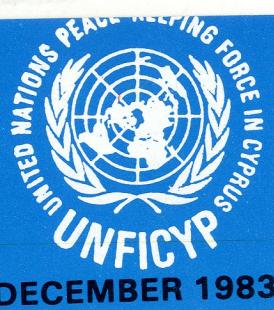


THE BLUE BERET



SEASON'S GREETINGS

NOVEMBER IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

The Swedish Contingent
The Swedish Civilian Police Contingent
Part of the Austrian Contingent
The Danish Contingent

MEDAL PARADES

29 The Force Scout Car Squadron
30 HQ UNFICYP

VISITS

1-6 Major R Hyslop visited the Canadian Contingent
1-9 Lieutenant Colonel J Devitto visited the Canadian Contingent
2 Mr V Turner, Canadian High Commissioner, visited the Canadian Contingent
3-6 Colonel W Wellsman also visited the Canadian Contingent
5,6 and 8 Commodore D Heslip RN, Captain R Bridgeman RN, Wing Commander D Reilly RAF and Colonel M Sharpe visited the British Contingent
7-13 Mr Bertil Andersson, a service engineer, visited the Swedish Contingent
8 Air Vice Marshal J W Price CBE MRAeS FBIM RAF, Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operations) visited HQ UNFICYP
15 Mr S Pietinen, Finnish Chief of Department for Political Affairs, and Major General J Valo, Finnish Chief of Department for Military Affairs visited UNFICYP

FUTURE EVENTS

15 December at 7.30 pm at the British Council:

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Students' String Orchestra — directed by Themis Christodoulou with a programme of Christmas carols and melodies from "Messiah" (Handel), followed by an interval, hot punch and the Nicosia Singers with carols to sing for you and for you to sing!

UNFICYP PANTOMIME

This year's UNFICYP Pantomime is 'Aladdin' and will be staged in the UNPA Nicosia School Hall on the following dates:

Saturday 17 December 1983 at 1630 hrs
Monday 19 December 1983 at 2000 hrs
Tuesday 20 December 1983 at 2000 hrs

Admission is by programme only and prices are:

Adults 75 cents

Children (under 12) 50 cents

What is a Pantomime? The definition from the dictionary is, and I quote... "a Christmas time dramatic and spectacular entertainment usually founded on a fairy tale"...

I hope that this year's production is both dramatic and spectacular! It will be a very good night's entertainment — that I can guarantee.

— There will be a bar and all the profit made from the sale of tickets will be donated to charities, both in Northern and Southern Cyprus.

We need your support, do please make the effort to come along — you will thoroughly enjoy yourselves...

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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

Skiing on Troodos — 1981

THE BLUE BERET

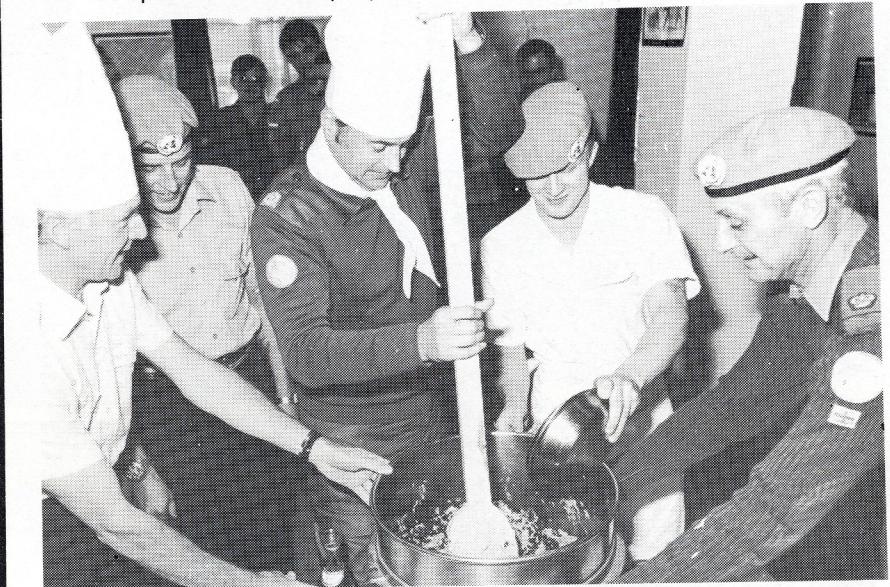


Editorial

It is my intention to keep the Editorial short this month.

My staff and I would like to wish not only those members of UNFICYP and their families but also all our readers, A Very Happy Christmas and may 1984 bring peace and prosperity to everyone.

Lastly, the cover picture showing snow and a skier on Troodos was incidentally taken in 1981 and is not a fake devised by the MPIO. For all winter sport lovers, I hope you do not have to wait long.



Stirring the Christmas pudding — from left to right, Lt Col Michael Brooke, WO2 (SQMS) 'Mal' Dodding, the Force Commander, LCpl Frank McGinnis and Maj Clarke.

Contents

November in Retrospect; Future Events	2
Editorial; Contents	3
PICTORIAL NEWS:	4-5
VIP Visitor; AUSCON'S New CO; Language Course Awards; 7 Sqn RCT Arrive; Safe Driving Certificate; Remembrance Sunday Service; Visit of Canadian High Commissioner	
AUSCON: Christmas at AUSCON	6
DANCON: Merry Christmas to You All	7
SWEDCIVPOL: 252 Years' Experience	
UNIT FEATURE: 2 R Anglian	8-9
CANCON: Who Are the Men in Blue?	10
SWEDCON: Interview with the CO	11
INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK: Christmas Recipes from the Contingents	12-13
BLUE BERET SPORT: 'Green Line' Run; UNFICYP Tennis Competition	14
FSC Sqn: Cambrai Day	15
UN NEWS: Christmas Message from the Force Commander; New CAO for UNFICYP	16

PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL

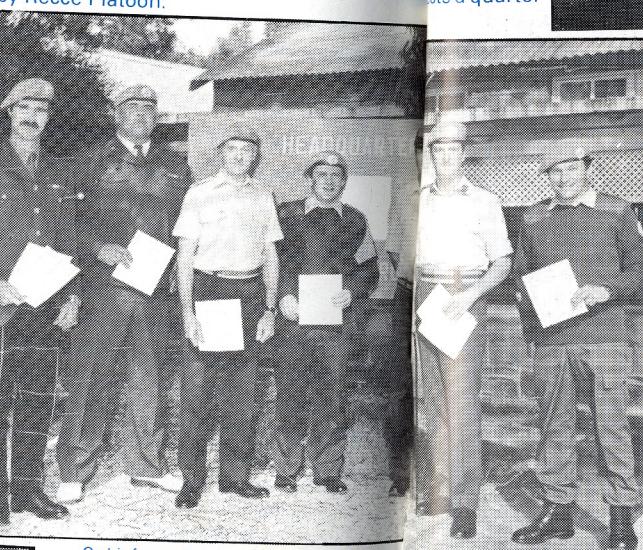


HE Vernon George Turner, High Commissioner of Canada in Israel, inspects a quarter guard mounted by Recce Platoon.

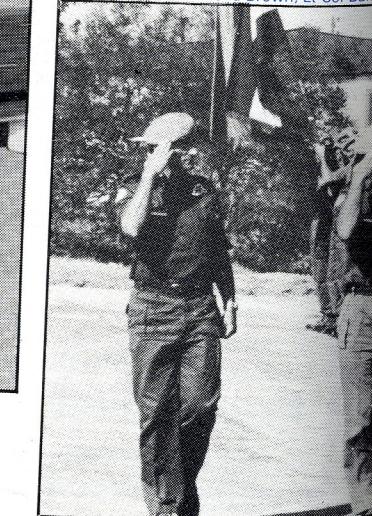
On 20th October The Right Honourable The Baroness Young PC, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, visited Sector Two and HQ UNFICYP and inspected a Guard of Honour.



Remembrance Sunday service at Wayne's Keep on 13 November 1983

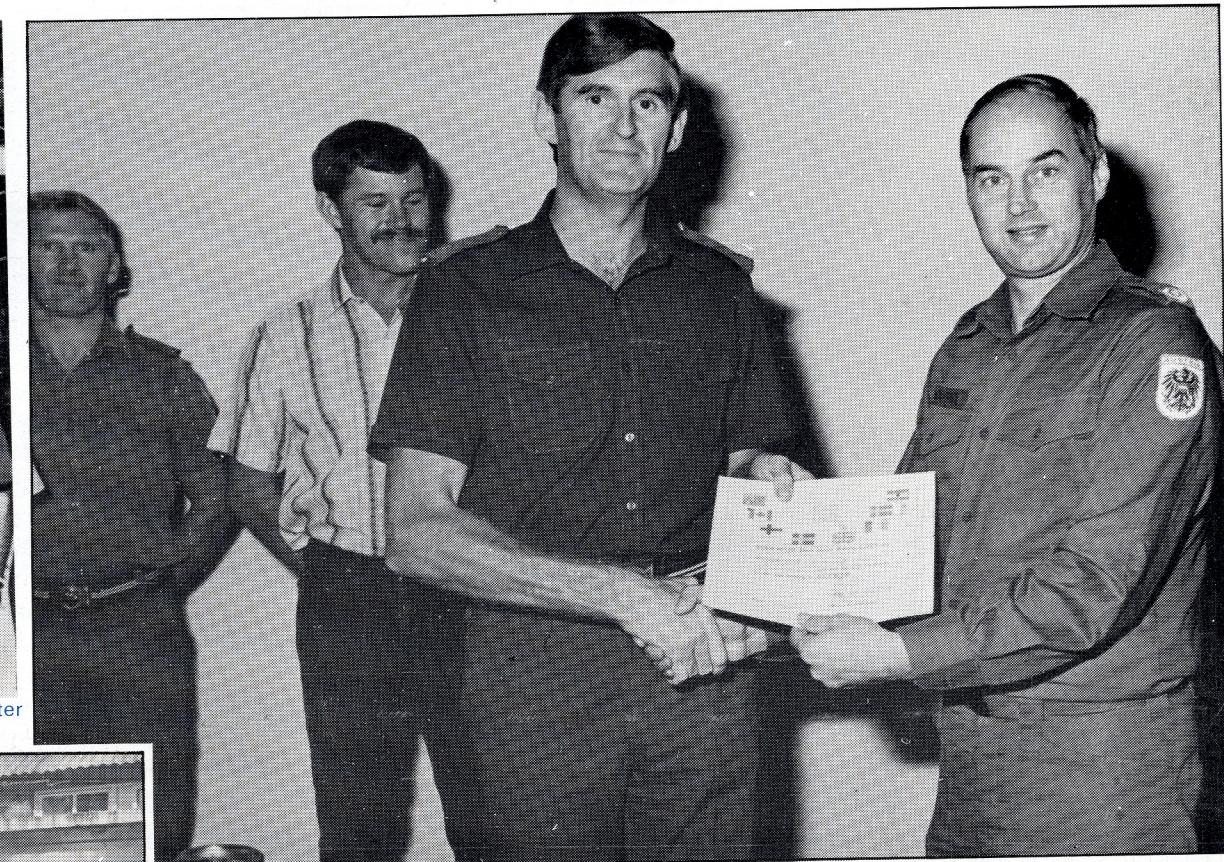


On his farewell visit to UNFICYP, Lt Col Baker presented certificates to members of UNFICYP Under Education Land Forces Cyprus, language courses in Cyprus. From left to right: Major Winter; Major Tilikainen; Lt Col Brooke; The Reverend Brown; Lt Col Baker; Major Doyle and WO2 Clayton



On 31 October, the Austrian Battalion once again lined up for a handover/take over ceremony: Lt Col Theodor Dorfmeister, the tenth, took over from Lt Col Ingo Buttner.

PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL



The Force Commander presents Major Doyle, OC of 8 Sqn RCT with the unit certificate of safe driving before the Squadron's return to the UK.



7 Sqn RCT took over from 8 Sqn on 8 November, when Major Doyle handed over the key to Major Brown.

OSTERREICHISCHES UN - BATTALION KONTINGENTSKOMMANDANT

Soldaten des österreichischen Kontingents auf CY-
PERN!

Nur mehr wenige Tage trennen uns von Weihnacht-
en, dem Fest des Friedens. Gerade die besondere
Art unseres Dienstes gibt uns die Gelegenheit, aus-
serhalb der üblichen vorweihnachtlichen Hast und
Geschäftigkeit die Stille des Advent zu erleben.

Ich wünsche Ihnen als Soldaten einer Frieden-
struppe ein friedliches und gesegnetes Weihnachts-
fest. Seien Sie versichert, dass in dieser Zeit nicht nur
Ihre Angehörigen, sondern viele Österreicher in der
Heimat an Sie denken.

Für das Neue Jahr wünsche ich Ihnen Gesundheit,
Zufriedenheit und viel Erfolg.
Ihr Kontingentskommandant



Last year's Xmas service was held in the Sergeant's Mess in Camp Duke Leopold V

CHRISTMAS AT AUSCON

Christmas Eve back home in Austria is thought to be a "white Christmas", the snow lying on the trees of the forests (or merely in the parks of the towns) and on the roofs of the buildings — which is, of course, a cliche not supported by weather statistics. But anyhow, it is cold at that time, it becomes dark early and people spend most of the time indoors. The family gathers there and celebrates altogether.

Let's not switch to the situation of our Austrian UN soldiers here in Cyprus. The main differences are the environment and the isolation from the family. It would be a psychologist's task to study the influence of the weather on human feelings in detail, but it can definitely be stated that the feelings will be altered and the "genuine Xmas feeling" will partly stay away. This is also due to the fact that in the northern part — where AUSCON's HQ is located — no Xmas is to be celebrated and nothing in the streets will remind you about Xmas time. So it seems from this point of view that one could almost forget Xmas here in Cyprus. On the other hand, since Xmas is "the" family holiday in the year, the thoughts of our soldiers are with their families back home, and vice versa.

Lots of mail is to be handled by our field post master and his assistant during the days before, which are the hardest time of the year for him. Apart from the



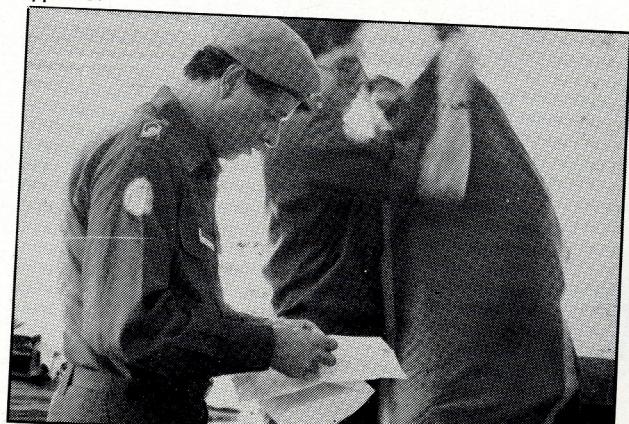
Field post master Kasper outside the AUSCON post office with his assistant (right)

few who fly home or manage to bring the family here, mail is the main connection besides the AMRS and the telephone. By all these means, nobody should feel lonely during the Xmas holidays. Furthermore, the battalion is something like a substitute family, giving a home to all soldiers who are single here (and this applies to most of them). There will be a celebration in the camp for the HQ Coy and also small celebrations on the OP's and LP's in the UNBZ and on the Karpass peninsula, respectively.

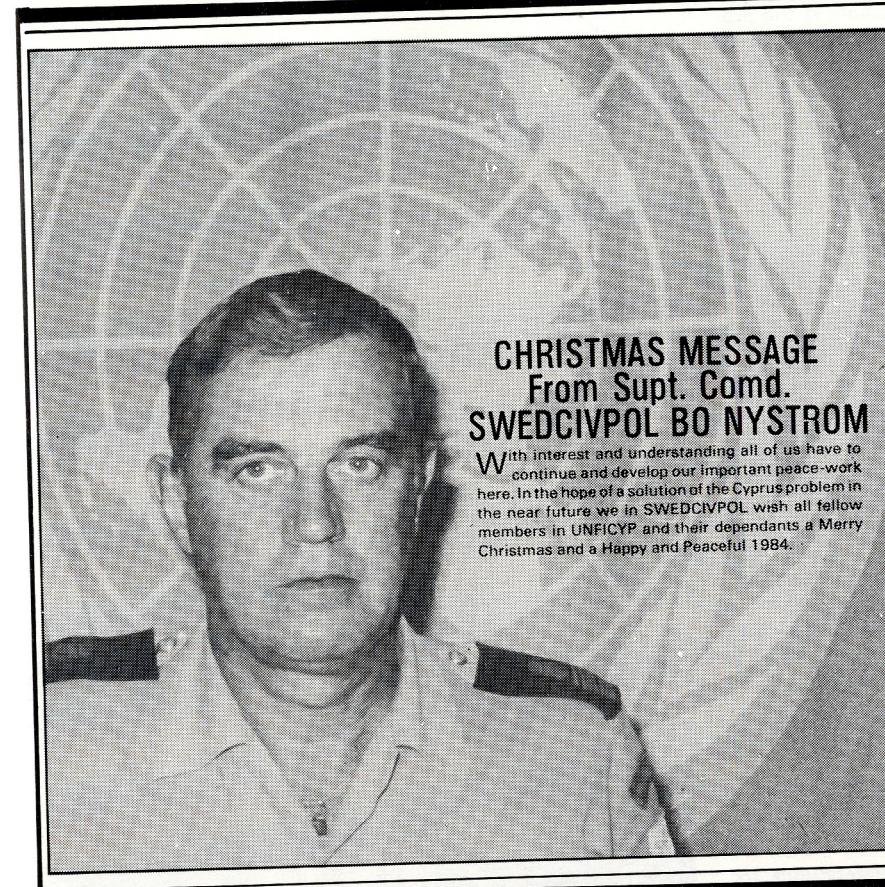
Just one example to prove how the small crews live in family-like groups: Last year, it was planned to reduce the strength of the OP's as much as possible in order to enable as many soldiers as possible to come to the Camp and take part in the main celebration of the Battalion. But they refused; they wanted to stay together on Xmas Eve as they stay together during their whole tour. They also rejected another plan, which was that every officer should visit one OP on the afternoon of 24 December.

