



“COME LISTEN TO THE BAND”



The Band of the First Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers is seen above playing once more at a United Nations Medal Parade, on this occasion at the Swedcon Medal Parade on 21 September. The Band, although not part of the United Nations element of the Battalion, has played for nearly all United Nations Medal Parades that have taken place during the Battalion's tour in the island. It has been particularly congratulated on the manner in which it has played each contingent's national tunes in the way they would be played in their home country. In view of the esteem in which the Band is held we have given over the centre spread of this issue to a "Focus on" feature all about the Band.



Yes boys, this is home for the next six months! Members of the 8 CH Advance Party upon arrival in Cyprus.

“FAREWELL 1 PPCLI” “WELCOME 8 C H”

CANCON NEWS



The 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) at 1200 hours on 2 October 1978 officially began their Cyprus tour. Members of the 8 CH from CFB Petawawa, Ontario arrived in Cyprus as early as 22 September. All ranks eagerly look forward to an interesting and successful tour.

The 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry meanwhile have returned to Calgary, Alberta to recommence duties in Canada. To our many friends we bid "Adieu". We will long cherish the experience and friendships gained over the past six months in Cyprus.



Canadian Forces Boeing 707 Aircraft provided the rotation capability of moving the 8 CH to Cyprus and returning 1 PPCLI back to Canada!



L. to R: 8 CH Commanding Officer LCol RS Billings is welcomed on his arrival in Cyprus by the Commanding Officer 1 PPCLI LCol LW Mackenzie. Maj Dick Duchemin looks on.



Members of the 1 PPCLI Advance Party on 22 September returned to Calgary, Canada after a successful tour of UN duty in Cyprus.

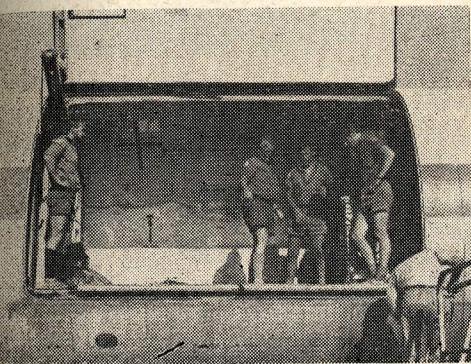
SCACYP FLIGHT



Scacyp is short for Scandinavia — Cyprus. It is the resupply flight from Denmark and Sweden serving Dancon and Swedcon here in Cyprus. It normally operates every fortnight bringing supplies, post and reinforce to the two contingents from their home countries.



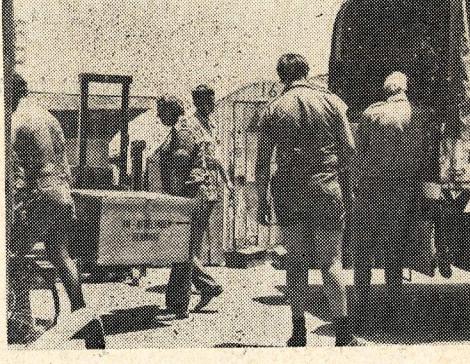
The flight has arrived and unloading has started.



After a lot of hectic work the unloading is nearly over.



When the job is done all the gear has to be tidied up and here the cargo nets are being folded.



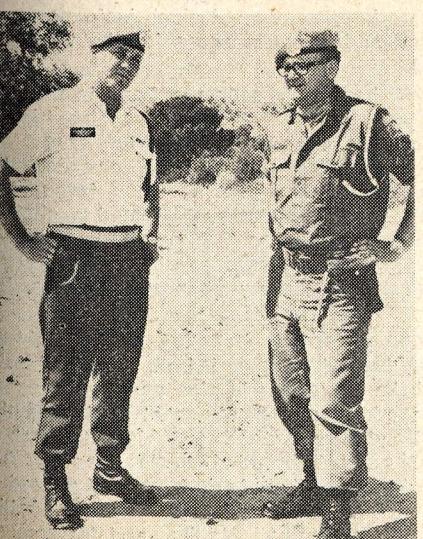
After their road journey the supplies arrive at Xeros and are carried to the store.

