

THE BLUE BERET



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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. Descriptions of recent local events or visits to places of interest are welcome.

Illustrations are most welcome. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper.

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on the cover

The break of dawn lights up an OP maintaining constant vigilance in the Buffer Zone.

THE
BLUE BERET

Editorial

Your magazine needs your contributions

The reaction to the new format of the magazine has been both encouraging and disappointing. The encouragement has come from complimentary comments that have been made by people who find the magazine much more interesting and enjoyable to read. The great disappointment has been that despite all the complementary comments the editorial staff have not received a single unsolicited contribution either for this issue or for the next which is already on the editorial table.

The contributing editors for the contingents all have tasks other than producing articles for this magazine and their time and ingenuity are limited. No one knows better what you want to read in your magazine than yourselves. So come on, put pen to paper and see your article published in the magazine. Providing articles we receive are newsworthy and are of interest to the Force in general we will guarantee that they are printed, the only limitation being space. If you have an article that would be improved by the addition of photographs we may be able to help.

So come on, the ball is in your court. Let us see some of your work in print in the March issue.

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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO UNFICYP

I send to all the military and civilian personnel of UNFICYP my Christmas greetings and my best wishes for the New Year. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the excellent work done by UNFICYP during the past year. All the contingents of the Force have carried out their important and difficult tasks with exemplary efficiency and devotion. It is my earnest hope that the forthcoming year may bring more stable conditions in the island.



ATTENTION ALL PHILATELISTS

UN Annual Souvenir Folders

Probably the most popular single philatelic item produced by the United Nations Postal Administration today is the annual souvenir folder of United Nations stamps which is printed in two editions at the end of each year — one for New York and one for Geneva. Each folder comes complete with a single mint stamp of each issue enclosed separately in a glassine envelope. It has achieved its popularity over the years for two very good reasons — firstly, it makes an ideal gift among philatelists and, secondly, it is one sure way to buy a single stamp of every issue for the year with a minimum of effort.

The New York souvenir folder started in 1958 and in 1969 the United Nations/Geneva folder made its debut. Like the New York folder, it provides special spaces to insert the stamps and includes a short history of each issue, as well as technical information. The Geneva folder is printed in French, with an English translation; the New York folder is printed in English only.



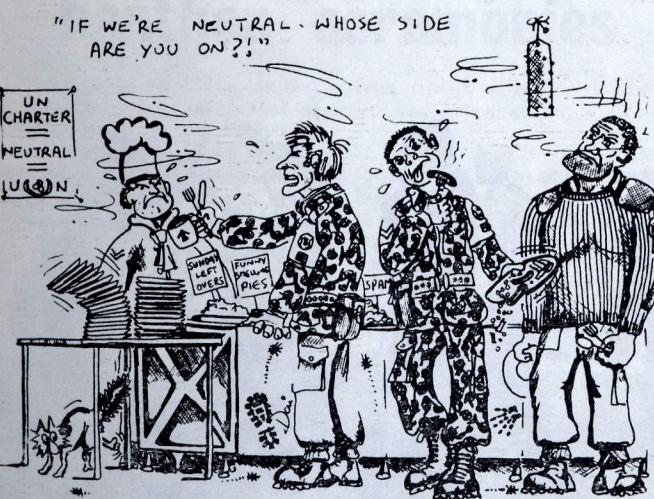
UN Issues Four New Definitive Stamps

The United Nations Postal Administration issued four new definitives on 19 January 1979, in denominations of 5 cents, 14 cents, 15 cents and 20 cents. The 14-cent stamp will cover the new rate for overseas postal cards. The 15-cent definitive will meet the increased rate for first class domestic postage, and 20 cent for the new overseas surface rate.

All of the new stamps feature 26 mm horizontally x 36 mm vertically, perforation to perforation, and are printed in photogravure in initial quantities of 3,000,000 each by Heraclio Fournier S.A., Spain.

The folders, stamps and other philatelic items are on sale at the Finance Section, HQ Nicosia.

KEEP SMILING



"ERE CORPORAL, OIVE FOUND
A RUSTY OLD FRYING PAN"

"AAAAARRRRGGH!"



The Battalion exercising the Regiment's Freedom of the City of Stockton-on-Tees in the traditional manner "with colours flying and bugles sounding".

Carrying out fire-fighting training at their present barracks at Catterick in England prior to the firemens' strike in December 1977.

3 LI in Sector 2

Now well settled into that stretch of country to the west of Nicosia known as Sector 2, is the Headquarters and two Companies of The Third Battalion The Light Infantry.

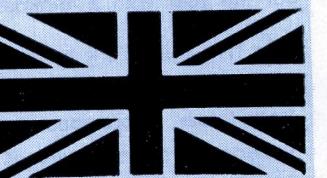
The Light Infantry is a large Regiment, at present of three Battalions, formed on 10 July 1968 from The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry, The Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, The Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, and The Durham Light Infantry. The traditions of these Regiments and

In 1969 it moved to Plymouth

also their old recruiting areas were all passed to The Light Infantry. The Third Battalion was formed (from the First Battalion The Kings Shropshire Light Infantry) in Malacca, Malaysia where it was part of the Commonwealth Brigade. Whilst there the Battalion went for two months in 1968 to Mauritius, off the coast of Africa, to help re-impose law and order after the outbreak of riots and disturbances prior to Independence.

The Battalion returned to Catterick in England in September 1976 where it is likely to stay until early 1980. The stay in Yorkshire has not been uneventful, punctuated by a four month Northern Ireland tour, fire fighting for nine weeks over Christmas and New Year and a six weeks exercise in Kenya in February and March.

On completion of the six months UNFICYP tour, the Battalion will rejoin the families in Catterick only to return to Cyprus again in 1980 for a two year tour in the Sovereign Base Area at Episkopi.