It is likely that AUSCON's Xmas will more or less be similar this year, with much mail, presents to the soldiers and a large "official" celebration in Camp Duke Leopold V.

Since Christmas is regarded as a peaceful time — our saviour has brought peace from heaven to earth — it seems worthwhile to consider that the best of all is not what we are given but what we give to others: in the case of UNFICYP it is our continuous effort to maintain peace in this area. To contribute to this is worthwhile to spend Xmas away from home, here in Cyprus.

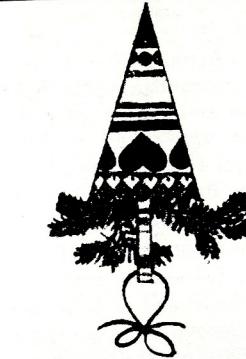


Christmas time is the busiest period of the year for the field post master and his assistant



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE From Supt. Comd. SWEDCIVPOL BO NYSTROM

With interest and understanding all of us have to
continue and develop our important peace-work
here. In the hope of a solution of the Cyprus problem in
the near future we in SWEDCIVPOL wish all fellow
members in UNFICYP and their dependants a Merry
Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful 1984.



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
TO ALL OF YOU
FROM DANCON**

Christmas is closing in and preparations
have been under way for some time
already. In DANCON we try to get as close
as practicable to the customs and traditions
we are used to when at home.

The Welfare-officer has already in early
November ordered various Christmas-
decorations brought to Cyprus with ser-
vice flights to be delivered early December.
The preparations will then take place in
respective messes and will consist of cut-
ting and sticking flags, paper hearts, small
bags and festoons, all the while eating
sweets and maybe having a glass of
"Glog". Christmas Carols and songs may
accompany the work.

On the 24th the DANCON-chaplain
and Commander DANCON will visit all
camps and OPs in Sector 1 and thus wish
everybody a Merry Christmas and com-
memorate a small service. In Denmark and
in DANCON Christmas evening on 24th
December will form the main event around
Christmas. First we will start with the
Christmas Service in Viking Camp and after
that the Christmas dinner will be ser-
ved. We hope that we shall succeed in
having a delicious roast duck, goose or
maybe veal. For dessert sweet rice por-
ridge and in that will be an almond and
whoever gets the almond will receive a
small prize, which is most likely to be a
marzipan pig. If we succeed in having
some sort of Christmas tree, it shall be
decorated with all the pretty handicraft
from the preparation period. The tree will
then be lit and we will form a ring around it
and hand-in-hand we will slowly walk
round it singing the old well-known
Christmas hymns and songs that we all
know from our childhood. Now it is time for
unpacking your Christmas gifts and the
rest of the evening we will spend in good
company and maybe have a few to celebra-
te. On Christmas day "The Vikings" will
have their "Christmas Bath" at Dansborg
but that's a story which has been de-
scribed in an earlier issue of The Blue Beret.

— 252 Years' Experience —

The 43rd SWEDCIVPOL contingent has
taken over responsibility in Sectors 5
and 6. The 43rd is unique in many ways.
This time, a unit has been created where
the average age of the members is 39
years and the average number of years of
duty is eighteen.

The oldest member of the contingent is
the commander, Super- intendent Bo Ny-
strom, who has been in the Swedish police
force for 32 years; the youngest is Kent
Klasson who has nine years' police ex-
perience. The police officers are selected

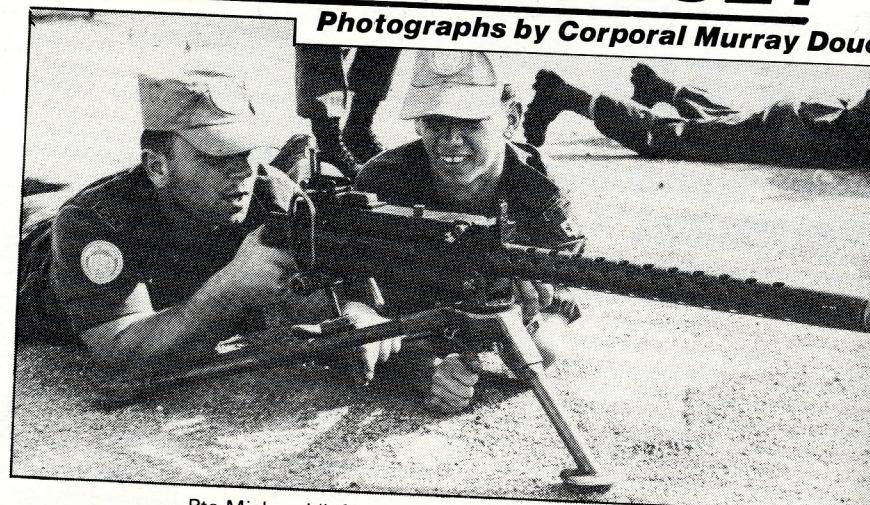


Here are all of the Swedes in SWEDCIVPOL — except the assisting
POLOPS officer, J-O Jonsson who wasn't available at the time for photographing