GOOD SAMARITANS

Life Saving Medevac

Forest Fire Fighting

At 1100 hours on 23 September a forest fire was observed South of Marathasa Dam. Sector 1 immediately offered help which at first was not required. By 1400 hours the fire had spread and Sector 1's offer of assistance was taken up and 20 soldiers from B Coy were sent to help fight the fire. After four hours the fire was brought under control. One of the Danish soldiers fighting the fire was overcome by smoke but has now fully recovered.

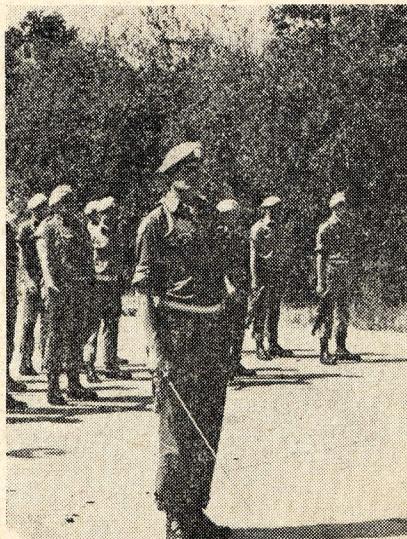


NEW COY COMDS FOR B AND C COYS

Major O. Wedel took over B Coy on 23 September. He is from the Dronningens Livregiment stationed in Aalborg. In the picture he is seen with Lt. Col. W. Elsberg, Comandancon.



Also on 23 September C Coy got a new OC. Major O.D.A. Bruun is from the Falsterske Fodregiment stationed at Vordingborg. He has served with UNFICYP before; in 1964 he was OC A Coy in Nicosia. He has also served with UNTSO for several tours. In the picture he is seen with his sabre in front of his Company when they paraded sabre in front of his Company when they paraded



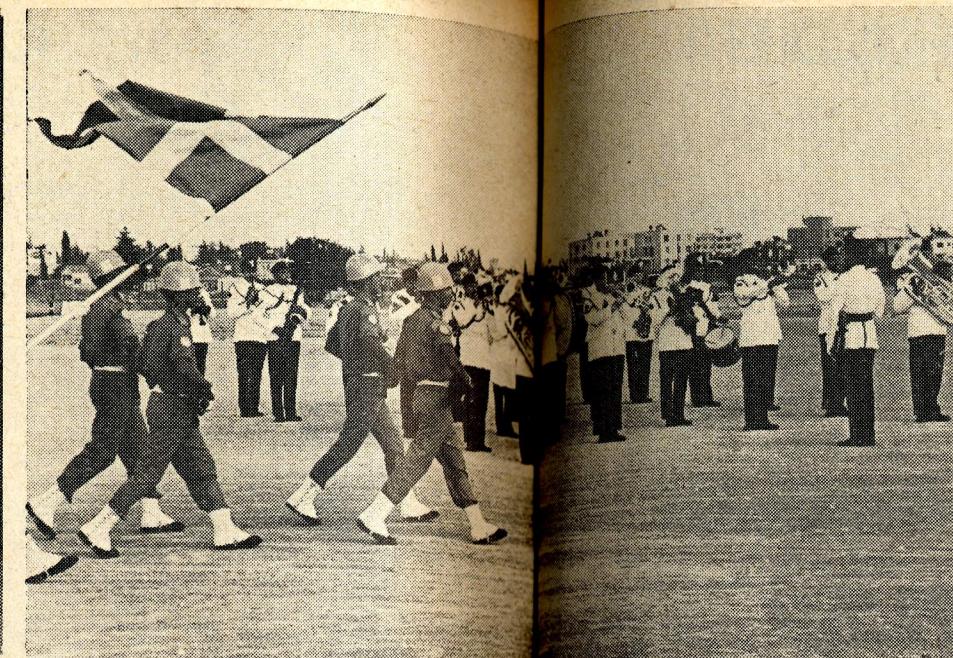
DANCON



NEWS



The Band leading the contingent for the March Past at the Britcon Medal Parade in front of the International Airport terminal building on 4 September.



The Swedcon Medal Parade held in the Sports Stadium of the Academy at Larnaca on Thursday 21 September, the most recent Medal Parade at which the Band has played.



The Dancon Medal Parade held in the Stadium at Evrykhou on 25 August was a most memorable one, taking place as it did in the shadow of the Troodos mountains with the sun setting behind them.



