

THE BLUE BERET

Saturday, 13th July 1968



Issued by the Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus

Volume Six

No. 13

IRCON MEDAL PARADE



The presentation of the UNFICYP service medal to members of the Irish contingent, 10 Inf Group, took place at XEROS on 3 July 1968. The parade was taken by the Force Commander, Lt-Gen A.E. Martola who is pictured above presenting the Contingent Commander, Lt-Col R. O'Sullivan with his medal. (More pictures on page 4).

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

"More could be done to help"
Says U Thant

UN Secretary-General, U Thant, has warned that the failure on the part of the United Nations to act in bridging the gap between 'have and have-not' nations, of the world was an invitation to violence.

In an address to the opening session of the UN Economic and Social Council in Geneva, on Monday 8 July, 1968, U Thant said, "The poor were

(Continued on page 8)

The Editor regrets the delayed publication of Blue Beret this week — which was due to a dispute in the printing industry.

UNFICYP FINANCES

U THANT APPEALS FOR CONTRIBUTION OF 20 MILLION DOLLARS

UN Secretary-General, U Thant, last week, made another urgent appeal for contributions to the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus.

In a letter to all member states, U Thant said, "The force operated on voluntary contributions and that this remained an unsatisfactory method of financing".

"The present state of the force", he said, "showed this to be true".

New pledges of some 19,136,000 dollars (£8 million) must be received", he declared, "If the United Nations was to honour in full its past commitments to the states providing contingents to the Cyprus force and to cover the other costs involved in maintaining it until 15th December of this year.

U Thant emphasized it was absolutely essential that the new pledges be forthcoming if the premature withdrawal of the force was to be avoided.

In his appeal for contributions, the Secretary-General said "The estimated costs of

the operation from its beginning in March 1964 to December 1967 totalled about 1000,000,000 dollars (£40 million)".

Amounts paid or pledged by states to cover these costs", he said, "came to little over 80,000,000 dollars as of last month."

FORCE COMMANDER ON LEAVE

Lieutenant-General A.E. Martola, Commander of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, left Nicosia yesterday Friday, 12 July 1968, for a period of home leave in Finland.

The Commander will return to Nicosia on 14 August 1968. During his absence, Brigadier M. N. Harbottle, OBE, Chief of Staff, will be officiating Commander of the Force.

NEW AUSTRIAN FIELD HOSPITAL COMMANDER



On Thursday 4 July, Lt-Gen A.E. Martola visited the Austrian Field Hospital on the occasion of the rotation of the medical staff. Accompanying the General, left, Lt-Col Leo Effenberger, new commander of the AFH, and right Lt-Col Robert Wech the outgoing commander.

On Wednesday, 26th June the new commander of the Austrian Field Hospital, Lt-Col Leo Effenberger MD, landed in Cyprus with his medical staff, to relieve Col Robert Wech and his staff at the end of their tour.

Lt-Col Effenberger has had three tours on the island, and he is delighted to be back again. It took only three days before he was called upon to practise his medical skill, when, as he was returning in his car from 6-mile beach events took a dramatic turn...

A lady who had seen the red cross on the side of Lt-Col Effenberger's car had driven after him hoping she could get medical assistance. Her husband who was in the car, had had an accident with a harpoon which had sunk deep into his chest and could not be withdrawn because of the barb on the end. First aid equipment in the

(Continued on page 8)



ERIK EJEGODS GRAV

Den 10 Juli 1103 - altså i onsdags for 865 år siden - døde den danske kong Erik Ejegod her på Cypern. Han var med stort følge på pilgrimsrejse mod Jerusalem, men nåede kun til øen i Middelhavet. Her ramtes han af heftige feberanfalde, rejsen måtte afbrydes, og kort tid efter udandede kongen.

Om årsagen til, at en dansk konge forlader land og rige og giver sig et så usikkert foretagende i vold, fortæller Saxo: Kongen holder gæstebud. Blandt deltagerne er en berømt harpsspiller, som roser sig af, at han med sine toner kan trænge sine tilhørere til vanvid. Erik opfordrer ham til at vise sin kunst, og efter nogen tøven erklærer harpsspilleren sig villig.

Spillet begynder. Lidt efter lidt overfaldes kongen af raseri og begynder at råbe og skrige. Livvagten iles til og finder kongen i et ubændigt raseri. Der opstår hængemæng, og herunder kommer kongen til at dræbe fire af sine bedste mænd. Ved at kaste puder og hynder over ham lykkes det omsider at få ham tæmmet og beroliget. Det var for at sone denne udåd, at kongen aflagde løfte om at drage til det hellige

land.

