



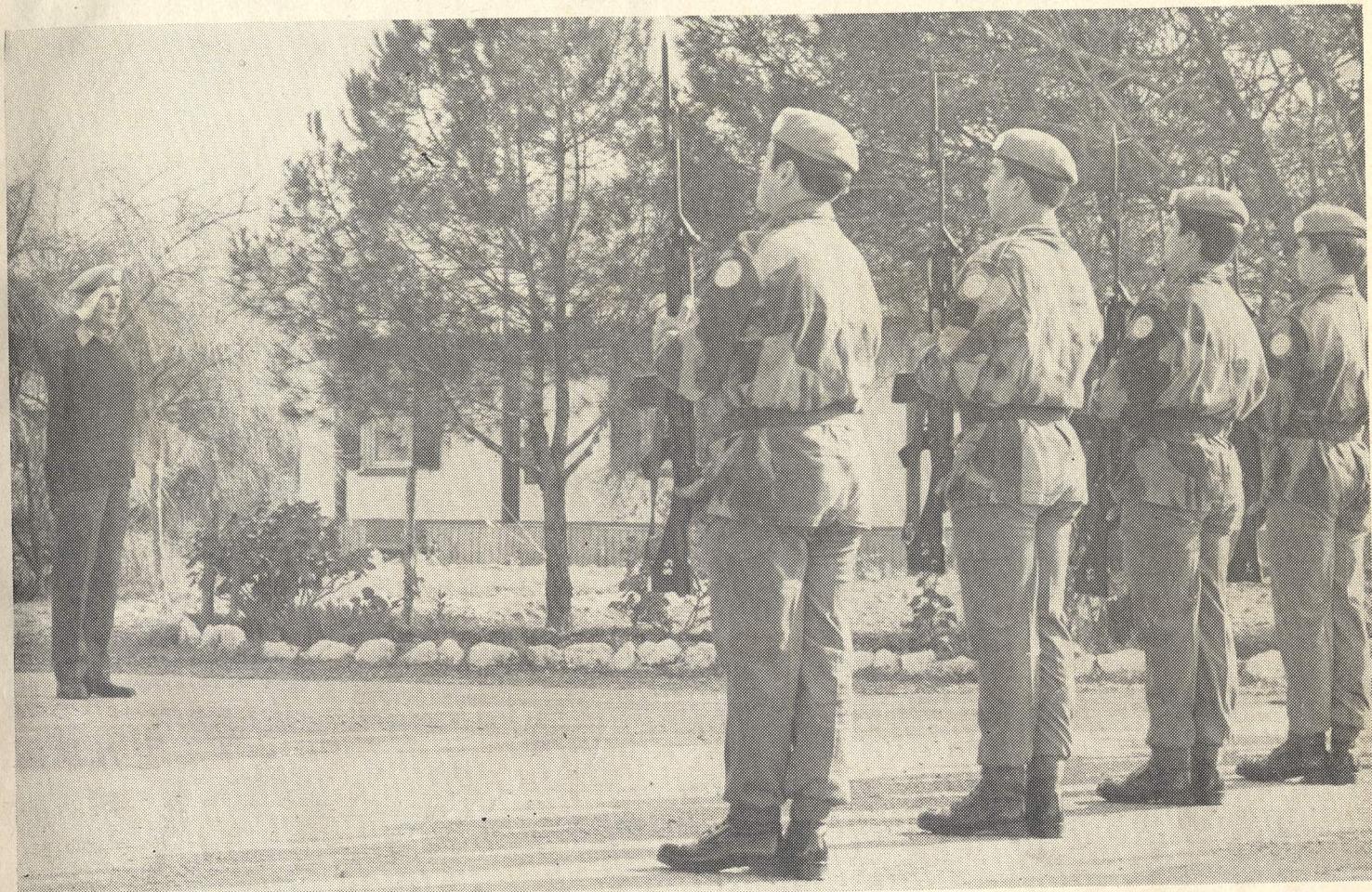
The Blue Beret

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GENERAL QUINN VISITS ALL CONTINGENTS



Major General J.J. Quinn inspecting a Guard of Honour of the 1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment on his first visit to St Davids Camp.