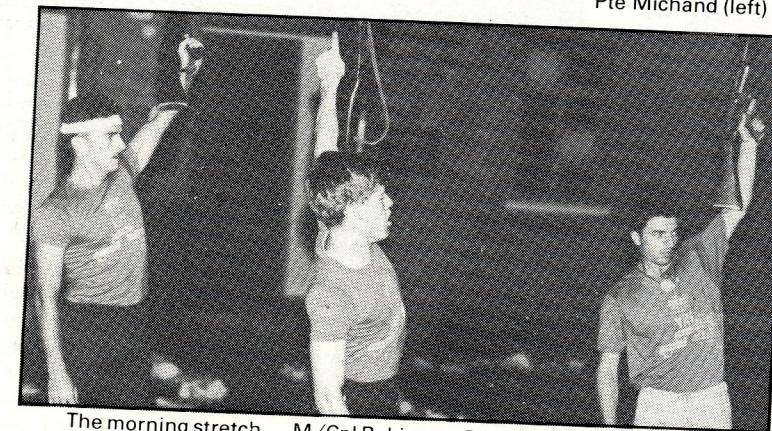
WHO ARE THE MEN IN BLUE?

By Captain John Redmon

A formed body of men, only a speck in the distance at first, are coming closer, looming larger, boots pounding the pavement in unison at the double. "Who Are These Men in Blue", shouts the Sergeant Major. "J Coy", the reply from the men of Camp Maple Leaf. For the men of the reserve platoon and Coy HQ, bedecked in Regimental T-shirts, sweat pants, combat boots and rifles, 0550 hrs, a 2 mile run and rifle exercises 6 days a week is routine.

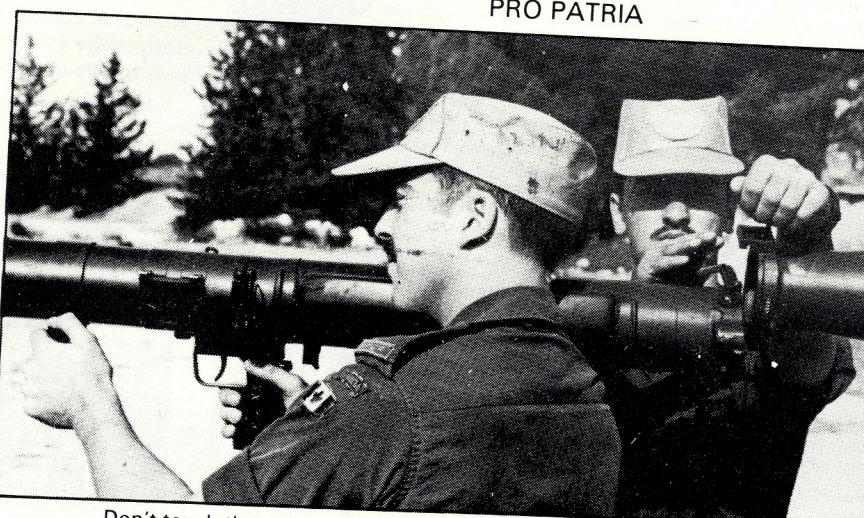


Pte Michand (left) and Pte Johnson train on the GPMG.



The morning stretch.... M/Cpl Robinson, Pte Jackson, Pte Zefferrino

So begins the day for Camp Maple Leaf and J Coy, Second Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment. Following breakfast and the morning briefing, operational and administrative tasks are tackled. As the result of an excellent relief in place with D Sqn le 12e Regiment Blinde du Canada, the assuming of responsibility for the Western Section of the line in Sector Four on 12 Oct 83 was accomplished with little difficulty. While one platoon, co-located with Coy HQ garrisons Camp Maple Leaf and is employed as reserve, two platoons occupy the line with one of the platoons living in C-18 SCHOOL, and the other spread amongst section houses at C-21 MOJAVE, C-22 OR-CHARD, and C-25 IRISH BRIDGE. Platoons participate in relief in place operations on a regular basis with each platoon spending four weeks forward on the line at a time with two week intervals in garrison as reserve and manning C-70 FOXTROT.



Don't touch that trigger! Pte Ryan and Pte Thornhill perform handling drills on the Carl Gustaf.

Christmas Message from the Comd Swedish Contingent

On Christmas Day new hope is given to the world.

Where we are staying now — on this island divided by a buffer zone and so close to Lebanon — the words of the Christmas gospel become more important and more comprehensible than perhaps ever before, with their message of peace on earth.