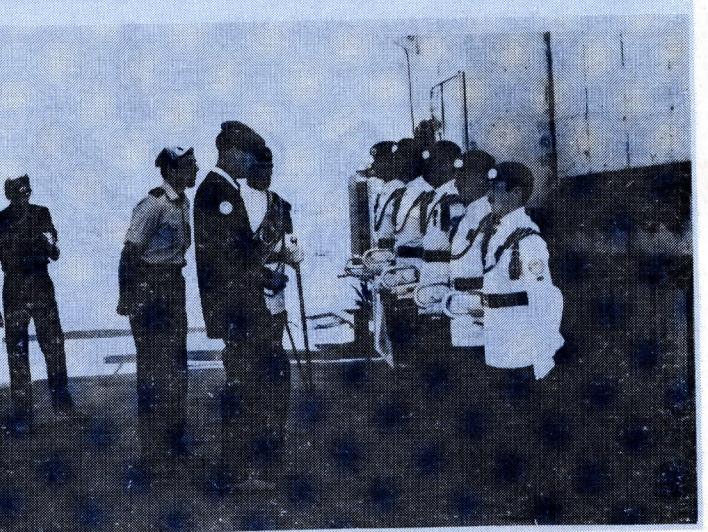


BRITCON

A photograph taken in Kenya during the six weeks exercise there in February and March 1978.



The Chief of Staff, BGEN J A Cotter CD, inspecting the Bugle Guard on arriving at St. David's Camp for his first visit to the Battalion after taking over Sector 2.



How and why the Lucia tradition started in Sweden no one knows for certain. The only thing we do know is that it started in the twelfth century.

Saint Lucia is in fact a Roman Catholic Saint, although very few people in Sweden belong to the Catholic faith. However, the Lucia tradition in Sweden does not really have a religious background. In fact, it is all about the long winter nights and the many hours of darkness. In December daylight lasts only a few hours and the night is dominant. Lucia, dressed all in white and with her bright candles, comes to light this darkness. In view of the purpose of the festival it would seem more likely that it has a heathen rather than a Christian source.

Not only is it not known how and why the tradition started but also why an Italian Saint should have been chosen. However, the Saint having been adopted so also was the old traditional song about her, although in fact it is only the famous tune that is used, the words are quite different.



SWEDCON



Saint Lucia visits Sector 5 OPs before the break of dawn



The age-old heathen ceremonies

Once a year, on 13 December, Sweden celebrates the festival of Saint Lucia. It is not celebrated in the evening as are many festivals but early in the morning, before dawn lights up the skies. Saint Lucia, dressed all in white and wearing a crown surmounted with burning candles, walks around to visit friends and neighbours. Accompanying her is her court, men and boys, also dressed in white, singing her personal hymn.

When she and her court visit a house it is normal for them to be offered something to eat. More often than not it is a saf-

fron bread, specially baked for the one occasion.

The Lucia celebrations go on throughout the early morning hours all over Sweden. It is one of the more popular feasts of the year, despite the fact that the day is not a holiday. Because it is a working day in many offices and factories the staff appoint their own Lucia and have a little party to start the working day.

Normally the Lucia Day coincides with the day on which the annual Nobel Prize Ceremonies are held, as a result many Nobel Prize winners are woken early in the morning by the Lucia at their hotels in Stockholm.



DANCON XXX

Takes Over

The takeover of Dancon XXX which began in Sector One on December, marks the existence of a Danish Contingent in Cyprus for 15 years.

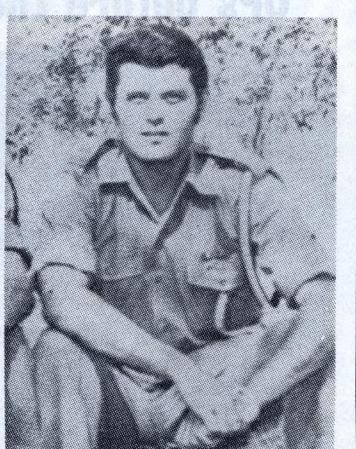
The soldiers of each Danish Contingent are volunteers, with the exception of the officers who are posted here for their tour of duty. The soldiers are recruited from all services, including the Home Guard, so it is a very mixed company which forms the team carrying out the tasks in Sector One.

The UN training for the Danish soldier lasts for two months and this is in addition to his normal military education. After this training every soldier has to serve with the Danish Standby Force for at least one year and it is from this force, of approximately 1,000 men, that the various UN contingents, including that in Cyprus, are formed.

However, Dancon XXX does not consist entirely of "Green" UN soldiers. Approximately half of the 365 men in the Contingent have served in several previous contingents in Cyprus. This is because a Danish soldier is allowed to serve in a UN contingent for two years, only returning to Denmark for short periods of leave. After

completing a 2-year tour of duty in Cyprus he has to return to Denmark for six months but after that can start a further 2-year tour of UN duty. Several soldiers in Dancon XXX are volunteers for such extended periods of UN service.

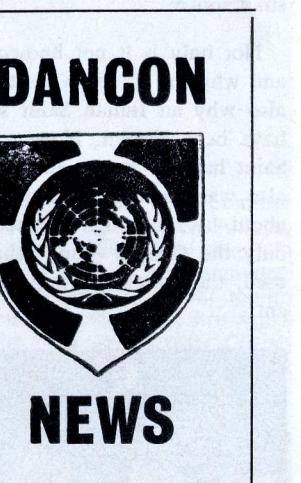
The longest serving "Cyprus Soldier" has just started his 15th contingent; he has, therefore, completed a total of more than 7 years service in Cyprus.



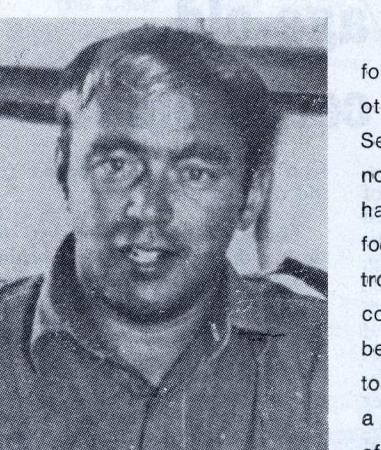
Cpl R H M Rasmussen, known as "Mahmout" of C Company has served more than 7 years in Dancon.