Senere historikere giver knap så romantiske, men til gengæld mere troværdige forklaringer på kongens rejse. Kongen holder gæstebud. Blandt deltagerne er en berømt harpsspiller, som roser sig af, at han med sine toner kan trænge sine tilhørere til vanvid. Erik opfordrer ham til at vise sin kunst, og efter nogen tøven erklærer harpsspilleren sig villig.

Rejsen går over østersøen og videre ad russiske floder til Konstantinopel, hvor kongen taler til til de danske i værings-garden, og hvor kejser Alexis skænker ham et stykke af det hellige kors.

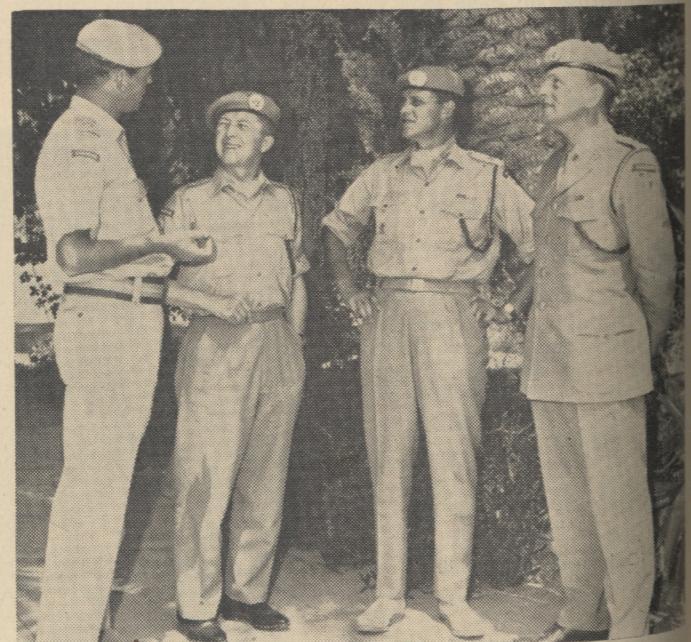


I forrige uge havde DANCON besøg af Danmarks ambassadør for Cypern, Hans Excellence Hans Bertelsen. Ambassadøren bor ellers i Beirut i Libanon, hvor han tillige er Danmarks ambassadør. Men dette er ikke alt, ambassadøren er desuden Danmarks ambassadør i Jordan, Syrien, Kuwait og Saudi Arabien. Her ses Hans Bertelsen i samtale med chefen for DANCON, oberstløjtnant O.M.Action.

Denne fornemme reliktie sender kongen hjem til kirken i sin fødeby, Slangerup.

I veludrustede skibe, som kejseren stiller til rådighed, fortsætter så rejsen. Men Erik skulle ikke nå sit mål. Han var en stor mand, et hovede højere end alt folket, og han tålte nok ikke varmen. Man må legge bi ved Cypern, og kongen dør.

Det var ved Paphos floden lagde ind. Erik Ejegod var katolik, men på den tid var der ingen katolske kirker i byen. Vi må derfor regne med, at han blev begravet i den græsk-orthodoxe katedral. Denne kirke eksisterer imidlertid ikke mere, men den vides at have ligget lidt nordvest for kirken Kyriake Khrysopolitissa. Her er der nu en lille have, og tæt ved indgangen står en lav sojle, måske netop hvor den gamle kirkes alter stod. Her i nærheden må vi formode, at den ejegode konge blev stedt til hvile.



For tiden finder der en mindre udsiftning sted blandt de danske officerer, der gør tjeneste ved HQ UNFICYP. Fra venstre ses major E.Beyer fra Fyenske Livregiment der afløses af major I.M.Terkildsen som kommer fra Kongens Jydske Fodregiment. Derefter major J.Bjulf fra Gardehusarerne med sin afløser, major I.S.Haslund-Christensen. De afgående majorer rejser hjem med SCACYP'en den 21 Juli.