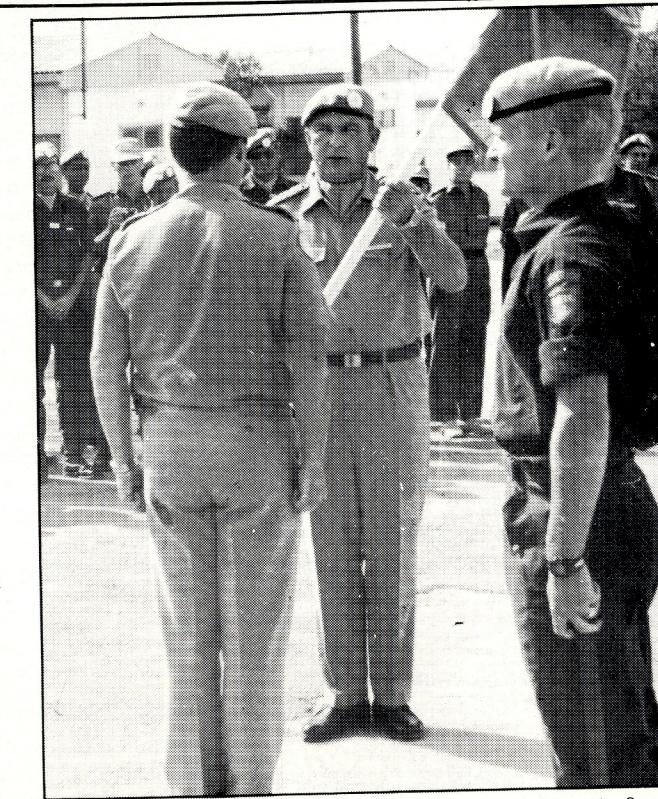
Christmas is also the time when our families and kins congregate. This year most of us will have to celebrate far away from our beloved ones. Therefore, let us all take real good care of one another, rejoice and enjoy ourselves together.

To all you members of other UNFICYP contingents we offer our sincere friendship and to all of you we also wish

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

INTERVIEW WITH THE SWEDCON COMMANDER

By Lieutenant Bosse Andersson



The Swedish Commander Lt Col Bo Pellnaes officially takes over from the Swedish Battalion 82C

The thought of serving with the UN is fairly new to him.

"Or let me put it this way. You don't apply for a post as Commander. You get asked. But when they asked me I gladly answered 'Yes'.

Apart from his military career he has two main interests. Poetry and cooking.

"Unfortunately you can tell that second interest from my looks, but here in Cyprus I won't stand at the stove. I'm quite pleased with the delicious food our own cooks can offer".

So far the Swedish Commander is pleased with his stay in Cyprus. But he has got one big worry.

"The motorcycles. I have nightmares about young boys getting hurt in accidents. Still I don't want to ban them completely. I prefer educating our boys in how to handle them. And to trust their common sense. That is usually the best way: to trust people".

Lt Col Pellnaes respects the work done by the battalion's predecessors very much.

"They have done a very good job. But I do not think that my boys will be less successful in our mission. I'm very satisfied with what I have seen so far".

CHRISTMAS RECIPES FROM THE CONTINGENT

In Britain, the traditional Christmas meal is served on 25th December — roast turkey with stuffing, cranberry and bread sauces and vegetables including roast potatoes and sprouts, followed by Christmas Pudding which is made anything up to a year before Christmas, and cream or Brandy Butter. The table may be decorated with crackers — coloured paper and cardboard containing a small gift, paper hat and joke or riddle, which derive their name from the noise they make when they are pulled.

CHRISTMAS PUDDING
(Serves 12 - 16)

Ingredients:

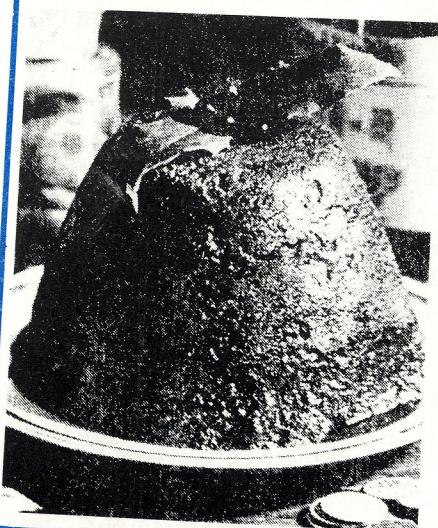
100 g. flour
50 g. breadcrumbs
1 teaspoon mixed spice
1 level teaspoon cinnamon
1 level teaspoon nutmeg
100 g. shredded suet
100 g. brown sugar
100 g. grated apple
1 small carrot, grated
100 g. mixed crystallised peel
100 g. currants
200 g. raisins
100 g. sultanas
50 g. prunes or dried apricots, chopped
grated rind of 1/2 lemon
juice of 1/2 lemon
grated rind of 1/2 orange
1 tablespoon golden syrup
125 ml. ale, beer or milk
2 eggs

Brandy butter

100 g. butter
150 g. icing sugar
2 tablespoons brandy

Method:

Mix the ingredients and leave overnight, and then stir again. (The mixture



must be stiff, but not dry). At this point it is traditional for all the household to give the pudding an extra stir, and to make a secret wish. A silver coin (boiled beforehand) is added to the mixture and it will bring luck to the person who finds it in their portion of the pudding. Put into a greased pudding basin or basins, depending on how many puddings you wish to make and cover with foil, greaseproof paper or a cloth. Grease both the inside and outside of the paper to keep the pudding dry on top. Steam or boil for 6-8 hours, allowing longer for one pudding. Remove the covers when cooked, then put on dry covers and store. Re-steam for 2-3 hours when needed.

For the brandy butter, cream the butter and icing sugar together and beat in the brandy. For a stronger — and even more delicious! — sauce, add more brandy until the mixture threatens to curdle.

To serve, pour a couple of tablespoons of brandy over the pudding and set it alight. The brandy sauce may then be served separately or spooned over the pudding once the flames have died down.

DANISH GLOG

A bottle of red wine
8 oz sugar
a stick of cinnamon
a handful of raisins
a handful of almonds and
4 cloves

Pour the wine and all the other ingredients in an enamel pot. Heat it while stirring but don't let it boil.

Serve in toddy glasses, drink it steaming hot and eat the raisins and almonds with a teaspoon.

Skål!

CODDLE: (An Old Dublin Dish)

INGREDIENTS

18 Potatoes Medium Size
6 Sausages
6 Small Onions
6 Rashers
3oz Carrots
6 Rings Black Pudding (1oz each)
6 Rings White Pudding (1oz each)
6 oz Liver cut into 1 oz pieces
Salt to taste

Method

Wash and Peel Potatoes. Put Potatoes into a pot. Just cover with water, add Vegetables and pinch of salt. Bring to boil, simmer for one hour. Add Sausage, Black Pudding, White Pudding and Liver. Simmer 1/2 hr. Remove rind from Rashers and add Rashers. Cover with lid and simmer for one hour. Test for Seasoning. Serve with Guinness.

INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK



ring, the typical Swedish dish that you find not only at Christmas. You can prepare the herring in a lot of ways. This is one of them:

PICKLED HERRING

Rinse five salt fillets under running water. Put them into cold water for 24 hours. Let them drain and put them in layers with three sliced onions, half a sliced leek and a sliced carrot together with some allspice. Make up a liquid from 1 litre of water, 4 dl sugar, 2 teaspoons salt, 1 teaspoon white pepper and vinegar. Leave the herrings in the liquid for at least 48 hours. Slice them in pieces of half an inch.

SWEDISH SMORGASBORD

The traditional Finnish Christmas dinner is served on Christmas Eve. The entree is usually a Scandinavian type smorgasbord with plenty of herring and cold cuts. The main course is traditionally a cooked ham with boiled prunes, green peas and potato and swede pudding. There may also be a dish called "lipeakala" — lutefish in English. Consuming this singularly foul-smelling and vile-tasting grub takes a lot of Finnish "sisu".

The dinner is rounded off with rice pudding with an almond in it. According to the ancient belief, the finder of the almond will be married in the course of the com-

CANADIAN MOOSE MILK
(Serves 100 people)

2 40 oz Dark Rum
2 26 oz Tia Maria
2 26 oz Cognac
12 Quarts Egg Nog
2 Gallons Vanilla Ice

Stir until silly and serve lots!



TUUVINKI or Potato pudding

Ingredients:

2 kilograms of potatoes
Water
3-4 tablespoons wheat flour
1 tablespoon salt
3/4 litre milk
3 tablespoons butter

Preparation:

1. Boil potatoes in unsalted water. Peel when hot and mash.

2. Mix the flour in the mash and let sweeten in a warm place for 2-3 hours. When the mash is soft and has a sweetish taste, add salt, milk and butter.
3. Pour the mixture into buttered baking dishes. Do not fill to brim because TUUVINKI will boil in the oven.
4. Cook the TUUVINKI slowly in 150° Centigrade until done after 3-4 hours.

LANTTULAATIKKO
or Swede pudding

SWEDCON will be relieved to know that for this dish Finns only use a certain type of swede, e.g. the yellow turnip-like beet also called rutabaga.

Ingredients:

1 big swede
a pinch of salt
1 decilitre double cream
1/2 decilitre bread crumbs
2 eggs
ca. 1/2 decilitre syrup
pinch of ground nutmeg

Preparation:

1. Boil the skinned, chopped-up swede in lightly salted water until soft. Keep the water.
2. Let excess water run off the pieces. Mash. Mix breadcrumbs into the cream and let stand a few minutes, add to mash.
3. Beat the eggs and add to mixture. Season with syrup and nutmeg. The mixture should be like loose porridge. If not, add some of the cooking water.
4. Butter a baking dish and pour mixture into it. Decorate the surface using a spoon.
5. Cook for one hour at 175° Centigrade.

For drinks try the simple, wholesome beverage called POLAR COCKTAIL:

Take a bottle of 60% Finlandia Vodka and a pair of warm mittens. Select a spot with about three feet of snow, put on the mittens and wade in. Take a healthy swig from the bottle and start shovelling snow into your mouth while watching the Northern Lights, which are guaranteed to appear.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

(A note from UNFICYP Road Safety Committee: If you are going to try this in Troodos, take a driver!)

UNFICYP — TENNIS COMPETITION

By 2Lt Nick Wilkes

November heralded the beginning of the adverse weather in Nicosia, but it also brought another and much brighter prospect, that of the UNFICYP Tennis Competition. Entries came in from Sectors 1, 4, 5, 6, Support Regiment, HQ UNFICYP, AUSTCIVPOL and the Force Scout Car Squadron and at 0830 on Thursday 10 November everyone gathered for the draw.

In the singles competition the early matches produced one upset as Lt Jean of Sector 4 was knocked out by Pte Johansson of Sector 5. The matches were of such a high standard as to ensure excellent finals in both the singles and doubles competitions. When the quarter finals finished we were left with four players of very high quality: Capt Heroux of Sector 4, Lt Bruce and WO2 Orszewski of Support Regiment and S/Sgt Hurmann of Sector 6. In the first semi-final WO2 Orszewski came out with some classic textbook tennis but was unable to combat the severe topspin and deep probing shots of Capt Heroux and he finally went down 3—6, 3—6. In the other semi-final Lt Bruce took command in the first set and took it comfortably 6—3. Then S/Sgt Hurmann began to concentrate and play the stylish controlled tennis which we had seen in his earlier matches. This style secured the second set convincingly 6—1. The third set went with serve until the seventh game when Hurmann broke the Bruce serve. Again, the controlled shots flowed and Hurmann ran out the winner 3—6, 6—1, 6—3.



The Chief of Staff presents S/Sgt Hurmann of Sector 6 with his prize for winning the singles competition.

The final was all set to be a fast moving ding-dong battle. S/Sgt Hurmann, sporting tracksuit for the whole of the match, began to play some of the exciting, athletic shots which we had seen before. Unfortunately, Capt Heroux never quite showed the form which had won him through to the final and in the end the "Flying Austrian" came out to be the winner 6—2, 6—4.