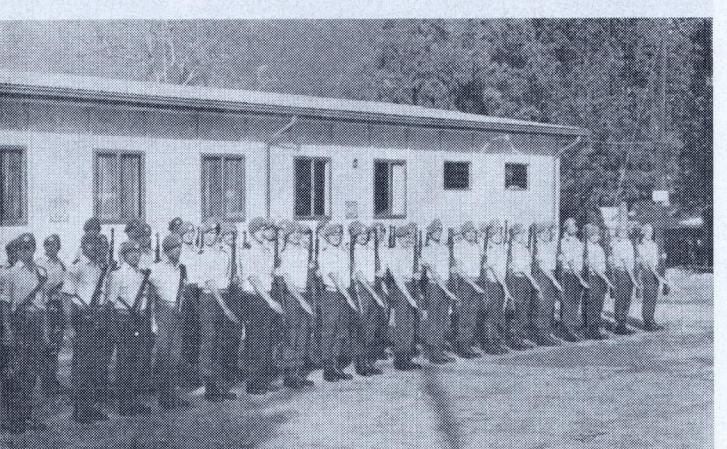
Lt Col W Elsberg hands over the emblem of command of Lt Col O E Scharling, Commander Dancon XXX.



The veteran in B Company is Cpl H V Jensen, known as "Tjuk", who has served over 6 years.



The record holder for HQ Company is S/Sgt H Jacobsen with a total of 4½ years.



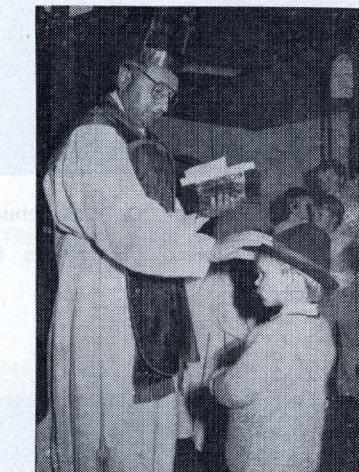
HQ Company in Viking Camp, Xeros parade for the new Commander.

Austrian Special: "Krampus Night"



The 6 December is the night when all Austrian children hang up their stockings near the fireplace to receive gifts from St. Nicholas. But unfortunately, St. Nicholas is accompanied on his nameday by the "Krampus", a kind of devil. Children who have been naughty during the year are afraid of the Krampus, as they expect to be beaten by him instead of receiving presents and sweets from St. Nicholas. However, this year in Cyprus, there were only good children and so St. Nicholas was able to make presentations to them all with a big beaming smile when he visited Camp Duke Leopold V.

It was only later in the mess that the Krampus, assisted by St. Nicholas, handed out punishment to some of the troublesome grown ups!



Wintertime in Cyprus does not bring the icy winds and snow that we have in Austria but sometimes it does bring rain, rain and then more rain — as we had in early December. We Austrians are a happy breed of men and little things such as a perforated roof do not worry us during the summer but we do not appreciate waterfalls suddenly descending on our beds in the middle of the night. Unfortunately, there were no cameras ready to shoot our Supply Officer, Major Winkler, when he was literally washed out of his bed, or to snap all the soldiers using their helmets upside-down to collect all the water pouring through the ceilings.

When the storm was over doors were opened cautiously and heads appeared slowly to find out whether the ground was still there outside or whether the whole camp had "joined the navy"!

December is normally a sombre month with only Christmas to look forward to. But sitting in front of the fire for a whole month waiting for this festival becomes very boring and so we have film shows and camp parties or trips to the Goethe Institute in Nicosia. However, this year on 11/12 December, with the encouragement of our Welfare Officer, the first Austrian "One Man Show" took place, with sketches of famous Austrian humourists including RoraRoda, Meitz and Qua'tinger. The photograph on the left shows the Auscon Press Officer reading the script and on the right two typical Viennese inhabitants — the fat one Mr. Travnicek, animated by the Press Officer, always grumbling and his nameless friend, who always sees the world through rose tinted glasses.

"When the rains came"!!!

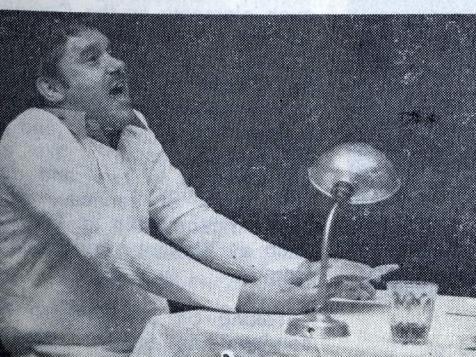


The cloudburst brought rain like the Deluge and completely altered the look of the Camp.



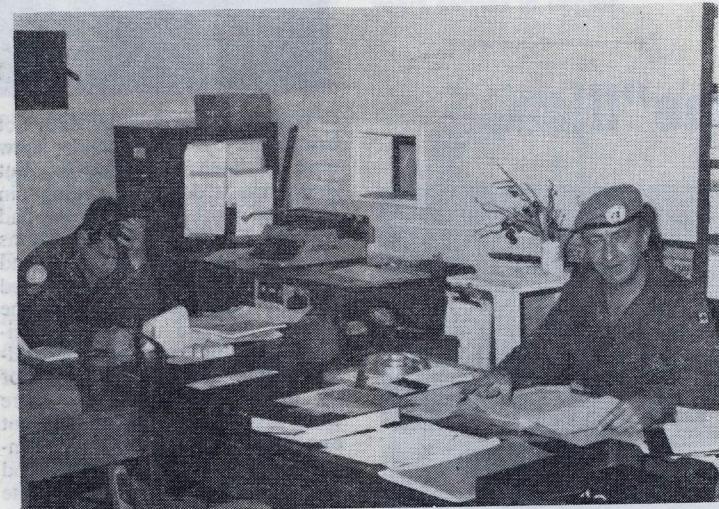
After the storm there was hectic work repairing all the roofs before it rained again.

One man review: A taste of cabaret





WO Wedlock, Cpl Manchurek and Shaw, and Tpr Reid of HQ Sqn Stores. "Happiness is never having to chase lost laundry".



MWO Bruce Oakley and Cpl Paul Rawding contemplating life.



Another illegal gathering of the "Purple Pig" Gang.

WE DO IT HEADQUARTERS

First off, for those of you who have been following the exploits of Cancon in the past, you may wonder, "What is Headquarters Squadron?" Perhaps is may help if you realize that other Canadian Contingents normally call this sub-unit Logistics Company. If you are still confused, then maybe we can shed a little light on the subject.