SPRING FRA FLYVENDE HELIKOPTER

Helikoptertræningen er i fuldt sving. Det foregår normalt på golfbanen bag Nicosia Club. Helikopterne, der anvendes, er af typen Whirlwind. De kommer fra UNFICYP's flight, hvori der indgår fire af disse fly. Over kortere afstande kan helikopterne medføre fem personer foruden to besætningsmedlemmer. Træningen er opdelt i lektioner, og en af dem omfatter, som det ses på billedet, spring fra helikopteren i luften - uden brug af faldskærm. Tidligere indgik også en øvelse hvor man skulle frys sig ned ad et ca. 8 meter langt reb. Denne øvelse er udeladt, da det viste sig, at den normalt fremkalde adskillige forbrændte hænder og forstuvede ankler.



Hvis nogen ved aftenstide har undret sig over at kunne høre sækkepibemusik fra signaldelingens emnebøger, så kan vi hermed oplyse, at De har hørt rigtigt. Det erkonstabel John H.Jørgensen, der oversig. Han var i Gaza på hold XVIII og XIX, og der lært han den ædle kunst af pipere ved det indiske regiment, 4th Guards. Sækkepiben er købt i en musikforretning i Danmark, der skaffede den fra Skotland.

FOTBOLL: UPPÅT FÖR DE BLÅ-GULA

Det blev ingen revansch för irländarna när de på hemmaplan i Xeros drabbade samman med det svenska bataljonslaget i fotboll för andra gången på fjorton dagar. I det första mötet vann svenskarna med 2-0. Den här gången, den 3, var Sveriges överlägsenhet ännu större. 4-0 blev resultatet.

Annars började hemmalaget fint. De blå-gult skrudade svenskarna pressades tillbaka ordentligt den första kvarten. Men omsider gick initiativet över till gästerna och när Göran Johansson, Eringsboda, klippte in det första målet efter ungefär en halvtimmes spel vände bladet definitivt.

Efter pausen fanns det bara ett lag på benen. Det svenska. De

tre mål som centern Sture Boderg, Fardhem, gjorde kunde lätt ha blivit fler.

Som helhet betraktad var det ingen stor match, därtill slarvades det för mycket. Sverige har dock ett ganska vältränat, om än icke sammespelat, manskap, som med sin styrka och energi säkert har vissa chanser att ge även andra kontingenter hårdare duster.



Segrarlaget i Xeros.

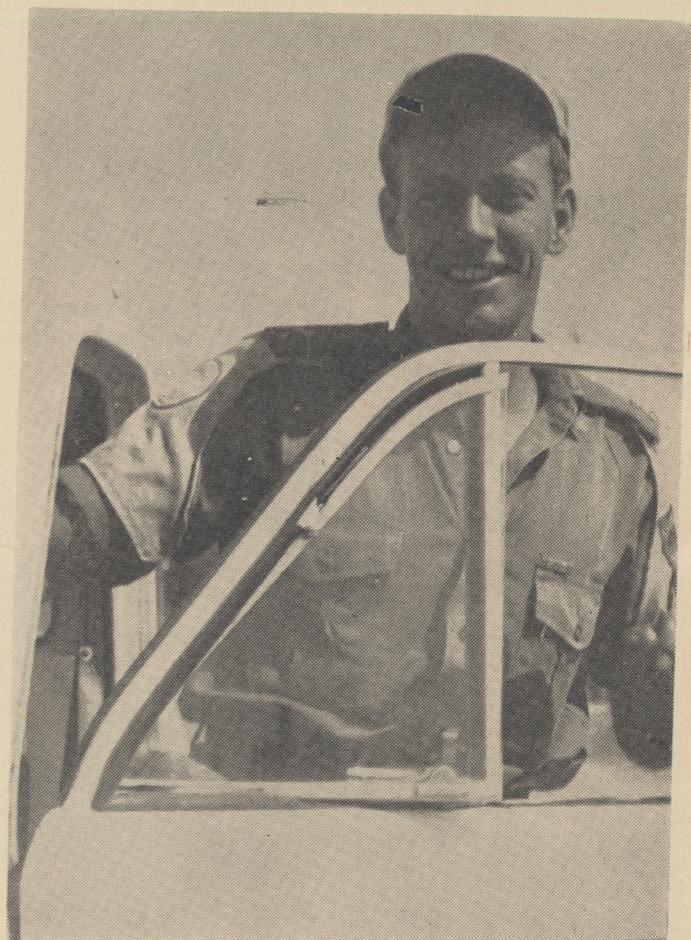
SWEDCON NEWS



DUKTIGA DRIVERS

Hans Eriksson, hemmahörande i Karlstad och på STR, är namnet på en av bataljonens duktigaste drivers. Den andre, lika duktige drivern, heter också Hans, men Nyström i efternamn och med Oxelösund och 3 komp som hemmarter. Det var nämligen trafiksäkerhetsprov under UNFICYPs trafik-säkerhetsvecka härförleden och på Carl Gustaf var 66 deltagare från alla kompanierna med.