ADC's Change Over



Since taking over command of the Force on 18th December 1976, the new Force Commander Major General J.J. Quinn has been round each of the Sectors to visit the Battalion, to see at first hand what they are doing and what problems exist. This edition of the BLUE BERET shows that, as is the normal military custom, he was welcomed in every camp by a Guard of Honour. There has not been time for him to visit every unit in the Force yet, but he plans to do so by the end of this month.

Last week-end Captain J. Ratia handed over the duties of ADC to the Force Commander to Captain L. Bonthron. Captain Bonthron has come to the Headquarters from the Swedish Contingent where he has been one of the operational duty officers in the Battalion Headquarters since coming to Cyprus on 8th October 1976. He is the third Swedish officer to be the ADC to the Force Commander.

Captain Ratia has had a very busy year as the last ADC to General Prem Chand and the first to General Quinn. He is also a good sportsman and has taken part in every competition he could.

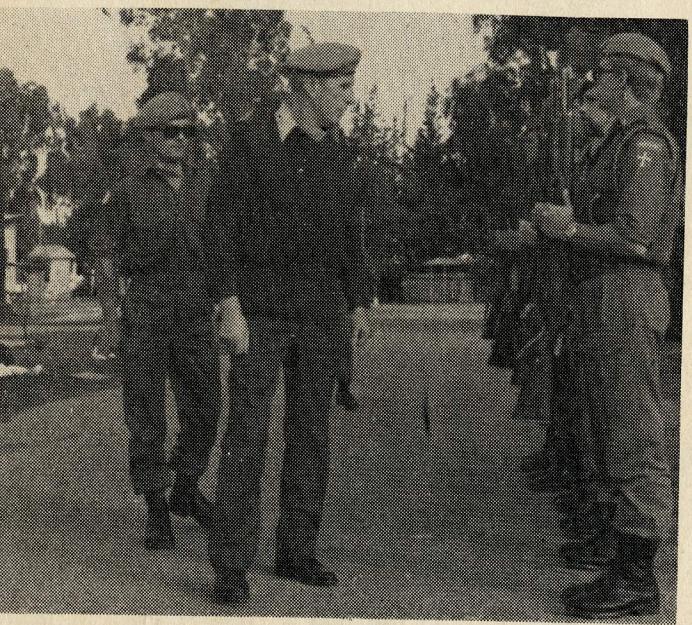
General Quinn is, of course, no stranger to Cyprus or the Force since he was here in 1965 and 1966 as the Assistant Chief of Staff. All the same, since then there have been many changes of organisation and disposition in the Force.

During these visits to the Contingents the Force Commander has been very impressed by the dedication and efficiency shown by everyone he has met, particularly by the junior commanders in the Observation Posts and on patrols.

DANCON



NEWS



Den 23 december aflagde Force Commander, MAJ GEN. Quinn besøg ved DANCON. Generalen ses her inspicere esvagten.

Major General J.J. Quinn visited the Danish Contingent on 23 December for the first time. He is seen above inspecting a Guard Honour after he arrived.



Den 31 DEC blev "Vinterbadningen" afholdt ved DANSBORG under AUSTCIVPOL har til huse. Der var mødt fantastisk mange til den store højtidelighed, hvor døbebhestyrelsen ikke lagde mere imellem.

KING NEPTUNE had as usual invited the Vikings for a swim the 31 DEC, and CO DANCON was, as every year, his first t.



Den 25 december var DANCON vært ved en frokost for Den Danske Ambassador i Mellemøsten Hr. Thorning — Petersen. Ambassadoren taler her til de mange danske tjenstgørende.

Mr. Thorning-Petersen the Danish Ambassador visited Viking Camp on Christmas Day, and was pictured talking to the Danish soldiers during lunch.



Traditionen tro måtte CH/DANCON først i vandet. CH/DANCON ses her under de indledende "øvelser".