Due to their system of rotation the Austrian Contingent has its Medal Parade every three months and the Band has therefore played for parades on 24 May and 18 August. The Austrians have made their mark on the band as can be seen by the creation of the new "Oompah" Section.

Here in the flesh is the Band's new "Oompah" Section. Hopefully its members look very Austrian as they prepare to take the stage again to give another of their spirited performances.



FOCUS ON - THE BAND OF 1 RRF

Blue Beret readers who have seen or appeared on the Auscon, Britcon, Dancon and Swedcon Medal parades this summer will no doubt have seen and heard the band of the Fusiliers playing at these ceremonial occasions. The Fusiliers therefore thought that an article on the Band would not be out of place as they have played, literally, such a prominent part in the ceremonial life of UNFICYP.

Over the last few years the band of the Fusiliers has grown in popularity in a number of countries in Europe. While stationed in Gibraltar with the Battalion from 1971-3 they were invited to play at the birthday celebrations of King Hassan II of Morocco. They were also in constant demand by the Royal Navy to play the various ships of all nations into and out of port. Royalty played for also included the British Royal Family; the Band played at a charity concert given in the presence of HRH Princess Margaret last November and was present when HM the Queen opened the new National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

The Band by no means restricts its activities to music, its members are fully trained medical assistants and in war would be used as such in field hospitals, and medical centres throughout the combat zone. Though the majority of their time is spent on musical practice and training they do have to carry out other training, such as physical fitness, the same as the other Fusiliers in the Battalion.

As can be imagined the provision of music and instruments is a very expensive operation and the Band receives only a small allowance from the UK Ministry of Defence to help with such purchases. The Band therefore relies upon paid engagements in order to provide the equipment and music with which to carry out their various performances. Musical instruments can cost £1000 or more each and a music score for the whole Band can be as much as £40.

Most people will have only seen the Band in its military role on parade but as part of their charter they also have a dance band, with a jazz section, and whilst in Cyprus have produced an 'Oompah group' — modelled roughly on the excellent Austrian Contingent Trio — which was become a firm favourite wherever it has played. The Band has at times boasted a choir and also on a number of occasions a Pop Group; efforts are being made to reform this group which is always popular and the previous one only collapsed when its members were posted to other bands and depots.

The Band accompanied the battalion on its eighteen month tour in Ulster and helped to guard both the families' married quarters areas and the barracks. It also gave some open air performances in Londonderry and Strabane at Christmas time.

In 1976 the Band was invited to Briequebrac in Northern France to play at the July Liberation celebrations for three days. In addition to this the Band has performed in the Lord Mayor of London's Show and the Wembley Musical Pageant, which is an annual event at Wembley Football Stadium and features over 1000 musicians from the British Army.

There were also the occasions when the Band has been asked to play at concerts and shows given by well known television and theatre personalities. It has played for the Irish singer, Val Doonican, the singer-comedian Ken Dodd and perhaps the best known internationally, Harry Secombe. Harry Secombe has now asked the Band to play for him on three separate occasions.

Whilst in Cyprus the Band has performed all over the island from Famagusta to Evdhimou and from Curium to Nicosia. It can now 'Stand at ease', come to 'Attention', 'Quick march', and 'Halt' in four different languages! In addition, at the request of HQ UNFICYP, it has just completed a recording of the National Anthems of each of the contingents. Apart from the military programme the Band has played at the Larnaca Folk Festival and the International Scout Jamboree whilst the dance section has performed in many clubs and messes throughout the Sovereign Base Areas.

During the last eight years the Band has also produced two long playing records which have featured a variety of music, from military to folk, from light classical to dance, and including our better known regimental tunes like 'Blaydon Races', and 'Keep Your Feet Still Geordy Hinney'.

All military musicians go through quite a long and intensive training which takes place at the Royal Military School of Music at Kneller Hall, just outside London. Musicians are trained here from all arms and corps of the British Army and the basic students' course lasts twelve months, during which time the soldier is taught by mainly civilian music professors. He learns not only his chosen instrument but also the theory of music, harmonisation, music writing and many other aspects of his art that make the course one of the most comprehensive in the world. Later in his career the bandsman may return to Kneller Hall to undergo advanced training. For an apprentice Bandsman the course lasts 3 years! Our own Bandmaster, WO1 T Mulkern, an Irishman, completed his course last year and came to the Fusiliers at the end of 1977. He joined the British Army and spent 11 years with band of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment before going on his Bandmaster's Course.