The word "headquarters" in Headquarters Squadron (HQ Sqn) to many people conjures up an immediate image of the Commanding Officer and all of

his staff. This is not so. HQ Sqn is a supply and services organization. The soldiers in Sector Four who man the observation posts look to us for the material and man-power to keep them fed, warm and happy. Our job is to ensure that they have everything that they need to do their job.



At "Uncle Dougie's"

The soldiers who man the OP look to HQ Sqn for the material.

HQ Sqn in Cyprus is considerably larger than the HQ Sqn that we know back home. In Canada, HQ Sqn is a sub-unit of the Regiment. Here in Cyprus, we are still a Regimental sub-unit, but we also have the added responsibility of functioning as something called Cancon Base. In effect, what this means is that HQ Sqn, in addition to its normal duties, acts as a Base Headquarters. In order to do this, we expand our normal organization to include such elements as the Comptroller, the Pay section, a Message Centre, a food Services section, an Engineer organization, a Dental section, a Postal section, a Warehouse section and a Movements section. We also get involved in new and different types of services, which are indigenous to a UN tour, such as Welfare and Civilian Labour.

Taking on all of these new services has its own rewards.

Another illegal gathering of the "Purple Pig" Gang.

Taking on all of these new services has its own rewards.

ALL FOR YOU SQUADRON

We get to meet and work with a lot of fine fellows who are normally members of other units back in Canada.

I would be remiss in my duties if I didn't mention the "heart" of the Squadron. The heart of HQ Sqn is those troops and sections that make

up HQ Sqn no matter where we are or what we do. These include our vehicle fitters, better known as Maintenance Troop (or the "Purple Pig Gang"). We also have Transport Troop ("Scotty's Little Softies"), the Unit Medical Station ("The Boys"), Squadron Stores ("Uncle Brucie's Section"), the unit Orderly Room ("CC and Company") the Padres ("God Squad") and the Regimental Quartermaster ("Mungo's Men").

CANCON



WE DO IT ALL FOR YOU

and manpower to keep them fed, warm and happy.

The Canadian Contingent's primary function in Cyprus is keeping the peace on "the line". The soldiers who man the line have a difficult task, and we feel that they do a first class job. HQ Sqn is not a line unit. Therefore we seek our personal satisfaction in different terms. Our pride is derived from the services that we provide to the line troops. The Squadron's motto is "Achievement Through Service".

Perhaps one final element may help to put things in perspective if you are still wondering about our organization. Headquarters Squadron is commanded by Major Doug Harrison and the Squadron Sergeant-Major is Master Warrant Officer Bruce Oakley.

"Regi Patriaeque Fidelis"



The Doc and his boys. — "This crew could save your life?"

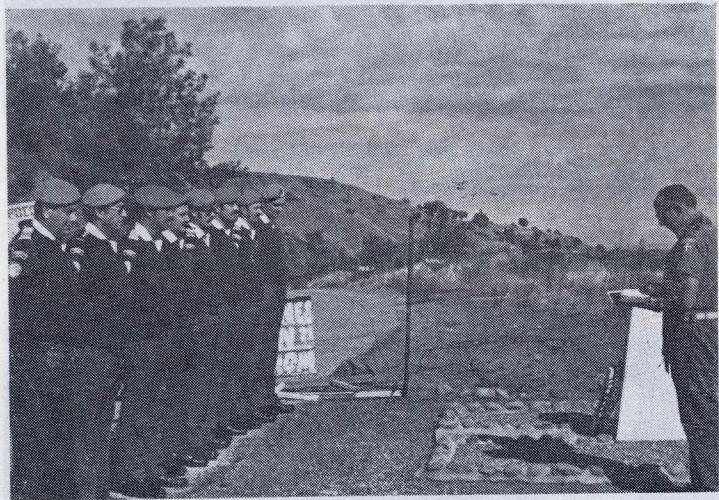


Some of "Scotty's Little Softies" of Regimental transport.



Mungo and his gang get together to solve a few pressing problems (such as where to obtain a uniform for a 6'6" giant as well as a pair of size 16 shoes).

Pictorial news



On the 12 November 1974, Senior Sergeant Ian Donald Ward and Sergeant John Woodcott, both members of Austcivpol and stationed at Paphos, were detailed to escort five Turkish Cypriots from Ayios Nikolaos to Lefka. During their journey on the Pedhoulas to Lefka road their vehicle struck a landmine resulting in the death of Ian and the wounding of John and the Turkish Cypriots one of whom died sometime later.

Seen here are members of the 15th Contingent of Austcivpol with Feltpriest J Buschave of Dancon conducting a Memorial Service for Senior Sergeant Ward, on Sunday 12 November 1978, at a site close to where the accident happened. We remember him with dignity. His death 'In the Service of Peace' was not in vain.

BRITISH NEW YEAR HONOURS FOR UN SOLDIERS.



Major J Hall 1RRF was appointed a Member of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for his work as Quartermaster of the Battalion whilst it was serving in Sector 2.



WO1 A D Cowley 3RTR was also appointed a Member of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for his work as RSM of the Support Regiment during the early stages of its formation.



WO2 G O Jones 3 LI was awarded the British Empire Medal for his work in Battalion prior to its assignment to UNFICYP.



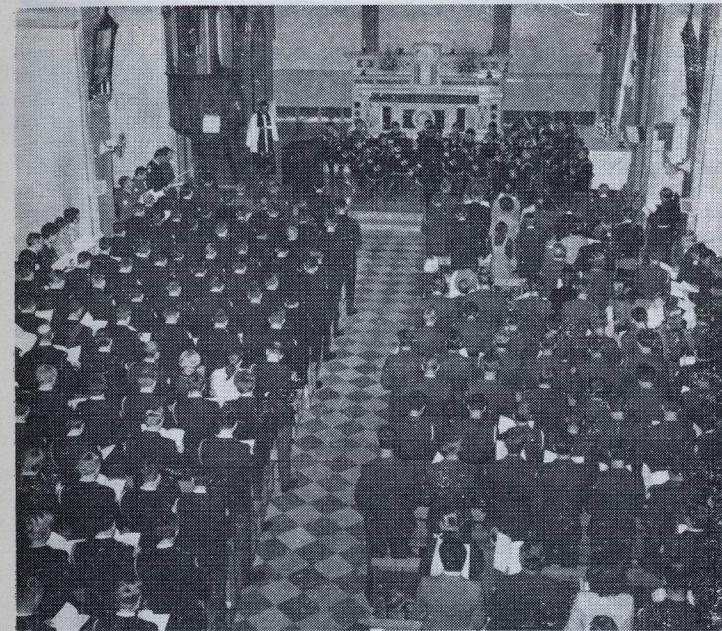
Maj Gen H G Woods, General Office Commanding North East District in UK visited the Force to see 3 LI in Sector 2, who in the UK come under his command. He is pictured when he made a courtesy call on the Force Commander on 7 December.