COLD ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE POLAR BEAR CLUB

The Swedish Polar Bear Swimming Club held its annual meeting on 24th December. Just over 200 new members joined by taking a dip in the Mediterranean at the White Arches Hotel a few miles north of Famagusta. The soldiers came prepared to join the club in different ways. Vehicle mechanic Steve Höglund was dressed properly — for such an occasion in UNFICYP — with umbrella and beret. The alert force marched into the sea waring their helmets encouraged by a lively tune on a trumpet.

All the new members received diplomas to mark the occasion, and — perhaps more essential at the time — a glass of warm glögg to drink as they came out of the water. The temperature, in fact, was not much colder than it is in the Swedish lakes in summer. When all the swimmers had returned to camp, the sports officer had his own swim and wondered, when he came out of the water onto the cold and windy beach, how he had managed to persuade so many to join the Polar Bear Swimming Club.



NEW FORCE COMMANDER VISITS ST DAVIDS CAMP



Lieutenant Colonel Brierley and the Force Commander in St Davids Camp.

CHRISTMAS IN BRITCON



As usual the British Contingent celebrated Christmas Day in the traditional manner. One of the highlights of the day was the dinner, which was served to the junior NCOs and soldiers by the Senior NCOs and officers. Staff Sergeant Pound was pictured above serving some of the off duty drivers of 38 Squadron at the dinner in Camp UNFICYP. A similar dinner took place in St Davids Camp, after the CO had been round to visit all the soldiers who had to remain on duty in their OPs.

On New Years Eve the Parachute Regiment held a concert in the St David Camp "Palladium", at which the pipers of the 3rd Battalion of The Royal Canadian Regiment (see left) were very popular visitors. Other acts were provided by Private 'Slim' Culhane and Captain Mike Summers. The concert ended with the Canadian Pipe Band playing in the New Year.



FIRST VISIT TO AUSCON



The FC MajGen J.J. Quinn visited Sector 5 for the first time on the 30 Dec 76 and was briefed by Lt Col Fritz on the situation.

PASST!



It fits — or eat less!

Dieses kurze und vielsagende Wort ist vermutlich in den Bekleidungskammern aller Armeen bekannt. Doch man staune, unserm Bekleidungs UO OStv J. Ortner und seinem Assistenten Zgf W. Gatterer ist es fremd. Sie bemühen sich tatsächlich und mit Erfolg auch Individualwünsche zu berücksichtigen. Nicht immer leicht für die beiden, sowohl von den einschlägigen Vorschriften, als auch von den Möglichkeiten der Lagerbestände her gesehen, ganz abgesehen von den äußerst individuellen Körperformen unserer "Hobby — Esser".



The OP-crew of UN OP A-18 built a replica of the Holy Family and crib out of stone.

"WEISSE WEINACHT"



No snow, but hailstones in December, sufficient for snowball throwing.

Am 30. Dez. 1976 stattete der neue Force Commander, Major-General J.J. QUINN dem AUSCON seinen ersten Besuch ab. Der FC inspizierte einige OPs in der Pufferzone und wurde vom Kontingentskommandanten des AUSCON, Obstlt Fritz, dem Ops-A Hptm Bauer und Ops-E Hptm Sintler in die Lage eingewiesen. Im Bild der FC MajGen J.J. Quinn und Obstlt Fritz am OP A-01.

STEINKRIPPE AUF 220

Mit ganz besonderem Fleiß und Geschick wurde von ObWm Nothdurft, Wm Buchberger und der OP-Crew von A-18 eine wunderschöne Weihnachtskrippe aus Steinen hergestellt. Durch Verwendung dieses "Naturmaterials" bekam die Krippe ein besonders natürliches Aussehen und würde von jeder Jury einen Spitzenplatz erhalten. Nachdem es leider keine Preisverteilung gibt, gratulieren wir auf diesem Wege herzlichst.

FORCE COMMANDERS FIRST VISIT



General Quinn inspecting his first Canadian Guard of Honour as Force Commander.