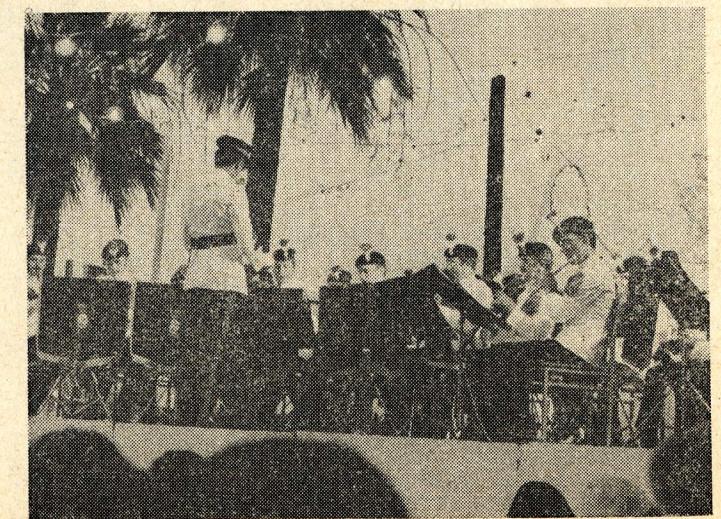
Bands have been official in the British Army since the early nineteenth century, although some regiments had private bands dating back a long time before that. Every infantry battalion in the British Army has its own band which is about 30 strong. The Band, however, should not be confused with the Drums. The Drums of the Battalion were seen on the Britcon Medal Parade leading the march on and were dressed in white jackets with the prominent Fusilier sealskin cap with the red and white horsehair plume. This plume is closely allied to our 'hackle' which the Regiment normally wears in its berets and was taken from the French at the Battle of St. Lucia in the West Indies in 1782. The Drums are a normal rifle platoon who have the extra task of providing a Corps of Drums of soldiers who can play bugles, fifes, glochens, spells and of course drums. In the olden days they marched the regiment into battle, nowadays they are part of one of our rifle

companies and work with the Band on special occasions. The Drums do not perform their musical skills as often as the Band but they did have the unique honour of being invited to take part in the British Army Tattoo that went to Wolf Trap Virginia in July 1976 as part of the 200th Anniversary Celebrations of the United States of America. This was quite an occasion — since it was the Fusiliers who burnt down the White House in the Anglo American War of 1812—1814!

Perhaps this quick glance at the Band and Drums of the First Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers will have whetted your appetite enough to say, 'Well, when can we see them?' Well you are in luck. On Saturday 7th October at 7.30 pm they will be giving a concert in the Makarios III Amphitheatre in Nicosia, next to St. Barnabas School for the Blind (Nicosia Town Plan East, GR WD 324899). The music will include comedy numbers, popular, light classical, folk and some military music. The concert will also feature some special guest artists, including some very attractive folk singers. Tickets for the concert are 500 mils each with part of the proceeds going to charity. You can either get your ticket when you arrive at the Amphitheatre or at one of the many places listed on the Posters that have been circulating for some time.

Do come to the concert — if you have already heard the Band you know you will be well entertained. Why not bring a picnic hamper and really make an evening of it?

Quite a large proportion of the Band's non-military appearances are to play to the visitors at holiday resorts. This pattern has continued in Cyprus, although much abated, and in the picture below the band can be seen entertaining the crowds at a typical engagement at the Larnaca Folk Festival.