The blue Beret ber att få gratulera båda Hassarna. Det är han med efternamnet Eriksson som vi ser på bilden.



Elever i ovanlig kurs: Fr v Bo Josefsson, Storfors; Göran Aldin, Malmö; Allan Svensson, Lönsboda; Arne Nilsson, Tyringe och Bo Holm, Saxdalen, samlade kring en fallskärm.

200 VILL LÄRA SIG HOPPA

Har bataljon 40 C blivit en fallskärmssjägarskola? Nja, kanske inte riktigt. Men faktum är att ca 200 grabbar vill lära fallskärm. Så många får nu inte plats i de kurser som löjtnant Bo Syde, Malmö, har tagit initiativ till.

Den första kursen har redan börjat. Det är tio första-Kompanister som under captain Ray Ryans och Bo Sydes ledning under ett par veckor gjort sig beredda för det första hoppet. Utbildningen sker främst i Dhekelia, men också förvånade strandinnehavare har kunnat konstatera att man faktiskt kan träna fallskärmshopp

också i eösand ch i lågvatten.

Allt som allt omfattar utbildningen femton timmar. Det är betydligt kortare tid än hemma i Sverige, där man får räkna med tre gånger så lång tid. Priset är också förmånligare här nere. Omkring hundralappen kostar det här, mot fyra gånger så mycket hemma.

IRCON MEDAL PARADE



Contingent Commander, Lt Col R. O'Sullivan, presents Cpl Montgomery with his UNFICYP service medal, while still awaiting their's are Pte Prendergast and Cpl Egan.



The parade is addressed by the Force Commander, Lt Gen A.E. Martola while the pipe band stands attentively by.



IRCON NEWS

INTER CONTINGENT SOCCER

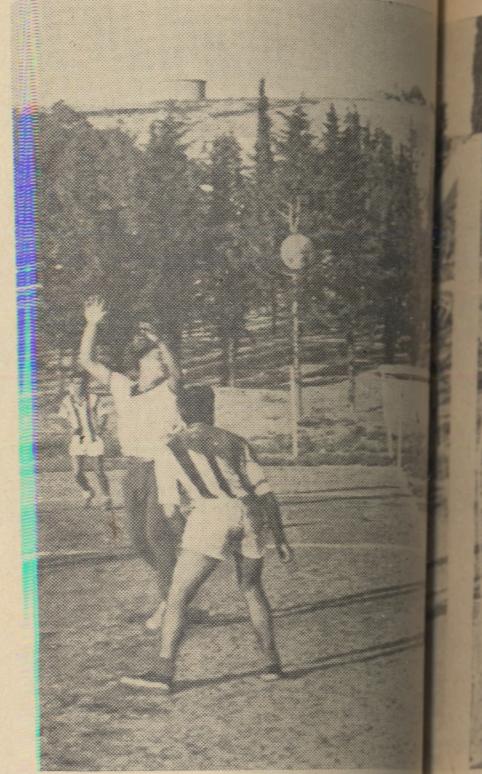
During the week the return match versus Swedcon was played at Lefka. In a hard fought game the visitors were more than a match for the home side and went on to win four goals to nil. Our photos show:

(Right) The ball eludes the outstretched hands of goalie Shaughnessey for Swedcon's third goal while Lieut Moore and Cpl Bartley helplessly look on.

(Below) Home team (left to right)

Front row:- Pte O'Reilly, Sgt Fagan, Capt Carey, (Capt) Pte Constable and Cpl Bartley.

Back row:- Capt O'Leary, Lieut Moore, Pte Tighe, Pte Shaughnessey, (goal-keeper) Pte Bartley, C/Sgt Fogarty, and Pte Norton.



ROTATION

During the week the Force Engineer Officer, Lt Col Jimmy Cooney, handed over the duties of his appointment to his successor, Lt-Col Jack Connole.

During his twelve months stay on the island Lt Col Cooney made many friends who now join in wishing him good luck on return to his homeland.

To his replacement, Lt Col Connole, we extend a hearty welcome and wish him a pleasant and successful tour of duty on the island.



