

THE BLUE BERET



OCTOBER 1983



OP CHARLIE TWO FIVE

OCTOBER IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

None

MEDAL PARADES

- 9 The British Contingent
14 The Swedish Contingent
15 The United Nations Military Police Company
30 The Australian Civilian Police Contingent

VISITS

- 1—6 Captain J Markham, Duty Army Air Corps Standards Officer, visited UNFICYP Flight Army Air Corps.
6—8 Lieutenant Colonel R Preece and Warrant Officer I Wodner visited UNFICYP Flight Army Air Corps.
7 Lieutenant Colonel R Steel REME and Major A A King REME visited Sector 1.
9—12 Three members of the British press, John Morrell, Barry Reilly and Paul Chapman visited the British Contingent under the Editors Abroad Scheme.
12 and 19 Captain Larsen-Burnett, Sergeant Montgomery and Corporal Anderson, a mobile military press team, visited the British Contingent.
12—15 Lieutenant Colonels L Reay and J Trinca visited the Canadian Contingent.
12—17 Mr A Gummersson, a Swedish journalist, visited the Swedish Contingent.
12—22 Seven officers led by Lieutenant Colonel B Pellnaes made a recce trip to the Swedish Contingent.
12—22 Captain H-O Hellstrom visited the Swedish Contingent.
16 The Royal College of Defence Studies Middle East party visited UNFICYP.
- 17 Lieutenant Colonel I McArthur and twenty-five rugby players came from Kuwait to play members of the British Contingent at rugby.
20 Mr John Stanley MP, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, visited UNFICYP.
20—21 Lieutenant Colonel E Cragg visited the Canadian Contingent.
22—29 Lieutenant Colonel D J W Browne and four other officers made a recce trip to Sector 2.
26 The Royal College of Defence Studies Southern European Party visited UNFICYP.
26—28 Major General G M G Swindells ACDS (I) visited UNFICYP.
27 Major General B C Webster GBE, Director Army Quartering, visited UNFICYP.
27 September — Major H Moore, Director for Red Shield Services, visited the Canadian Contingent.
4 October
27 September — Nine Customs officers, led by Mr J Lamoureux visited the Canadian Contingent.
14 October
29 A group of professional entertainers from the United Kingdom gave a CSE show.
29 September — Lieutenant Colonel J Lundgren, Chief of the Swedish UN-School visited UNFICYP.
13 October

UNFICYP COMPETITIONS

- 7 Relay Orienteering Competition
22 and 23 Military Skills Competition
28 Windsurfing Competition
29 Cross Country Competition

FUTURE EVENTS

Violin and Piano Recital, organised by the Cultural Service of the Ministry of Education: Admission free

- 21 October: A' Gymnasium, Paphos at 1930 hours
24 October: American Academy, Larnaca at 1930 hours
25 October: Town Hall, Limassol at 1930 hours
26 October: Paedagogical Academy, Nicosia at 1930 hours
- 20—27 October at 7.30 pm at the British Council:
Photographic Exhibition — "A Voyage Round Great Britain — 1824-1825"
An exhibition of new impressions taken directly from William Daniell's original copper plates now in the possession of the Tate Gallery.

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P.O. Box 1642, Nicosia, Cyprus
Telephone: Nicosia 64000, Ext. 2235

Editorial staff

Editor

Maj D C J Emmett

Editorial Assistant

Mrs A Singh

Photography

Staff Photographer—Sgt A Hodgetts
Contingent photographers.

Unit Press Officers

AUSCON	— Maj P Mulacz
Sector 2	— Capt R Courteney-Harris
CANCON	— Capt P Clavelle
DANCON	— Maj H Schmidt
SWEDCON	— Lt P-E Odevall
Sp Regt	— Maj T Vines
FSC Sqn	— Capt M Outhwaite
AUSTCIVPOL	— Stn Sgt J Brown
SWEDCIVPOL	— Ch Insp T Ryding
84 Sqn RAF	— Flt Lt N Hall

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

Photograph by Sergeant Tony Hodgetts

THE BLUE BERET



Editorial

Firstly I must congratulate all those who contributed to the Christmas Card Competition. The result was a very varied selection of entries which made the competition so worthwhile. To the winners, congratulations and special thanks must go to LCpl R Owens from 1 QLR in Sector 2 for five entries. A record, I'm sure. The results were as follows:—

First:	Sgt A Hodgetts	£30.000
Second:	Maj H Tiilikainen	£15.000
Third:	Maj H Tiilikainen	£5.000

It is now hoped that the winning card will be on sale in good time for Christmas. Separate instructions will be issued.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

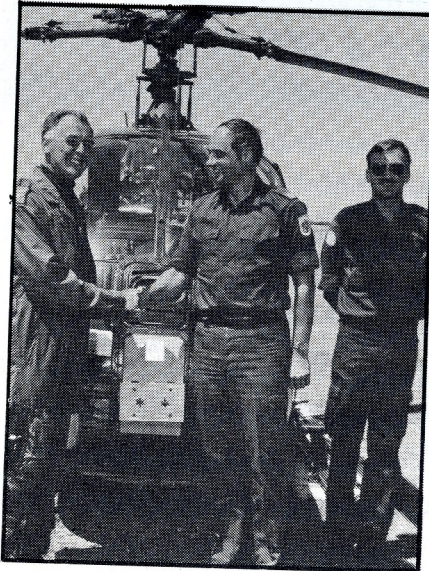
To accomplish great things
we must not only act but also dream
not only plan but also believe