SWEDCON MEDAL PARADE

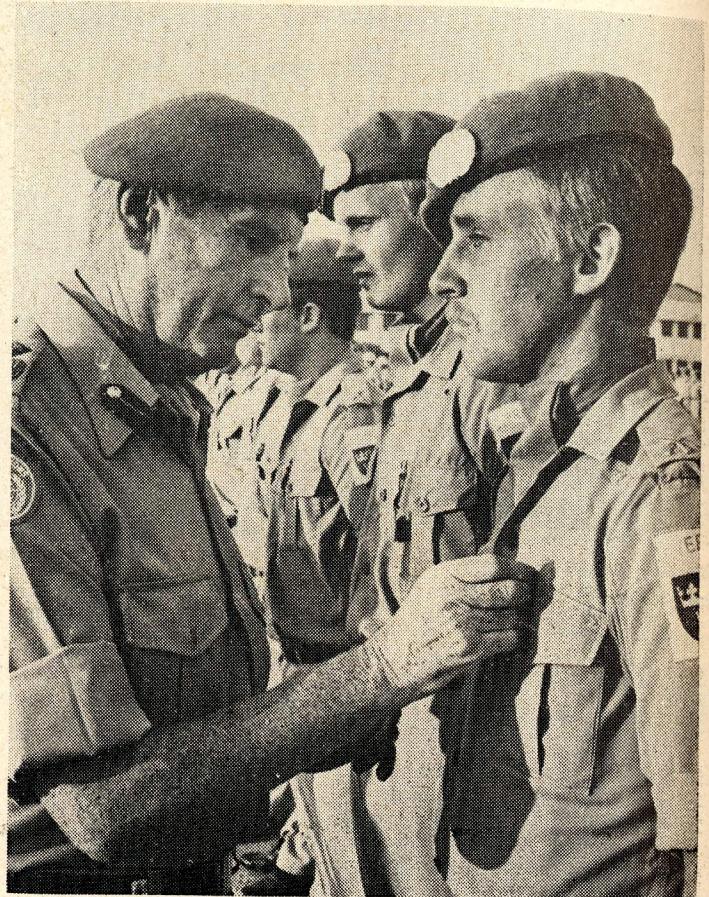


Force Commander, Maj. Gen. J.J. Quinn inspects No. 1 Coy of SWEDCON. On the left of the picture, the Swedish Commander Lt. Col. Lars Wanrud.

In a month's time the Swedish contingent will rotate. UN battalion 69C goes home and 71C takes over. On Thursday 21 September the Swedish "Summer-soldiers" received the tangible reward for their "Service in the cause of Peace" — the UN Medal.

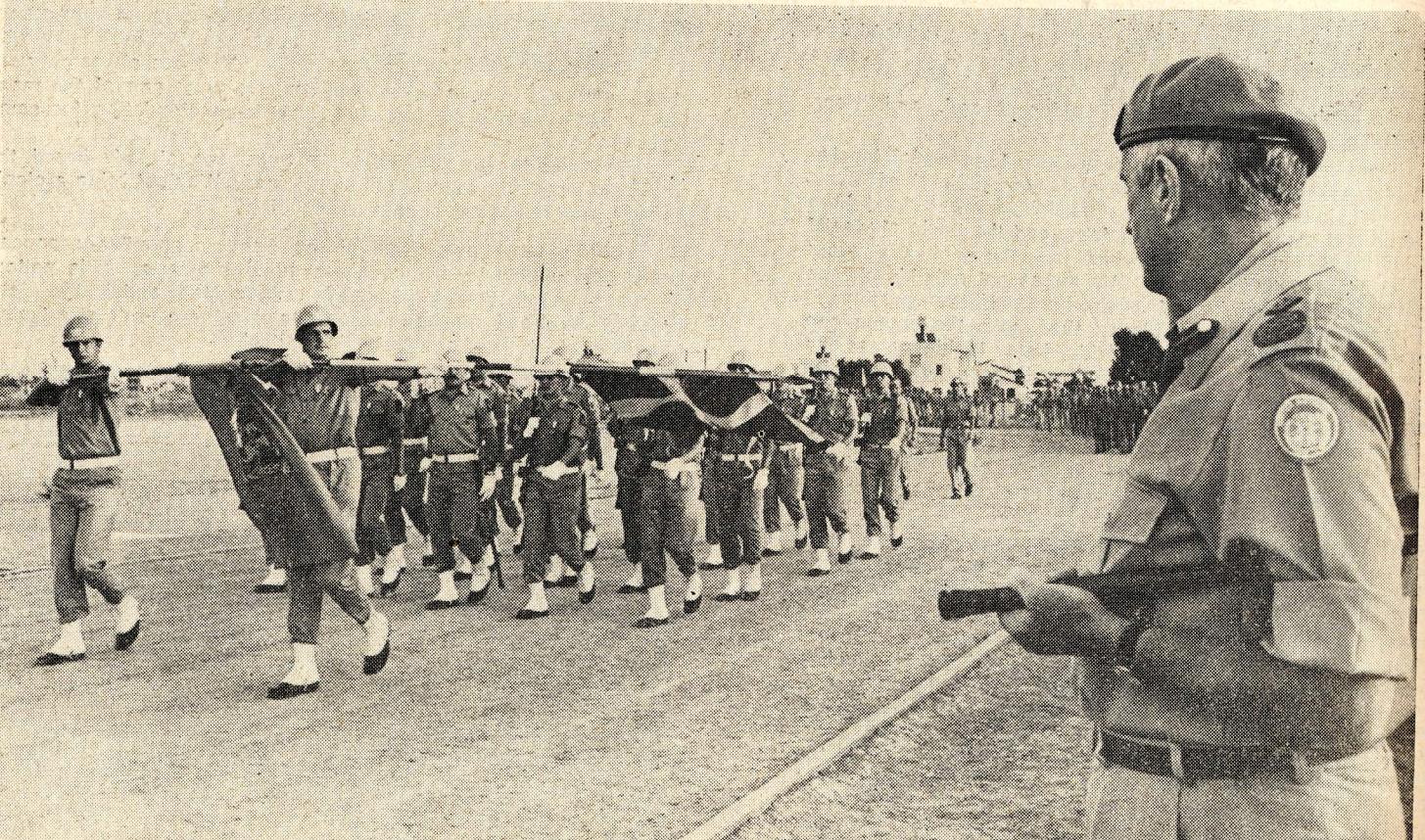
The Medal Parade in Larnaca was very well organised and the programme was completed in about forty minutes. Thanks are due to Lt. Col. Stähle who had rehearsed his men for the whole afternoon on the day before the parade, thus ensuring that they were well prepared to make a good impression on the Force Commander, Maj. Gen. J.J. Quinn and the assembled guests.