The Fincon Medal Parade took place on Finland's Independence Day, 6 December. The Force Commander is shown at the Medal Parade which was held in his office.



Santa Claus and his musicians toured Sector 2 and are seen here visiting OP B22



An UNFICYP Christmas Carol Service was held in the Holy Cross Church at Paphos Gate Nicosia on Monday 18 December, which was attended by all contingents. During the service each contingent provided a reader for the Bible lessons and national carols were sung in their native language.



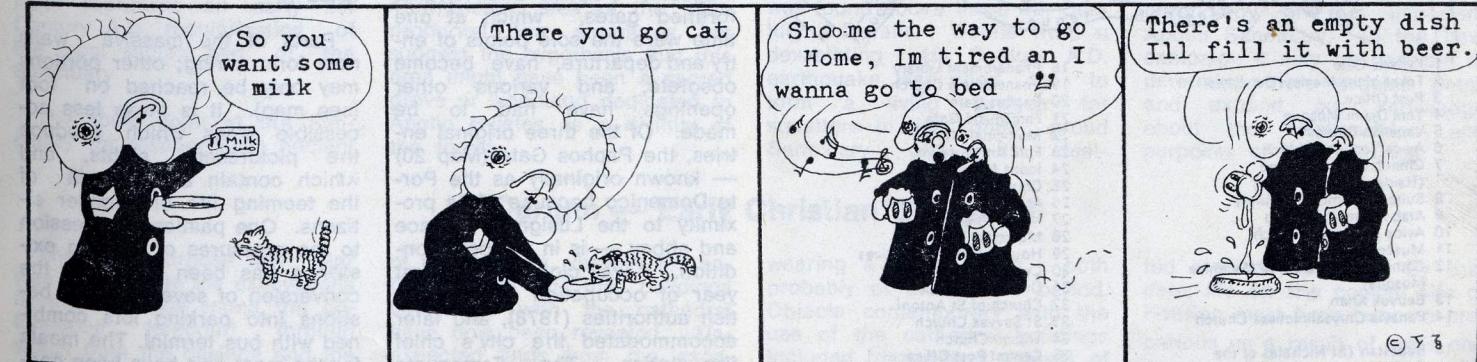
As is the British custom the soldiers of the Support Regiment were served their Christmas dinner by their Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants.



The Force Commander played Father Christmas when he visited the radio re-broadcast site at Troodos just before Christmas.



In Sector 6 the Austrian soldiers went to a great deal of trouble to create a Christmas atmosphere in the OPs. The picture shows some of the decorations at OP A30 in Varosha.



Wooly Blue Cancon

part 1 of 2

CASTLES

THE FORTIFIED CITY OF NICOSIA

Nicosia was originally fortified by the Lusignans, but when the Venetians took over it was realized that it would be impossible for the inhabitants to guard and defend the great length of straggling walls. Therefore, in 1565, the Seigniory of Venice despatched Ascanio Savorgano to report on the fortifications. His report was not encouraging.

"I am of the opinion that, even though it were in other respects suitable, the Most Serene Republic would be ill advised to fortify it, and this for many reasons apart from reasons of State, as to which I am not competent to speak."

However, two years later the present fortifications were begun from Savorgano's designs, under the superintendence of Francesco Barbaro and their form when completed was very much as we see them to-day. The original mediaeval walls were pulled down and the old circumference reduced by three

miles. Everything outside the new circumvallation was destroyed so that a free field of fire would be left for the artillery mounted on the bastions (— not on the walls between the bastions). In this general destruction nothing was spared; churches and palaces alike perished irrespective of their interest or beauty.

Nicosia was turned into an up to date fort but the work was hardly finished before the storm burst. In 1570 the siege of Nicosia was begun by Mustafa Pasha and after only seven weeks the city was taken by assault.

It is not easy to-day to explain exactly why and how it was possible to capture such a modern fortress, but at least one factor may have played a part. If we study the many books of the time on fortifications we will find that many engineers were of the opinion that too high walls were a disadvantage to

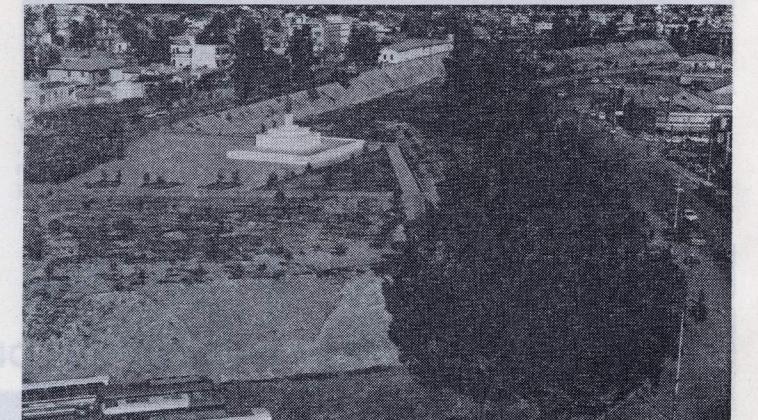
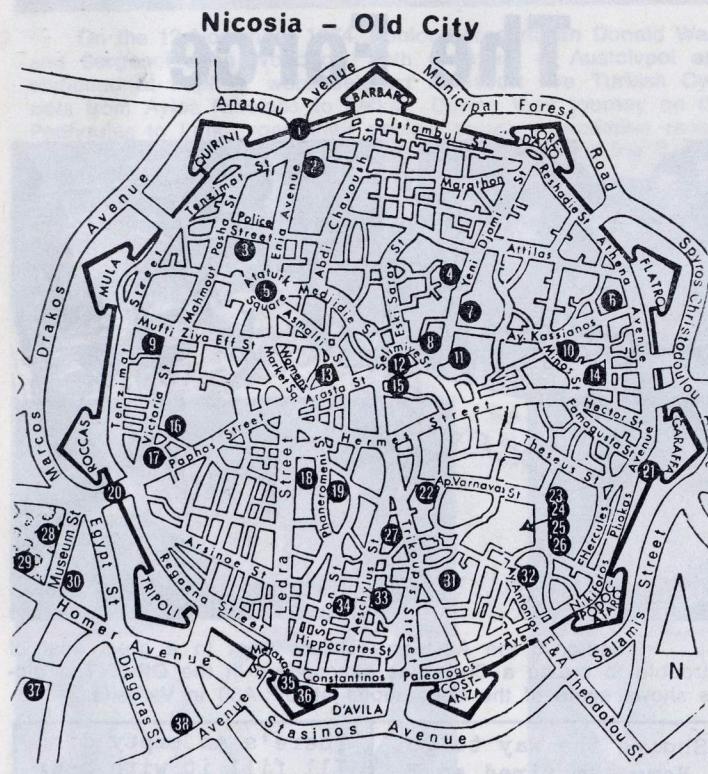
Out & About in Cyprus