CHRISTMAS IN CANCON



The midnight service on Christmas Eve.



Lt Col Ells helping to serve Christmas Lunch.

CANCON NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR from the Canadian Contingent! The last few weeks have been busy ones for us. Before Christmas we were honoured by a visit from the new Force Commander, Maj Gen Quinn.

Then, on 24 December our Christmas celebrations began with an ecumenical Christmas Eve Church service. Held in the Holy Cross Church just inside the Paphos Gate, the service was attended, not only by Canadians but by many members of other Contingents as well.

On Christmas day Officers and Senior NCO's manned the

OP's and Command Posts to free as many soldiers as possible for the Christmas Dinner. In keeping with tradition, the dinner was served by Officers and NCO's.

Our New Year was ushered in by the welcome arrival of the cast of the Rothman's Show. This is a troupe of Canadian performers who every year visit and perform for Canadian troops serving overseas. They arrived in Cyprus after already having visited our serviceman in Germany, Egypt, and Syria. Their performance was appreciated and greatly enjoyed by all.



The Rothman Show.

Lakimiehet tutustuvat Finconiin

English Summary

The New Year was welcomed by the Finnish Contingent in the traditional manner, with parties for those off duty in all the Messes. The most important part of the celebrations was the fortune-telling with melted tin. Colonel Lopmeri, the recently promoted Commander of the Finnish Contingent, was pictured throwing hot liquid tin into a bucket full of cold water. Sr Lt Sarasto and Mil Offl T Alen are seen watching the Colonel's technique. The New Year also brought some senior visitors to FINCON. Four of Finland's top lawyers arrived in Cyprus on 3rd January. They stayed with FINCON for a week, before continuing their tour of the Middle East with a visit to the Finnish Battalion in Sinai. The visitors are seen with the Commanding Officer in front of the Officers Mess. They are from the left,

OFFICERS MESS



Capt P. Cleve (legal adviser of Fincon), Mr T. Jokinen, Mr K. Artema, Col A.O. Lopmeri, Mr E. Svinhufvud, Mr H. Huusonen and CLO Major M. Luukanen.

VUOSI VAIHTUI FINCONISSA



Vuoden vaihde on nyt takana pääin ja sen mukana monet tärkeät tapahtumat. Saarella olevien YK-joukkojen komentaja vaihtui, kenraali Prem Chandin tilalle tuli irriläntilainen kenraali J. Quinn. Itse vuoden vaihtuminen oli tietysti se tärkeä tapaus. Sitä juhlistettiin meri heittää tinan vesisankoon —

liekki kysymyksessä oman vaikko pataljoonan tulevaisuuden povaaminen. Silmä tarkkana seuraavat yli Sarasto ja postimestari.