In his speech the Force Commander referred back to all that the previous Secretary-



Thomas Andersson, cook at No. 1 Coy, receives his medal from the Force Commander.

SWEDCON
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The Colours are marched past the Force Commander.

OP A 28: "Our Eyes towards the Sea"

It is quite a normal OP with all the usual tasks that the others have, with one addition. It has to observe the Cease Fire Line to seaward. On occasions fishing boats and speed boats cross the line to the North, the fishing boats seeking better fishing grounds and the speed boats probably to look at Varosha. However, the Cease Fire Line continues the division of Cyprus out to international waters. A boat crossing the line is therefore in exactly the same position as any vehicle illegally entering the Buffer Zone. Once it is seen that a boat is about to cross the line a red smoke flare is fired from a Verey pistol by OP A28 as a warning. In the picture a warning flare is being fired by the OP Commander, Sgt Piocek.



OP A28 is also the end of the run for the Force Reserve patrol. The clear blue sea and the rocks below the OP make it a very pleasant stop for them — they almost arrive wearing their snorkels for the dip in the sea they always manage to get!

UN NEWS (Continued from p. 8)

gard to human rights, I have repeatedly expressed my full support for the respect of human rights. I have repeatedly expressed my concern about violations of human rights. I have made appeals in that regard to those Governments which, in my opinion, do violate human rights. And I have done everything I possibly could to help victims of violations of human rights, either through public statements or through quiet approaches to those Governments.

Of course, I have also stressed the fact that we are faced here with a problem because of article 2 of the Charter, which forbids intervention in internal affairs. On the other hand, we have human rights provisions and covenants which oblige us to do whatever is possible to

maintain respect for human rights'.

On Draft Convention aimed at strengthening the security of non-nuclear States as proposed by the Soviet Union.

"I have seen the proposal, of course, and I consider it to be an important one which I am convinced will get the necessary attention during the forthcoming General Assembly. Evidently, non nuclear-weapon states are interested in getting the necessary assurances from the nuclear powers and the purpose of the proposal, so far as I interpret it, is to obtain such assurances".

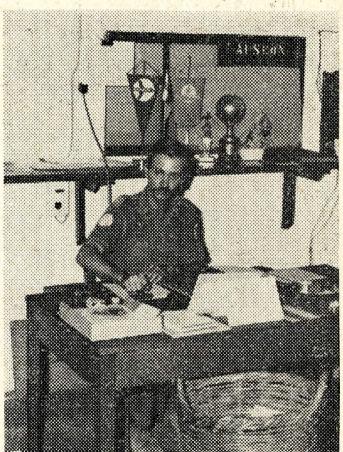
Role of the United Nations in regions of conflict.