Life is like music; it must be composed by ear, feeling and instinct, not by rule

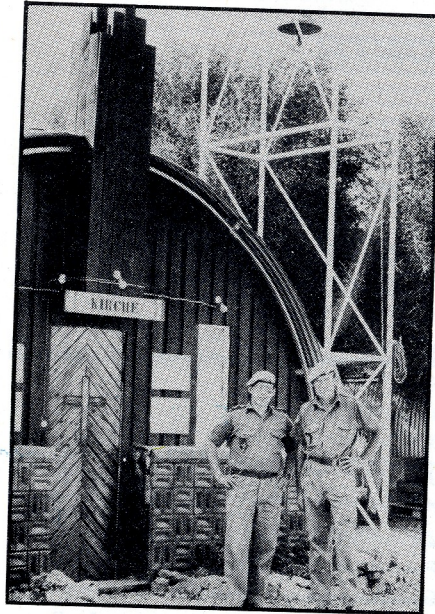
Contents

September in Retrospect;	2
Editorial; Contents	3
PICTORIAL NEWS: 5000 Flying Hours; OP ADSUM; AUSCON's New Bell; Visit of Mr J Stanley MP; Terry Fox Run; Proceeds of 1983 Fayre Donated; DANCON Medal Parade	4—5
Sector 2: Humanitarian Work in Sector 2	6
SWEDCIVPOL: SWEDCIVPOL — Larnaca	7
UNIT FEATURE: 2nd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment	8 and 9
84 SQN RAF: Aircraft Engineering	10
DANCON: Engineers	11
BLUE BERET SPORT: Orienteering	12
INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK: The Swedish Smorgasbord	13
AUSCON: New Telephone Exchange	14
AUSTCIVPOL: I Completed the DANCON March	15
UN NEWS: Extract from a Report by the UN Secretary General	16

PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL



Major Ian Bell DFC RA, Officer Commanding the UNFICYP Flight Army Air Corps, is congratulated by the Force Commander, Major General G G Greindl, having completed 5,000 flying hours on 1 September 1983.



The small Church in CDL V has recently got a bell! It was given to the Austrian Contingent by the small village of Kaiserdorf in the eastern part of Austria. 1/Sgt Josef Brandl, now serving with AUSCON's Engineers Platoon, comes from this village and obtained the bell when his village received a new one. The engineers built a tower for the bell in their spare time and on 21 August the padre, Capt Werner Seifert, consecrated the new bell during the evening service attended by the CO, Lt Col Ingo Buttinger, and many AUSCON troops and some of their families. Capt Seifert (left) and 1/Sgt Brandl by the bell tower.



Scene from the DANCON Medal Parade on 30 August 1983.



The Terry Fox run, held on 18 September, raised C£540 towards cancer research. Thousands of people around the world also ran to raise the money towards this Canadian's dream before he died of cancer himself, of finding a cure to the disease.

PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL NEWS PICTORIAL



Mr John Stanley MP, British Minister of State for the Armed Forces, inspects the Swedish Contingent in the multinational Guard of Honour given during his visit to HQ UNFICYP on 20 September.



Mrs C Grafstrom (left) and Mrs C Parslow (right), wives of two officers at HQ UNFICYP accompanied Mrs H W K Pye when she presented the President of the Cyprus Society for the Protection of Spastic and Handicapped People with a cheque for C£500. This money was raised from the 1983 UNFICYP Spring Fayre.



On the 25th of August the OP ADSUM was officially opened by Major General Larose, Colonel of the Regiment. Major Lelievre and Lieutenant Gauthier and his troop watch the General cut the traditional ribbon.

HUMANITARIAN WORK IN SECTOR TWO



By Captain Richard Courteney-Harris

Photographs by Private Andy Allen

Sector Two, twenty five kilometres in length and nearly five kilometres in breadth at its widest part, encompasses some of the finest arable land which the island has to offer, land which was once known as 'the bread basket of Cyprus'. In accordance with UNFICYP policy of allowing extensions of agriculture, and the third part of our mission: to contribute to the restoration of normal conditions within the United Nations Buffer Zone, Sector Two directs much of its effort towards economic and humanitarian tasks which arise in the area.

The economic and humanitarian team is led by Captain Geoff Beaumont, he is assisted by CSgt Jimmy Binns, who deals with the eastern part of the sector, and Sgt Mick Woods who is responsible for the western area. Together they are wholly responsible for implementing the general economic policies which are directed by the Commander, Sector Two.

One of the most important areas in which the humanitarian staff are able to assist in the restoration of normality within the Buffer Zone is the opening of fields for cultivation. The owners of the fields which are now part of the Buffer Zone approach one of the farming NCO's to ask if they might be allowed to reopen their land. Generally, as long as several criteria are met, the farmer is allowed to begin cultivating his field, the photographs show CSgt Binns with local farmers in the Mammari fields as they begin to farm a newly opened field. Whilst the actual practical business is carried out in the fields themselves, much valuable work is also carried out by means of what has come to be known as 'coffee shop diplomacy', discussions and meetings held in local coffee shops.