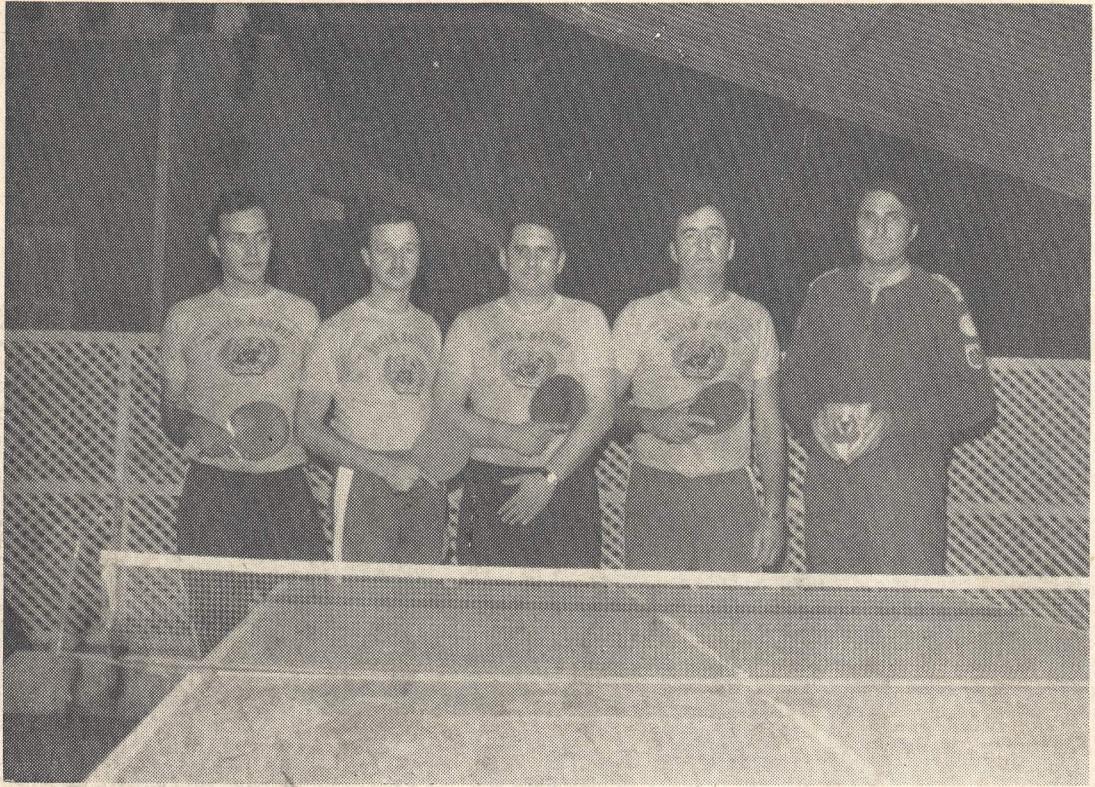
Uusi vuosi alkoi komeasti tärkeällä vierailulla. Neljä lakimiestä saapui Suomesta 03.09 tarkastusmatkalle Finconin, josta he perinteiseen tapaan eri messeis-

FINCON NEWS

sä. Tinan valanta on aina kuulunut oloennaisena osana suomalaisen uuden vuoden juhlaan. Tätä perinnettä ei unohdettu ulkomailtaan. Alakuvassa ev O. Lop-

jatkoivat sunnuntaina 09.01. matkaa Siinaille. Käynnin aikana tutustuttiin pataljoonan toimintaan ja keskusteltiin monista ajankohtaisista ongelmista. Yläkyvassa koko joukko ryhmäpotretissa, vas. oikeusupseeri kapt P. Cleve, osastosihteeri T. Jokinen, assessori K. Artema, ev O. Lopmeri, oikeuspormestari E. Svinhufvud, vanhempi hallintosihteeri H. Huusonen ja huoltapäällikkö maj M. Luukanen.

UNCIVPOL NEWS



THE KOP INN'S TREE



The Kop Inn in the Headquarters was properly decorated for the festive season, and at the appropriate time the tree was decorated by some of the members of the Secretariat. Mr J.E. Amos is seen in the Kop Inn giving advice on how it should be done.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS

2 Weeks ending 8 Jan	11
Same period last year	7
Total for the year	5
Total for the same period last year	6

LESSON OF THE MONTH
DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

The Austrian Civilian Police have begun their winter table tennis season successfully with a 5:2 win over a local team. The AUSCIVPOL team (seen left) are Sports Officer Inspector Loitzenhauer, Colonel Fuchs, Inspectors Gerzabek, Piaklo and Schmidt.

In the Australian Contingent a move around is about to take place again. One of the forthcoming moves will be that of Inspector Millwood who is leaving the Headquarters and going to Xeros.

The police too celebrate Christmas in the traditional way even to the extent of producing a properly dressed Santa Claus on Christmas Day itself. The picture below was taken during "Inspector Claus" visit to Danskborg.



Santa Claus arrives at the Australian Police Station in Sector One.

Holiday Sport



No holiday season would be complete without a few sporting occasions and Christmas in UNFICYP was no exception. The HQ Sergeant's Mess soccer team has lost its unbeaten record, by losing to 38 Squadron RCT. The hockey pitch has been in use too as the picture above shows.