the defence. The walls of Nicosia are not very high and they originally only had facings of stone half way up their height forming a retaining wall for the lower portion, above this the scarped face of the earthwork was intended to form a grassy slope. It is possible that such a wall was an effective defence if each bastion were manned, as they should have been according to the plan, with 500 men, and had they had the artillery required. The Venetians could only muster about 200 men per bastion and also they were very short of artillery and powder.

The bastions are named after the committee of officers who built the fortifications. Some of the bastions were later renamed, but the names indicated on the sketch are from the "original" list. The bastion "Tripoli" is named after the count of Tripoli ennobled by the Venetians although he already was a nobleman belonging to the ancient crusader family of De Nores.

After the Venetian period the walls of Nicosia were completed and it also seems as if the minor forts at Larnaca, Limassol and Paphos were built or rebuilt, but the two great periods of castellation were over.

The bastions are named after



A view of the walls and moat showing the Podocatato Bastion in the foreground.

For the most part, the walls and moat remain substantially as they were at the time of their construction by Venetian engineers in 1570. The chief changes have been in the interests of modern traffic, in that the Famagusta, Paphos and Kyrenia fortified gates, which at one time were the sole points of entry and departure, have become obsolete, and various other openings have had to be made. Of the three original entries, the Paphos Gate (Map 20) — known originally as the Porta Domenico because of its proximity to the Lusignan palace and abbey — is in the best condition. It was closed in the first year of occupation by the British authorities (1878), and later accommodated the city's chief fire station. The Famagusta Gate (Map 21), or Porta Giuliana, is intact, though closed to traffic. It is surmounted by a

curious dome. The Kyrenia Gate (Map 1), the porta del Provveditore, has suffered worst, having been isolated by a breach in the walls on either side, which, far from preserving its architectural value, has emasculated it.

Parts of the massive walls now form a ring; other portions may only be reached on foot (see map). It is these less accessible areas which produce the picturesque sights, and which contain an overspill of the teeming life of humbler citizens. One painless concession to the pressures of modern existence has been made by the conversion of several of the bastions into parking lots combined with bus termini. The moats for the most part have been converted for residential and recreational purposes, and provide lively pleasure grounds.

THE CYPRUS FOLK ART MUSEUM — NICOSIA

The museum is located in Archbishop Kyprianos Square in the south east of the Old City of Nicosia (Map 23). It is housed in an old 15th Century Gothic building that was part of a Benedictine monastery. The site had been used at the beginning of the 13th Century by the Lusignans and the Order of the Knights Hospitallers built a church in honour of St. John, their patron Saint. French kings were buried in this church, including Hugo I in 1218. The buildings were taken over by the Greek Orthodox church prior

to the Turkish conquest in 1571. In 1730, under Archbishop Silvestros, it became the Archbishopric of Cyprus.

In 1936 the Society of Cypriot Studies was established and adopted as one of its aims the establishment of a Cyprus Folk Art Museum. This was not achieved until 1950 when the museum was inaugurated by Archbishop Makarios III and housed in two rooms of the present premises. In the years following many articles were donated, or bought and the collection enriched.



A view of some of the furniture and household items that are exhibited.



The outer porch which faces the road and contains some of the larger outdoor artifacts.

When in 1961 the Archbishopric was moved to a new building the old Gothic building was given to the Society of Cypriot Studies by Archbishop Makarios to be used as a cultural centre. Extensive alterations were carried out between the years 1961 and 1964 and now the first floor of the building, which is reached by an outer staircase, is used by cultural societies and houses the Ikon Museum whilst the ground floor houses the Cyprus Folk Art Mu-

seum, where the expanding collection is now exhibited in fourteen rooms or spaces.

The exhibits consist of pottery, household and farming implements, furniture, woodwork, carving, costumes, embroideries and a wide variety of other articles of folk art.

The museum is open from 8 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 4.30 pm on Mondays to Fridays and 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays. It is closed on Sundays.

1978

ARCHAEOLOGY — EXCAVATIONS IN 1978

Curium — Sanctuary of Apollo Hylates

Excavations were conducted in the oldest part of the Sanctuary, the Archaic Precinct, where the earliest level reached dated at least to the middle of the 6th Century B.C. In this layer was found a bronze belt fragment worked in repousse technique with a scene representing two ferocious lions devouring a griffin. The excavators also examined the long wall bordering the archaic precinct to the east and determined that it was built in Roman times, probably around the time of Christ. This wall surrounded the Temple of Apollo to the north and must represent an early 1st Century A.D. regularisation of the most sacred part of the Sanctuary.

Several trenches in the northwestern area of the site produced few structures but suggest the hypothesis that this area might have been a sacred grove or woodland dedicated to Apollo Hylates as a divinity of the forest.