So, what of the future? There is still obviously much work to be done on the economic and humanitarian side and there will always be problems but the staff are striving to ensure that they remain minimal. We are continuing to open new fields all the time, to date forty five have been opened, and, once the holiday season comes to an end this policy will be continued. Whilst this process is maintained and we are able to allow the farmers to return to their lands the future will always look bright.



SWEDCIVPOL-LARNACA



By Chief Inspector Thomas Ryding

Photograph by Chief Inspector Per-Eric Carlsson

I would like to make a small presentation of the Swedish Civilian Police Contingent as probably many people within UNFICYP are not aware of our tasks and maybe not even of our location.

The Swedish Police Contingent consists of fourteen members. Two are working as Police Operations Duty Officers in HQ Nicosia. The rest fulfill their duties in our HQ in Larnaca, which is perfectly situated to carry out our tasks in Sectors Five and Six.

Apart from incidents in Sector Six, we can reach any place in our area of responsibility within twenty-five minutes. In order to maintain a high standard of alertness, at least three officers are on duty twenty-four hours a day.

We are tied to the Swedish military contingent in

matters concerning supplies and sometimes concerning personnel, but not disciplinary matters. Operatively, we are completely separated from the Swedish contingent. However we work well together and have many tasks in common.

We report and investigate incidents, involving civilians, in the United Nations Buffer Zone and liaise with both Greek and Turkish Cypriots. The prevailing situation concerning liaison and communication is to a great extent due to the position of our HQ.

The photograph shows members of SWEDCIVPOL outside our Headquarters. They are, from left to right, Stellan Johnsson, Kenneth Andersson, Roland Alm-gren, Tommy Lofqvist, Curt Enocsson, Ulf Nilsson, Thom Nilsson, Jan-Eric Palmqvist, Lars Norberg, Thomas Ryding, Hans Olwebro, Per-Eric Carlsson.



UNIT FEATURE **SECOND BATTALION** **THE ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT**

1983 is a very special year for Royal Canadians. This year marks one hundred years of service to Canada and will see the Regimental Birthday (21 December 1983) celebrated by the Second Battalion in Sector Four on Cyprus. 2 RCR returns to the island after an absence of six years and looks forward to serving once again with the United Nations.

The Regiment originated in 1883 when the Canadian Militia Act provided for the establishment of three companies of infantry to serve as schools of military instruction. The formation of three schools of infantry, formed into one Corps to be known as the Infantry School Corps, was authorized. These schools each based on a company of the Corps were located at Fredericton, New Brunswick, St Jean, Quebec and Toronto, Ontario.

In 1885, The Regiment furnished a company for the Northwest Field Force for service during the Northwest Rebellion during 1885. This marked the first occasion upon which Canadian Troops conducted without the assistance of British regulars, extensive military operations. During this campaign, The Regiment was awarded its first two battle honours, "Saskatchewan" and "Northwest Canada 1885".

In 1888, a fourth company was raised and stationed at London, Ontario. In 1892, the four companies of the Infantry School Corps assumed regimental status as the "Canadian Regiment of Infantry". The following year,



A soldier from Recce Platoon demonstrates his rappelling technique

The Regiment was granted the prefix "Royal" by Queen Victoria and redesignated "The Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry". In 1898, the Yukon Field Force consisting, in the main, of members of The Regiment, contributed to the maintenance of law and order in the Yukon gold fields. In April, 1899, the name of the unit was changed to "The Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry" and, on 1 November, 1901, this title was officially shortened to "The Royal Canadian Regiment", a designation that remains unchanged to this day.

As Canada's contribution in the South African War (Boer War), the 2nd (Special Service) Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment was raised in 1899 and despatched to South Africa. The Regiment participated in several engagements distinguishing itself most notably in the Battle of Paardeberg Drift on 27



By: Lieutenant Haisell

February, 1900. A (Special Service) Battalion of The Regimented Halifax from March 1900 to September 1902. The Regiment was placed in service in September 1914 and Bermuda to relieve the regular British. In August 1915, the unit returned to Canada but was sent immediately to France and from there to France. It played a part in the First World War of the Canadian Corps. Members of the Regiment, including Lieutenant Milton MC who won the VC on 27 September were among the first allied soldiers to enter the city of Mons on the morning of 11 November, 1918.

On the outbreak of the Second World War, The Regiment was assigned to the 1st Infantry Brigade, 1st Canadian Division and, in June, 1940, The Regiment fought in Brittany after the evacuation of Dunkirk. It returned to England without seeing action.



Individual training during recent exercises in Gagetown

The Regiment participated in the invasion of Sicily, made a successful landing at Pachino on 10 July, 1943, and participated in the subsequent operations of 1st Canadian Division in Italy and Northwest Europe.

In more recent times, the battalion of The Regiment have seen active service in Korea, as well as Cyprus.