"I think that Governments

Wherever we go in Cyprus we need transport and we need it all day and every day. As a result good maintenance is essential. Our workshop crew overcome all the problems and, if necessary, work at all hours of the day to keep us mobile.



AUSCON
NEWS



re and more realise the importance of the United Nations and the useful role it can play in international affairs, especially if the world community is faced with regional conflicts. But the fact is that in most cases, whether in southern Africa, in central America or, in Asia, sooner or later Governments request United Nations involvement. Of course, such involvement can produce positive results only if member-states, especially those countries directly involved in conflict, fully support the United Nations and co-operate with us. I am sorry to say that we have not made much progress in this regard. There is a sort of stalemate. The last meeting of the committee of the whole, which should have agreed on its working methods could not reach agreement on terms of reference. The question is still the same; should the committee be a negotiating body or should it just have monitoring functions. No agreement was reached in that regard and the group of 77 has decided to ask for a debate on this issue in a plenary session. I wish to inform you that in the meantime new efforts have been made in order to overcome this difficulty in the committee of the whole and to find a way out of this dilemma by agreeing on a formula which would satisfy both sides. I cannot tell you whether that will work, but at any rate I wish to express my deep concern about this situation. You know my position, that the outcome of North-South dialogue is of decisive importance for the future of mankind. It is our duty and responsibility in the United Nations to make every effort to overcome difficulties and to achieve a solution to this crucial problem".



UN NEWS



Secretary Generals' Eve of Session Press Conference

At UN HQ New York on 19 September the Secretary General held his traditional press conference on the eve of the 33rd Session of the General Assembly.

Answering the first question on the forthcoming session, the Secretary General said: "It will not be an easy assembly. We have 130 items and we will be faced with most of the problems which at present pre-occupy the world community; with the Middle East, at any rate, certain aspects of it with Cyprus, as every year; with southern Africa, especially in view of the latest developments in regard to Namibia and, of course, very much with the North-South dialogue. You have seen that the committee of the whole unfortunately was unable to agree on its terms of reference. I expect, therefore, that this matter will keep us quite busy during the General Assembly. So we will have a heavy schedule, together with the most important question of disarmament. I expect that a number of concrete proposals will be made in this regard — especially in view of results of the special session on disarmament which took place in the Spring of this year".

On Southern Africa

"It was in that context that I had my recent meeting with Foreign Minister Botha. We discussed the situation thoroughly in the light of recent developments; proposals of the five western members of the Security Council and Survey Mission which I sent to Namibia after the Council took the decision in that regard and in the light of the report I have made to the Security Council. There are a few questions which are still under consideration. As far as South Africa is concerned, it has reservations in regard to the number of United Nations troops which I propose to send there during the interim period until free elections can take place. They also raised the question of the mandate of the police and size of the police force. I have suggested 360 civilian policemen. There is some misunderstanding apparently about the role of these civilian police. I have clarified that their role is to monitor activities of South African police that will remain during the interim period and be responsible for law and order in the country. There is also the question of timing; can independence be achieved by the end of the year as is foreseen by South Africa, or do we need more time? We feel that we need more time, because western proposals foresee seven months for the interim period and elections, after the adoption of my report by the Security Council. We have already lost several

months, and the Security Council still has not acted on my report, so evidently that means that we will probably not be able to maintain the original timetable. The question is now under discussion with the South African Government.

There is also the question of a cease fire which has to be agreed upon in the formal way. That is under discussion with South Africa as well as with SWAPO.

Another aspect is the registration problem. SWAPO and the African States also have expressed serious reservations in regard to the fact that South Africa has started registration of voters before the United Nations Special Representative and his team could be established in the area. United Nations involvement in monitoring the situation during the interim period has not started because the Security Council has not decided yet".

On the Middle East

"I have received from President Carter texts of the two agreements signed at Camp David. I got them late yesterday morning. I have also received an accompanying explanatory letter from the President himself. I can also tell you that this morning I had a telephone conversation with the Secretary of State Mr. Vance, on the same subject and he gave me some details about the background of agreements reached at Camp David. Although I have now studied these texts, I do not feel that it would be appropriate for me to comment on them in detail at this time, when further steps are being taken to follow up the Camp David meeting.