The focal point of the Sanctuary for visitors both ancient

and modern is the Temple of Apollo. Excavations here exposed the actual trench-laid foundation for the original temple. Pottery from this trench dated to the early 1st Century A.D. and included an Augustan oil lamp imported from Italy. The temple had a second phase and a trench was laid out to determine its date. Pottery sherds of the later 1st or early 2nd Century A.D. were found in the fill packed against the eastern wall of the monumental front staircase thus dating the second phase of the temple.

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Curium — Early Christian Cathedral

The main purpose last year was to complete the excavations of the buildings round the colonnaded forecourt through which both the basilica and the adjoining baptistery were entered from the north. With the completion of the investigation

of these rooms, virtually the entire remains of the buildings connected with the cathedral have now been revealed. Unexpected finds from the excavations were a marble foot from a lifesize male statue and a battered female head of stone,

reconstruction and abandonment. In the floor of the living surface was found a Roman bowl rim of the late 5th Century A.D. This date provides the latest evidence yet found for occupation of the Sanctuary in antiquity.

At or after the middle of the 4th Century A.D. a cistern just west of this area was filled up with debris and never used again. The cistern was finally cut into on the southeast side in order to install a stable complete with two troughs and tie-holes for horses.

The 1978 campaign has provided several revisions to the chronology of this important Apollo Sanctuary. In the next campaign it may be possible to determine more precise dates and expand our knowledge about the relationships and purposes of the buildings.

wearing a floral crown, both probably of the Roman period. Objects contemporary with the use of the cathedral buildings included fragmentary vessels of pottery and glass, terracotta lamps and a number of coins, among them a gold issue min-

Blue Beret SPORT

UNFICYP Squash Competition

This year's Squash Competition took place between Monday 4 December and Thursday 7 December. This was later than it has been in previous years, when it has normally been held in November. The decision to run the competition later was taken when the organisers realised that a number of contingents were victims of troop rotations and it was felt that there would have been inadequate time for these contingents to prepare a team.

In accordance with previous years the competition was run by the Force Reserve and took place in the squash courts in the Force Reserve camp. However the format of the competition varied from previous years with the inclusion of an individual knockout competition and a team losers plate competition.

9 teams entered and 32 players entered for the individual competition. Unfortunately at the last moment the Austrian and Canadian teams withdrew and this eliminated the need for a preliminary round in the team matches.

The team matches were played in the afternoons between 1400-1700 and then the individual matches were played. Due to time limitations all matches had to consist of three games. The exception to this being the final matches and the individual

semi-finals which consisted of 5 games.

Those who came to watch and support their teams and friends witnessed some very good squash, particularly in the later stages of the competition.

The Team Plate final was held on the Wednesday afternoon between 3 LI B team and the Force Reserve team. After some very close matches 3 LI emerged victorious. The original plan was to play the 3rd place team match at 1400 on Thursday 7 December, but unfortunately the 3 LI A team were committed elsewhere and so had to concede the match to SWEDCON.

This meant that the team final between HQ UNFICYP and Support Regiment could be brought forward. This was by far the most exciting match seen. The HQ UNFICYP number 4 seed, Major Condon, was delayed and so the number 1, 2, 3 and 5 seeds played their matches. These were all hard fought and when Major Condon arrived he was greeted with the news that his match was the deciding match. The two number 4's Major Condon and Cpl Dandie, took the court and played a most thrilling match. In the 5th game with the score at 2 games all, Major Condon leapt ahead to take a commanding 8-2 lead. All the spectators felt sure then that the match

would go to HQ UNFICYP, but Cpl Dandie fought back gallantly and eventually after a nail-biting few minutes and much hard playing on court, Cpl Dandie won the game and the match by 10 points to 9. Both team captains just could not bear to watch the final minutes and left the gallery. Congratulations are due to Support Regiment for winning the cup again, but they are equally deserved by HQ UNFICYP who fought extremely hard and never gave up hope.

Following this, CQMS Butler and Sqn Ldr Situnayake played for the individual title. Once again we were privileged to witness some very good squash and finally CQMS Butler took the title. The prizes were pre-

AUSCON's Centre Court thrills

The AUSCON Tennis Competition, organised by the Sports Officer, Captain Brikowitsch and the Tennis Officer, took place from 3 to 10 December on the courts at Ayios Nicolaos in ideal weather conditions.

The competition was very popular — 34 competitors took part in the singles matches and there were 10 doubles teams, all fighting for victory. The photographs were taken at the prize giving ceremony at Camp Duke Leopold V on 11 December.



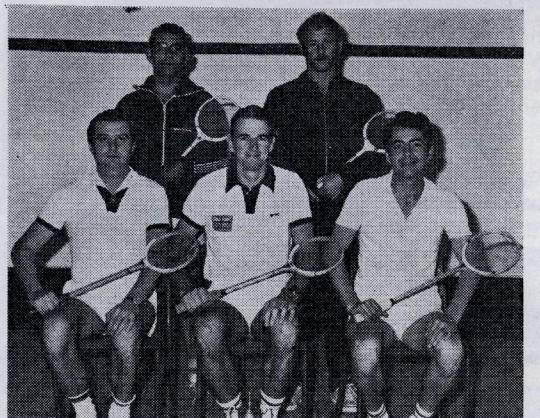
Lt Rotter and LCpl Baierl being congratulated on winning the doubles match.



Acting Comd AUSCON, Lt Col Pokorny, handing over the 1st prize to the winner of the singles competition, LCpl Grimmer.



Sqn Ldr Situnayake and CQMS Butler knocking up before the Singles Finals.



The winning team from Support Regiment.