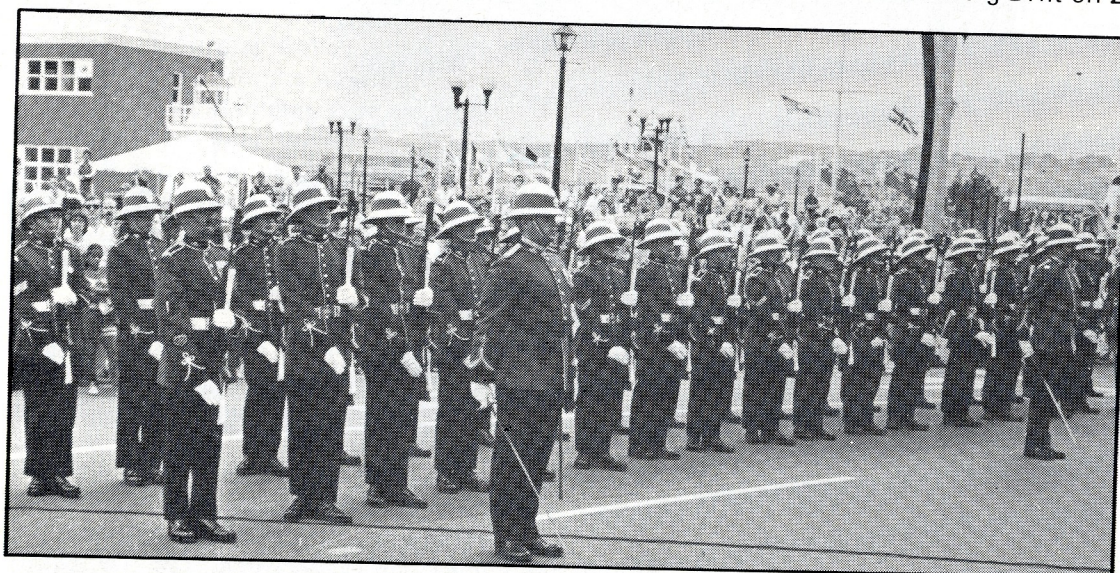
Since its formation on 4 July, 1979, The Regiment has provided the personnel of 3 Airborne Commando, a unit of the Canadian Airborne Regiment. In 1954, the militia battalion, London and Oxford Fusiliers (3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment) joined The Regiment. The battalion originally came into being with the amalgamation of the Ca-



A member of Pioneer Platoon in ceremonial dress

adian Fusiliers (City of London Regiment (MG)) and the Oxford Rifles. In 1958, the battalion was redesignated as the 4th Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment (London and Oxford Fusiliers).

In 1970, 2 RCR took up residence at CFB Gagetown in the province of New Brunswick and have served with the United Nations in Cyprus twice (1973-74 and 1977-78) since that time. All members of the Second Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment are looking forward to becoming once again a part of UNFICYP. Pro Patria!



Celebrating a century of service. 2 RCR receiving the freedom of the city of St John New Brunswick to commemorate one hundred years of service to Canada



2 RCR prepare for a winter heliborne exercise

AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING – 84 SQUADRON STYLE

By Flight Lieutenant Chris Trigg, Engineering Officer 84 Squadron

Photographs by SAC Rick Mellor

As a familiar sight around the UN Buffer Zone, the yellow Wessex HC Mk 2 helicopters of 84 Squadron, RAF Akrotiri, are known to most UN contingents. In their vital roles of MEDEVAC, search and rescue, trooping and resupply the aircraft must be maintained to the highest engineering standards. With a limited number of aircraft this means a continuing effort to maintain the aircraft in a serviceable condition.

There are 33 engineering technicians on the squadron and two-thirds of these work at first-line level on a 24-hour on, 24-hour off shift system that is designed to react to an emergency and launch an aircraft in less than one hour no matter what time of day or night. The routine tasks at first-line involve the handling, refuelling, random defect rectification and some scheduled servicing of the aircraft. Possibly the most important aspects of the latter are the corrosion control measures taken against salt water contamination. Every 75 flying hours the aircraft receives a servicing and on a cyclic basis they receive a greater or lesser degree of servicing. Each greater servicing includes the lesser throughout the cycle.

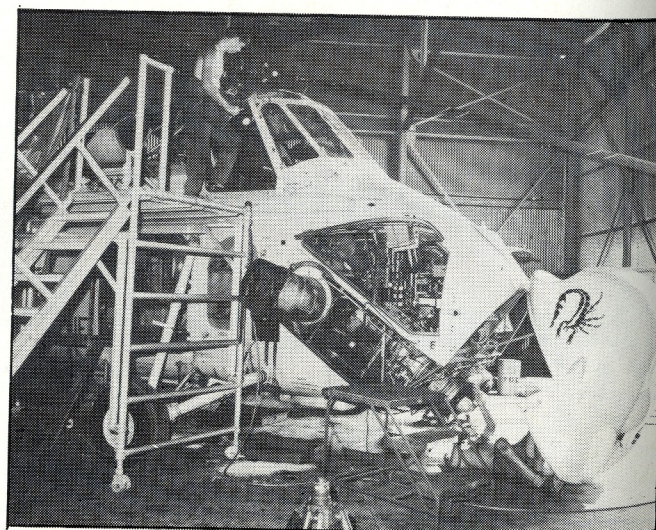
At second-line level the greater servicings are carried out by a small team of technicians who are responsible for all in-depth aspects of aircraft maintenance. The squadron also receives bay support from RAF Akrotiri for engines, hydraulics, tyres, avionics, survival equipment and armament. The engineering coordinator on the squadron is responsible for progressing mo-

difications and supply items and monitoring the considerable amount of aircraft documentation generated. However, his main task is to attempt to balance the hours flown by each aircraft in relation to the others. This maintains a stagger between second-line servicings and involves juggling flying tasks to ensure the aircraft is ready for servicing on the planned date. Obviously random defects upset such plans, as they usually occur at the most inconvenient times! Nevertheless, despite such problems with aircraft availability, the aircrew and groundcrew alike are committed to their tasks of operating and maintaining the Wessex of 84 Squadron to the highest possible standards.