In the doubles competition, the favourites were the Canadian pairing of Cpl Attenborough and M/Cpl Sullivan. They reached the final, only after surviving a fine semi-final against 2Lt Hickson and 2Lt Wilkes of the Support Regiment, who as the underdogs took the first set convincingly before going down fighting 6—2, 3—6, 4—6 in a match worthy of the final. In the other semi-final the Swedish pairing of Lt Ohlsson and Pte Claeson had a somewhat easier task against HQ UNFICYP— 6—3, 6—0. In the final the Canadians again lost the first set; however, they settled down into their stride with Cpl Attenborough killing anything at the net whilst M/Cpl Sullivan consistently kept the base line covered. Final result: Sector 4 winners 5—7, 6—3, 6—2.

In the team competition, an interesting situation developed. The winners would be chosen by the number of sets won by the team. In the count, Sector 4 and Support Regiment both won twelve sets and the decision then had to go to the number of games won and Support Regiment came out on top.

A plate competition was run for all first round losers in the singles competition and Lt Jean showed that it had just been

"GREEN LINE" RUN

On Wednesday 19 October 1983 the inter Support Regiment 'Green Line' team relay record was broken by the UNFICYP REME Workshop team in a time of 3 hours 57 minutes 7 seconds, beating the previous record of 4 hours 1 minute 53 seconds held by the founders of the event, 254 (UNFICYP) Signal Squadron.

The distance is some 43 miles of undulating territory starting from the 254 Signal Squadron re-bro station on Troodos and finishing at the Mercury Club in Jubilee Camp. Ten people made up the team, with each leg of the distance being of a minimum of 3½ miles and a maximum of 5

miles. The complete team must run over the final 1 mile into Jubilee Camp.

The REME team commenced their attempt at 0323 hours and the team consisted of: Lt Bruce
WO2 Orszewski
Sgts Baker
Monahan
Cpl Morrow
Chavasse
Cassel
LCpl Tucker
Cfns Egerton and Lee



**Blue
Beret
SPORT**



The Support Regiment team, from left to right: WO2 Orszewski; Lt Bruce; 2Lt Wilkes and 2Lt Hickson.

an off-day on Thursday by winning through to the final and beating S/Sgt Aldridge of AUSTCIVPOL in straight sets 7—5, 7—5.

Finally, thanks to the organisers from Support Regiment for ensuring that everything ran smoothly and to the Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Hewson for presenting the prizes.

CAMBRAI DAY AT THE SCOUT CAR SQUADRON

(or MORE STRANGE BRITISH TRADITIONS)

By Captain Mark Outhwaite

Photograph by Sergeant Hodgetts



By the time that you read this article Christmas will be close at hand and your minds will be concentrating on the coming festivities. But for the 'Tankies' of B Squadron 4 RTR, the UNFICYP Scout Car Squadron, our big celebration of the year will have just passed and Christmas will be a pale shadow of our Cambrai Day activities.

The 21 November 1917 saw the first major use of tanks in battle, at Cambrai. The Royal Tank Regiments celebrate this, their first victory, every year on or about the 20 November wherever they may be stationed around the world. It is, traditionally, the soldiers' day and a hazardous one for the SNCOS and Officers!

Early in the morning the troops are woken by Gunfire—the Officers and SNCOS bringing around urns of tea and coffee laced with rum and accompanied by a piper, much as was done on the mornings before battle was joined. Last year, this was performed at Edinburgh Castle whilst the squadron was on ceremonial guard. The urns of hot drink were carried up the Castle parade to the great doors on the drawbridge, which were firmly closed. So idyllic was the scene that the gunfire party failed to notice retribution on the battlements above and were deluged by several gallons of ice-cold water!

Gunfire is worked off by a short parade and drum-head service followed by an inter squadron or inter troop football competition to work up an appetite. Lunch or dinner is served to the troopers and junior NCOs by the officers and senior ranks—again this can be a hazardous affair for those serving. Last year the squadron second in command was hijacked to the kitchen pan wash and given a bath in baked beans for not being fast enough with the pudding.

This year the finale will have been the Rocky Horror Show, an evening of 'light' entertainment by the troops in cabaret style—who knows what pleasures are in store?

So while you make merry, the Scout Car Squadron will celebrate slightly more gently—we are just waiting for Hogmanay! Watch out for the First Footers!



Trooper Piper Ron Findlay, who accompanied the officers and SNCOS in their early morning Cambrai Day activities



UN NEWS



Message from the Force Commander for Christmas 1983

We have come to another season of Christmas and New Year during our service for peace in Cyprus. Although this time of the year is traditionally an occasion for reunions with family and loved ones, for a great majority of you this will not be possible as you will be continuing to serve the cause of peace here. It is also a good time to reflect on the past year and for me to thank you all for your continuous efforts in assisting in maintaining peace on the island by carrying out your duties for UNFICYP in a professional and courteous manner. Furthermore, I would also like to thank all the civilian personnel who have also contributed to the smooth running of the Force.

I wish to take this opportunity to express to all of you and your families my warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy, successful New Year.



NEW CAO FOR UNFICYP

Mr. Douglas Manson, a Scot, arrived in Cyprus on 6 November 1983 to assume the functions of Chief Administrative Officer. Prior to joining the United Nations in 1962 Mr. Manson was a regular officer in the British Army. During his military service he served in India, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Congo and Malaya. He commanded No. 3 Troop, A Squadron, 22nd SAS Regiment during the years 1950-52 and served with that regiment in Malaya.

In July 1962 Mr. Manson joined the United Nations Operations in the Congo (ONUC) and after filling

various civilian posts was appointed Chief General Services. In 1966 he was transferred to UNDP in Khartoum, Sudan and later served UNDP in India and Jordan and Juba (South Sudan). From 1978 until his arrival in Cyprus, Mr. Manson was the Director of Administration at the United Nations University in Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Manson is accompanied by his wife, Houda, and their son, Jamie, who is a second year student at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana will visit Cyprus during the Christmas vacation.



The outgoing CAO, Mr James Whyte, says "goodbye" to Chief of Staff, Brig Gen Hewson.



Mr Douglas Manson