Results:

Class I, 8.5 km

1. Ivarsson, Swedcon 52.35
2. Härberg, MP Coy 57.18
3. Säll, Swedcon 1.00.17
4. Lolin, Swedcon 1.04.16
5. Dagnall, Dhekelia 1.07.25 (guest entry)
6. Eriksson, Swedcon 1.07.36
7. Olsson, Swedcon 1.07.49
8. Sehlberg, Swedcon 1.10.58
9. Arlefalk, Swedcon 1.11.32
10. Whitwood, Dhekelia 1.12.48 (guest entry)
11. Ankarcrona, Swedcon 1.13.20
12. Carey, Dhekelia 1.15.12 (guest entry)
13. Marcussen, Dancon 1.18.22

Class II, 6 km

1. Schrammel, Auscon 42.20
2. Blixton, Force Reserve 44.30
3. Steger, Dancon 50.14
4. Pettersson, Swedcon 51.03
5. Söderberg, Swedcon 52.30
6. Myrgård, Swedcon 54.42
7. Pettersson, Swedcon 56.45
8. Pirker, Auscon 57.54
9. Müller, Dancon 1.05.59
10. Bosak, Auscon 1.20.06

Team Class I

1. Swedcon
2. Swedcon
3. Dancon

Team Class II

1. Swedcon
2. Auscon



UNFICYP ORIENTEERING COMPETITION

WET BUT EXCITING

It was by no means nice weather when the competition started at Cape Greco one day a week before Christmas. The weather did not, however, deter the 63 sportsmen who entered the competition and they ignored the rain coming in from the sea.

It was a fine race over hills and down valleys. Swedcon Sports Officer, Lasse Björnsson, had laid two excellent courses starting at the temple at Salamis and finishing near Fig Tree Bay.

Swedcon won the team competition whilst the individual winners in each class were Ivarsson from Swedcon and Schrammel from Auscon.



Sgt Dolan from Support Regiment trying to find his way down a cliff.



Wet and windy for the start



Olsen from Dancon heading off for another control point somewhere near Cape Greco.



UN NEWS



SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MESSAGE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

"This past year has seen an intensification of the struggle for peace in many regions of the world and in many fields of human activity. We have witnessed, for example, great efforts to mitigate the dangers of nuclear confrontation, to make a new start on disarmament, to achieve a settlement of problems of southern Africa, to make a significant step for peace in the Middle East and to adjust vital relationships of the most powerful nations. Strenuous efforts to devise a new international economic order have continued. Human rights and great social problems have been the subject of sustained international debate and of plans for action.

Never before has the human race been so conscious of its problems or of the many dangers of injustices of its condition. Never before has it been so active in trying to remedy them. This new awareness,

however, has given rise to a widespread sense of uncertainty and frustration, which nowhere can be seen more clearly than in the workings of the United Nations. While we have a much better picture of what needs to be done, we lack, as yet, the will or capacity to do it.

In dealing with complex international or global problems we cannot expect to achieve easy or quick results. We must beware of premature discouragement or defeatism over the possibility of achieving the objectives we have set ourselves. We must not be dismayed by the prospect of a long struggle. Indeed there is no serious alternative.

When we look back, we can measure how far we have advanced towards many of the objectives which seemed unattainable only a few years ago. Our problem is to harness our energy and wisdom for an attack on dangerous and intractable inter-

national problems which still defy our efforts. The fabric of world peace which we are attempting to create still has many holes and many gaps. It is here that we must concentrate our skill, our experience, our determination and our growing capacity to co-operate.

We must come to grips with poverty and economic imbalance. We must defuse problems which perennially threaten world peace. We must achieve significant progress in disarmament. We must steadily advance towards a world where the rights and dignity of each human being will be respected. We must constantly renew our determination not to be put off or discouraged by the immense difficulties of solving such problems.

This past year, for all its frustrations and disappointments, has also witnessed some encouraging signs of statesmanship and leadership and a new sense

of realism and of what is achievable. There is also, I believe, a growing sense of international solidarity based on the realization of what we can gain by co-operation and what we will inevitably lose by conflict.

I hope that in 1979 we can strengthen these positive trends and bring at least some of our efforts to fruition.

The world in which we live, and which to some extent we have created, urgently demands benevolent order and a greatly increased sense of community. Survival is not enough. We urgently need to develop a new and global civilization attuned to the realities and needs of all peoples of the world.

That is what, by slow and arduous steps, we are trying to build in the United Nations. Let us rededicate ourselves to this greatest of tasks in the coming year.

SECURITY COUNCIL EXTENDS UNFICYP MANDATE FOR SIX MONTHS



A general view of the Council as it voted on the draft resolution. *United Nations photo by Y Nagata*

RESOLUTIONS ON NAMIBIA.

Before the Christmas recess three resolutions on Namibia were approved by the General Assembly.

One condemned South Africa for unilaterally holding elections in Namibia in defiance of the Security Council. It stated that South Africa's non-compliance with Security Council decisions threatened international peace and asked the Security Council urgently to consider the imposition of sanctions. Should the Council not be able to act effectively, the Assembly would step in.

The vote on this resolution was 123 in favour to none against with 17 abstentions.

Another resolution specified that sanctions should include embargoes on trade, oil and arms. It also reaffirmed that Namibia was the direct responsibility of the United Nations and that SWAPO — The South West Africa Peoples' Organisa-

tion — was the sole and authentic representative of the people of the territory. This resolution also provided, among other things, for a reconvening of the Assembly at a time to be decided in consultation between the Assembly President, the President of the UN Council for Namibia and the Secretary-General to consider the implications of South Africa's continued defiance of the UN.

The vote was 120 in favour to none against with 19 abstentions.

The third resolution endorsed the work of the Council for Namibia as the legal administering authority pending Namibian independence and spelled out ways of strengthening its hand.

The vote was 16 in favour to none against with 5 abstentions.

Among those abstaining in the votes were the five western powers which originated the Namibia settlement proposals

which were subsequently endorsed by the Security Council. The United States, Britain, France, Canada and The Federal Republic of Germany. Speaking on their behalf, William Barton of Canada said the five remained fully committed to early implementation of the Council's decision on a UN transitional civilian and military operation leading to genuine Namibian independence. But as the five's initiative was now at a crucial stage, he said, they did not want to complicate matters by taking a stand on the three resolutions. South Africa had indicated to the Secretary-General that it would give a definitive answer on the UN elections project by the end of this month.

In a communiqué issued earlier, the five Nordic countries said they were prepared to back sanctions against South Africa if she continued to refuse to co-operate with the United Nations.

DOMINICA JOINS UN

Dominica in December became the 151st member state of the United Nations. The admission of the Caribbean island nation — which recently gained its independence from Britain — was approved by the Assembly by acclamation.

SECRETARY-GENERAL TO VISIT SE ASIA

It was made known before Christmas that at the invitation of the governments concerned, Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim will pay official visits to six Asian countries between the end of January and mid-February.

Mr. Waldheim will visit Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.