The pilots, who bend them,
Need us to mend them
When after their sortie they come
And tell us "It's Bent"
When flying they went
Around in the sea and the sun.
When a callout occurs
All tasks are deferred
Until after the Wessex is launched
The aircrew aware
Of the work and the care
That has fixed what it was that was "graunched"



First-line corrosion - Wessex bathtime!



Second-line servicing - Wessex striptease!

DANCON ENGINEERS

By Lieutenant B B Herlevesen



The engineers of DANCON carry out their tasks under hard and unusual conditions. Improvisation, common sense and staying power are key words if you shall succeed with such tasks in Sector One.

Construction and maintenance are the two most demanding tasks, particularly when you have to move over very long distances and difficult roads to the place of work, as in Sector One.

One way to solve the problem with the long distances is to construct main parts in the engineer work shop and then carry the parts by truck or helicopter.

To do the work in the four camps and on the fourteen OP's, starting with D 31 close to Pano Zodia and going on to D 01 in Kokkina, the organisation is as follows:

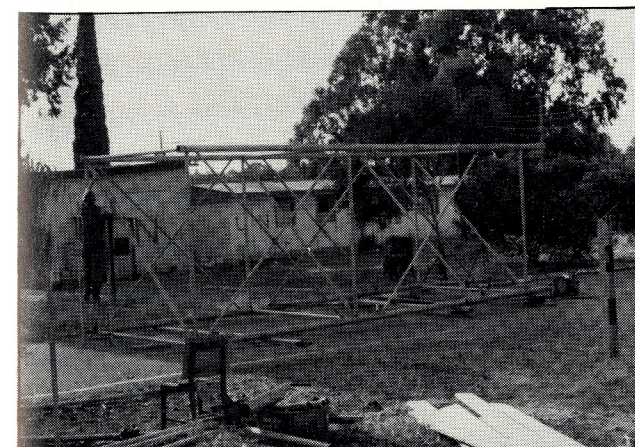
Engineer Section – DANCON

1 NCO

10 Privates, including:—

- 2 Bricklayers
- 2 Carpenters
- 2 Smiths
- 2 Electricians
- 2 House-painters

and



Large pieces of construction work are often prepared at the work shop



.....and then transported by helicopter (in this case, a Wessex supplied by 84 Sqn RAF)

HQ Company	B Company	C Company
1 NCO	1 NCO	1 NCO
2 Privates	2 Privates	2 Privates

The normal working procedure is that the camp sections carry out the normal maintenance in their camps and on the OP's, and the engineer section carries out projects and, later in the building period when these are complete, supports the camp sections in more comprehensive maintenance.

The Contingent gets all materials and advice from Nicosia, and here the very long supply and communication lines is a main problem. To solve these problems, the Sector is connected to the Force Engineer and his staff in HQ UNFICYP. Every Monday, as in other sectors, the Sector One Engineer meets with the Force Engineer and here problems with materials and technical work are clarified.

The operative effectiveness (including discipline and hygiene) of every soldier in the buffer zone depends on the facilities under which he has to live and carry out his operational functions. Therefore, as long as UN soldiers are carrying out their task on Cyprus the engineers will be present on the island.



ORIENTEERING

By Lieutenant Per-Eric Odevall

Photographs by Sgt Tony Hodgetts and Pte Nisse Hallgren

The UNFICYP Relay Orienteering Championship was this year arranged by SWEDCON, in the surroundings of Dhekelia on the first Wednesday in September. Thirty-two teams from eight different sectors / units were represented in the competition, which was held in three different classes: class A, class B (over 35 years) and an open class.

In the open class the only team which succeeded in finding all the controls was, in fact, a team from 9 Signal Regiment, consisting of three happy girls!

All classes started at the same time and when the shot went off SWEDCON's old boy, Maj Ljung was the fastest, and the first to disappear out of sight from the spectators and the fellow competitors. Maj Ljung covered his three miles lap in a time just less than twenty-eight minutes and he gave the Swedish old boy team a comfortable lead which was more than enough for Lt Col Jansson and Maj Sundquist to keep the other teams behind.

SWEDCON's victory in class B was completed by SWEDCON's team two, Maj Wetter, Maj Johansson and Maj Lundberg, which finished second, almost three quarters of an hour before the next team.

After the first lap in class A SWEDCON's first team was in the lead after Pte Akerblom's very good run. But on the second leg Pte Solander lost his whole advantage, and was even passed by two British teams - UN Support Regiment 1 and 9 Signal Regiment 1. Capt Farrington of Support Regiment and WO2 Conroy from 9 Signal Regiment came up to the second change exactly at the same time and all looked forward to a thrilling third leg.