I fully appreciate the enormous effort which has been made by the three leaders to tackle the problem of the Middle East in face-to-face talks. This has certainly been a dramatic development which will have far-reaching consequences. I have no doubt about that. However, before making determination of the full implications of these agreements one must, of course, weigh the reactions of other parties concerned, whose involvement will be necessary to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. I am indeed in contact with the co-chairman of the Geneva Conference and I feel that this is very important. I do not think that the Geneva Peace Conference has been superseded by recent events. I consider it important to keep that in mind, and I would not exclude the role for the Geneva Peace Conference in the light of further developments at a later stage.

I said at the beginning that what we have witnessed in the last days is a dramatic development which will have far-reaching

consequences, and I wish to repeat this. But, we cannot really make a final judgement without knowing the positions of the other parties. Clearly, if one wants a comprehensive peace agreement one must know the attitude of others who have to participate in such a process, and, as you can see, there are different views — some positive, others negative. As yet we do not have the views of one or two very important parties in the area.

I also referred to the announcement that Mr. Vance is going to visit a number of countries in the Middle East, so there is an important development going on also in this regard — I mean in regard to the question of attitude of the other parties to conflict. Only when we know that shall we be able to get a clearer picture of the situation and what the chances for a comprehensive settlement are.

As far as our attitude here in the United Nations is concerned, it is of course not only the Secretary General whose opinion is of importance; it is also the main organs of his organisation, and in the first place the Security Council. Since the two documents were made public yesterday afternoon, you have, no doubt, seen that a considerable role is foreseen for the United Nations in both documents. For instance, one document speaks of the intention that a negotiating process between Egypt and Israel should take place under the flag of the United Nations; and in the framework for a comprehensive peace settlement a number of references are made to the United Nations — to Resolutions 242 and 338, and there are repeated references to a role for the United Nations. I do not have to tell you that such an important involvement will, of course, need a decision by the Security Council before such actions can be taken. In fact, in the framework for a comprehensive peace agreement there is a paragraph referring to the Security Council, requesting the Council to endorse such an agreement.

I continue to consider the Palestine issue as a key issue in the Middle East problem and I think this is understood by the parties concerned. Documents which I have seen refer to the Palestinian issue repeatedly but we will have to see in what concrete way this issue will revolve. Great attention must be paid to this aspect in any future efforts

and I hope that this will be done, keeping fully in mind the decisive importance of this aspect".

On the Situation in Lebanon

"We are involved in a situation in Lebanon in the first place through our peace-keeping operation in southern Lebanon, and also in a peace-making effort. I have a Special Representative in Beirut who is in constant contact with the Lebanese Government. I myself have been in Lebanon to discuss the situation with the Government there.

I think that the fact that we introduced a peace-keeping force in southern Lebanon has certainly contributed to quietening the situation in that area. Of course, we are concerned by the fact that we have not been able, as yet, to restore the authority and sovereignty of the Lebanese Government in southern Lebanon. We are working hard in this regard to get full co-operation of the parties concerned, and I hope that this will be achieved during the next four months".

As far as the general situation is concerned, it remains extremely serious, and this is, of course, mostly because of the confrontation between the different factions in the country and also because of the support which one or other of the factions is getting from abroad. This certainly does not facilitate efforts to achieve peace and normal conditions in Lebanon. Finally, let me say that one cannot isolate Lebanon from the rest of the Middle East, and the outcome of the peace efforts in whatever form they may take will certainly be of the greatest importance for pacification of the situation in Lebanon".

On Cyprus

"I still consider intercommunal talks the most adequate forum for negotiating a peace settlement in Cyprus. The problem facing us now is that no agreement could be reached in regard to the resumption of those talks. We have proposals for settlement from both sides, but there is no agreement in regard to the resumption of these negotiations, and, as the Secretary General, I cannot convene intercommunal talks again as long as one or other party refuses to participate in such negotiations. My Special Representative is in contact with the two sides, and I still hope that difficulties can be ironed out so that we can resume negotiations".

On Human Rights

"You know my position in re-
Continued on p. 7

TRAFFIC STATISTICS

Two weeks ending 30 September 1978	8
Same period last year	8
Total for the year	188
Total same time last year	174

LESSON OF THE FORTNIGHT
Accident don't just happen — there is always a cause.