SWEDCON came in two minutes later and their last



The three girls from 9 Signal Regiment, from left, WCpl Abercrombie, WLCpl Calder and WCpl Barnes, receive their prizes from Brig Gen Hewson.

runner, Capt Schmidinger tried to reach contact with the two leading teams as soon as possible. At the fourth control on the final leg Capt Schmidinger came in first and he held his leading position up to the fifth control. However, between the fifth and the sixth control he made a major mistake which he could not repair in the last few kilometres. Instead, Maj Smith, UN Support Regiment and Capt Cary, 9 Signal Regiment were able to keep their position in the front, with Maj Smith as the first to reach the finishing line, still in good shape.

In the overall team competition SWEDCON for the fourth year in succession carried off the challenge trophy, the UN shield. At the prize-giving ceremony all the prizes were presented to the competitors by Brig Gen C W Hewson CD, Chief of Staff, who was assisted by the Swedish chaplain, Capt Moden.

Results:

Class A

1 UN Support Regiment Team 1 (Lt Bruce, Capt Farrington, Maj Smith)	147.00 mins
2 9 Signal Regiment Team 1	154.05 mins
3 9 Signal Regiment Team 11	160.45 mins
4 SWEDCON Team 1	165.35 mins
5 DANCON Team 11	178.55 mins
6 SWEDCON Team 11	187.55 mins

Class B (over 35 years)

1 SWEDCON Team 1 (Maj Ljung, Lt Col Jansson, Maj Sundquist)	120.00 mins
2 SWEDCON Team 11	138.10 mins
3 UN Support Regiment Team 1	180.45 mins
4 DANCON	187.00 mins

Class C (open)

1 9 Signal Regiment (WCpl Abercrombie, WCpl Barnes, WLCpl Calder)	129.30 mins
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Class A second place team, 9 Signal Regiment 1, two members of the UN Sp Regt 'A' team, Maj Smith and Capt Farrington who were first, and two members of 9 Signal Regiment 11 who finished in third place.



INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK



THE SWEDISH SMÖRGÅSBORD

By Lieutenant Per-Eric Odevall

Photograph by Sergeant Torbjorn Henningsson

The Swedish word "smorgasbord" is a well-known conception to all those with culinary interests, irrespective of nationality. Some of the readers may, in fact, have been among the guests at SWEDCON's welcome party on the 6th of June, when all guests were invited to sit in at a "smorgasbord" after the official programme.

In this article we are going to learn some more about the history behind the "smorgasbord" of our days. So this is not going to be an enumeration of recipes, which in any way are hard to follow because of the lack of proper ingredients here on Cyprus.

Swedish researchers think they have found the origin of today's "smorgasbord" as far back as in the 16th century.

And they have also found out that the model to the early "schnaps-table" (which later developed to a complete "smorgasbord") goes back to the Russians' early use of vodka at the dinner tables.

It may be worth mentioning that the very first "smorgasbord" were in fact nothing else than a small table laid with a couple of different brands of "brannvin", together with bread, butter cheese and herring, sometimes maybe completed with smoked ham and different kinds of sausages. All this was meant as an appetizer to the dinner party before they sat down for the real meal.

In the following two hundred years the small "schnapstable" gradually grew, as more and more dishes were put on the table. And nowadays, no-one who has partaken of all the dishes can even think of ordering another main dish.

During the period described above (especially the 18th century) several foreign visitors mentioned the strange habit of eating "smorgasbord", in their



The cook squad at Camp Victoria, Larnaca which did most of the work for the "smorgasbord" which was served on the Swedish national day on the 6th of June. From the left: Pte Jarvola, Pte Wahlin, Pte Bjorkdahl, Mike Georgiou, Pte Torell, Pte Landqvist and Squadron Leader Sgt Jelk-vall.

letters home. It may be of some curiosity interest to read what some of them wrote home to their compatriots:

"Uneatable cat-food", thought the British scientist, Thomas Blackwell.

"A travesty of the French hors d'oeuvre", wrote the British feminist, Mary Wollstonecraft.

"A dreadful bad habit", was N Wraxall's judgement after a trip to Sweden in the late 18th century.

In spite of all this hard criticism the "smorgasbord" survived, and not just that — it still grew even more and more

The palmy days of the "smorgasbord" took place in the years around the turn of the century, when a huge "smorgasbord" always stood to the tra-

vellers' disposition at all the main railway station's restaurants.

Now, at the end of the 20th century, the "smorgasbord" is something that export departments and chambers of commerce use to attract customers. And, of course, something that SWEDCON uses to feed UNFICYP members of all ranks at big celebrations!

And so, at last, here are a few examples of what you can find on a well laid "smorgasbord": herring of all kinds, eel, salmon, meatballs, roulades, pies, sausages of all sorts, vegetables of all kinds, stew, ribs, eggs, "Jansson's temptation", omelettes, ham, shrimps, several different salads, bread and butter, lots of cheese, fruit and sweets

Try it — you will love it!

NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGE - AUSTRIAN BATTALION

By Major Peter Mulacz

When I came to Cyprus on my first tour of duty in April 1981, I was astonished to see such an old switchboard in our exchange. I've been told this was British hired, World War II fashioned and in very weak condition, but soon we shall get a new one.

Time passed and nothing happened, except the breakdown of elements of this antiquated switchboard and the assurance again and again, we shall get the new one soon.

Now something has happened which seemed to be unbelievable: we've got it really! It took the technicians of UNFICYP Signal Squadron under WOII Colin Ramsey more than one week to establish the new switchboard and to eliminate all problems, but Capt Walter Zlamala, the Austrian Signal Officer, was glad to be able to see the first automatic dial calls within the camp just before he left Cyprus at the end of his tour.

This is one of the great advantages of the new system: the fully electronic device provides automatic dials for almost all connections and thereby relieves the exchange personnel of a major part of its former work. Furthermore, it is possible for each subscriber to connect an incoming call to another subscriber. Only the lines to Dhekelia and Nicosia and to the OP's A 14 and A 20 are to be connected by hand, and for this purpose we have got an additional switchboard with thirty lines whereas the new main switchboard provides eighty connections.

The new exchange offers even more possibilities—to realise them will be the next task for our Signal Section which is now led by 2/Lt Ralph Aichelburg, a militia officer. He is on his first tour with UNFICYP and, being a trained Signal Officer, is familiar with his duties. In his civilian career, he studies history and paedagogics and will finish this soon. In sports, he is particularly interested in riding and yacht-sailing.

Three NCO's belong to the Signal Section: WOI Friedrich Koelbl who runs the daily duties, WOI Johann Gruberbauer who runs the AMRS-station (HAM radio) which provides a radio connection both to Austria and to AUSBATT/UNDOF and WOI Johann Klewein who is our Signal technician, an "Oldie" who was serving with AUSCON in Larnaca in 1974. All of them have rich experience in foreign service gathered on several previous tours.

The soldiers now running the exchange are: 1/Cpls Harald Artmann and Anton Roessner, Cpl Jochen Wodl (the winner of the rifle match in the recent UNFICYP Shooting Competition) and L/Cpls Erich Gutsjahr, Alexander Miok and Roland Markowits. Of course, they do not only run the exchange, they have also radio duties and they must be prepared to repair broken landlines and establish new ones. They all do their jobs very well—and they like their tour of duty with UNFICYP very much.



British technicians of UNFICYP Signal Squadron.



This is the new electronic switchboard being operated by Cpl Wodl and the additional switchboard for the few lines which are to be connected by hand.



This picture shows the past: L/Cpl Roland Markowits at the old switchboard which has now been removed.

I COMPLETED THE DANCON MARCH

By Station Sergeant Jeff Brown

Photographs by Corporal Luc O'Bomsawin and Private Andy Allen



Uphill just after the start

When I heard people say 'I completed the DANCON march', I thought, 'So what, it's only a short stroll through beautiful countryside on a pleasant afternoon.' So when I was volunteered for the march on 3 and 4 September I didn't mind at all.



"Enjoy your pleasant walk"

The first surprise was the ten kilo weight I had to carry on my back, the second surprise was that the march was 25 kilometres a day in less than seven hours and the third surprise was that the march was mostly uphill.

Anyway, I turned up at Evrykhou at 7am ready for the 'short stroll through the countryside'. At this stage I was wondering why I was there as I looked up at the mountains all around me and it was only an hour after the start before I realised that I had made a terrible mistake. What I had let myself in for had turned out to be a gruelling mountain climb that would push me to the limit if I was to complete it. I stopped on the side of the road for a few minutes and watched the marchers go by and I decided that I couldn't pull out so early, I had to complete at least half of it in order to save face, so I went on.

I reached the five kilometre mark and

headed for ten. The going became rougher as the ten went by and I headed for the fifteen kilometre mark. At fifteen I felt like stopping but I knew that I hadn't completed enough yet so I headed for twenty. When I reached the twenty mark I thought that I had now completed enough of the march to be able to stop without embarrassment, but was told that the last five kilometres of the first day was all down hill and I should keep on. So on I went and I was surprised when I reached the 25 kilometre mark which brought to an end the first day's ordeal and I was able to lie down and rest my weary legs. I had now completed half the march and I started to think that perhaps it wasn't that bad after all and I should come back the next day and show everyone that I wasn't too old for this.

I went to bed early that night and the biggest mistake I made was getting up the next morning to complete the second part of the march.

Hour after hour I climbed. My feet were blistered and sore, my legs stiff and the back pack with the ten kilos weight in it pulled at my shoulders and banged into my lower back. The sun came out hotter than ever and I was soaked in sweat and my head ached, but I was committed now and somehow had to keep going.

A Canadian doctor who was also marching, put pads on my blisters and a young Canadian showed me how to correctly carry my back pack. A Danish sergeant walked with me for two or three kilometres giving me encouragement and when I was all but done in, two British soldiers looking quite fresh in their combat outfit overtook me and handed me a container of lemon cordial and said, 'Is it too much for you sir?' I quickly replied 'No' I'm just enjoying the view'.

So on I went. A Swedish officer walked with me for a kilometre or two and then I was caught up by a group of Austrians and I struggled to keep up with them before I said, 'I'll see you at the next checkpoint'. I then sat on the side of the road for five or ten minutes and a group of Canadian officers stopped and a Captain that looked like he was worse off than me said, 'Come

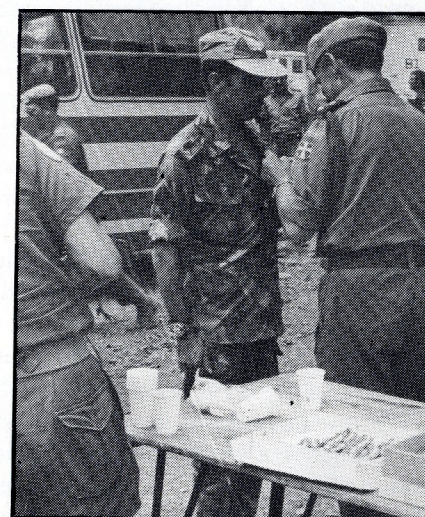
on, you can make it.' So on I went.

As the kilometres went by, my feet got worse, my legs were crying out to me to stop and my back was rejecting the back pack with what seemed like a camel and two kangaroos in it.

I slowed to a slow crawl and a voice said, 'How are you going?' I said, 'I'm too old for this.' The voice said, 'You will make it though won't you?' I looked up and saw that I was talking to Colonel PYE. I said 'Yes sir.' and kept on going.

As I approached the twenty kilometre mark I realised that I only had five kilometres to go and I stumbled on wondering as I went if I could make the 200 metres to the final checkpoint before I started the final five kilometres stretch to the finish line. Why was I here? Who volunteered me for this? and Can my legs keep going?

On and on I went, past the final checkpoint and into the homeward stretch. Other marchers came and went as they offered me chewing gum, drinks, salt tablets or encouragement and I could hear applause as I approached the finish line and my pace quickened as I lifted my head up, pulled my shoulders back, swung my arms and I'm proud to say, 'I completed the DANCON march.'



WOII RQMS Ian Hardman receiving his medal from CO DANCON, Lt Col Jakobsen



UN NEWS



EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

TO THE CURRENT 38TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

IN NEW YORK

Thirty-eight years after the Second World War it would seem that the drive towards an effective, peaceful and more equitable international order has slowed, and the incentive to develop international institutions corresponding to the realities and risks of our time has weakened. Political will to these ends, in its best sense, has been dissipated in a variety of rivalries, confrontations and conflicts. The belief in a common future has been, to a large extent, lost in the anxieties of a divided present. Short-term national interests, old resentments and fears, and ideological differences have obscured the vision of the Charter. The will to compose differences seems weak or absent in most conflict situations, and at the other end of the spectrum the concept of world affairs dominated by concerns for national security or conceived as an open-ended struggle between massive ideological forces seems to have taken the place of the new and enlightened international community envisaged in the Charter. In this connection, the recent tragedy of the downed Korean airliner, and the very serious issues it raises, also points dramatically to the urgent need for more open and ready communications between all sides in the interests of the international community as a whole in order to create an environment in which the use of force would be unthinkable.

Admittedly, we have been through a period of fundamental change in the world — geopolitical change, technological change and a revolutionary change in the nature and scope of war. But all of these things demand more than ever a return to the far-sighted statesmanship of the immediate post-war years, not a retreat from it. Who can possibly believe that a world dominated by the nuclear balance, where \$800 billion a year is spent on armaments and where a large proportion of the population lives in destitution and with little real hope, is on the right track? And yet, paradoxically, for the time being at any rate, the United Nations, which was set up to deal with such problems, is too often on the sidelines as far as many major issues are concerned.

We are at present in a period when the value of multilateral diplomacy is being questioned and international institutions are not functioning as they were intended to function. The machinery is running and the wheels are turning, but it is not moving forward as it should. This applies to the United Nations and, in diffe-

rent degrees, to regional organizations and to many international agencies and groupings. Nor is it evident that bilateral diplomacy or unilateral efforts are, in most cases, filling the gap by providing that correlation of national policies which is essential to future stability and the general international interest. We must find means to push the machinery into forward motion again. If we do not do this, we run the risk of being caught, immobile and in the open, in a new international storm too great for us to weather.

Let me here point to a source of real encouragement. It is perhaps best symbolized in the proposal of the Chairman of the seventh non-aligned summit conference, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, that the United Nations should be strengthened by a meeting of heads of State or Government to give a fresh collective look at some of the major problems of the world. At this critical time in human relations it is encouraging that the non-aligned movement has spoken as a protagonist of the multilateral approach and of the purposes and principles of the Charter. Nor is such a view by any means limited to the non-aligned movement. In meetings with many leaders throughout the world I have been impressed by the evident desire to see the United Nations function in the manner in which it was intended to function.

It is therefore paradoxical that we should be experiencing, I trust only temporarily, the fragmentation and erosion of the historic effort to build an international system designed to provide peace, security, stability and justice for all. Although in the short term the world may get by without such an effort, in the long term such a system, evolving through a conscious political effort by all States, is indispensable if we are to avoid chaos and disaster on a scale hitherto unknown. At the present time we are witnessing instead the unravelling of many agreements reached by hard and painstaking negotiation over the years. It is absolutely vital that this trend be reversed and that we strengthen our international institutions, not only in order to deal with immediate conflict problems but also to construct a viable framework for the life of future generations on our crowded planet."

Javier PEREZ DE CUELLAR
Secretary-General