Cpl Robert Brown, from Sunderland, Commanding Officers Bugler of the 4th Bn The Light Infantry sounding the Last Post. This was followed by 'Abide with me' played by the Band and then Reveille was sounded by the Bugles.

Bugle-Major Kenneth Walker from Gilly Law, Sunderland, parades the Bugles in front of the half-masted Durham flag with the Light Infantry flag flying in the background.

VESTING DAY FOR THE DLI
"FAREWELL THE FAITHFULL"

On Wednesday 10 July 1968, The Durham Light Infantry became the 4th Bn The Light Infantry. Amongst the guests who attended the Vesting Day ceremony were the C-in-C British Forces Near East Air Marshal Sir Edward Gordon-Jones and the GOC NEARELF, Maj-Gen D. Lloyd Owen. The Force Commander Lt Gen A.E. Martola took the salute.

The sun had set over Kitchener Lines at Polemidhia near Limassol when the old flag of the Durhams was slowly lowered as the 'Last Post' was sounded by Cpl Robert Brown from Sunderland, The Commanding Officer's Bugler.

The still night air was awoken by 'Reveille' and the new flag unfurled from the top of the mast. The Durhams had become the 4th Bn The Light Infantry.

This simple part of a moving parade signified the merging of 210 years Regimental history and tradition into a new Regiment, combining the Somerset and Cornwall Light

Infantry, the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry and the Durham Light Infantry.

At the conclusion of the

parade celebrations were held

in both the Officers and Sgts

messes; over 300 guests were

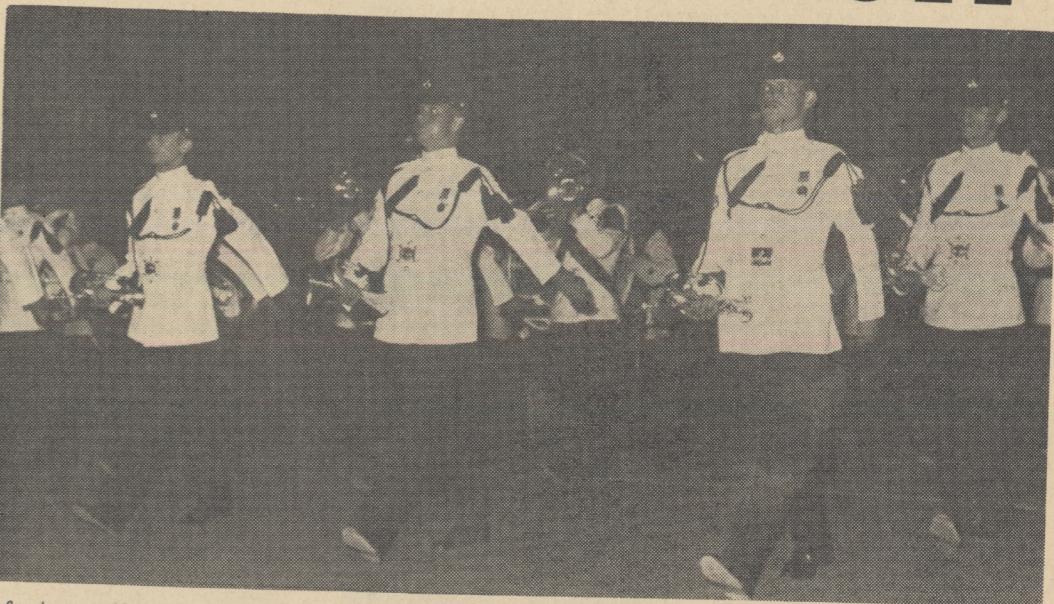
entertained.

By April next year the Light Infantry will have been reduced by one battalion — the fourth, the Durhams. So Cyprus will be the last overseas country in which the Durham Light Infantry has served. No doubt a move which would make Colonel John Lambton, who raised the Regiment in 1756, turn in his grave, but these moves have been planned to streamline the Infantry. It would therefore seem a just tribute to the Durhams to relate some of their past deeds, before they fade away.

Recruits for the Regiment have always come mainly from the County of Durham. Today, 90% of the soldiers are "Geordies". It was in 1808 that the County Regiment received the honour of being made Light Infantry with the title 68th Light Infantry. It became the Durham Light Infantry in 1881.

The regiment was awarded the title "Faithfull" for their loyal service in the West Indies against the Carib Indians. This title subsequently became the Regimental motto. They fought throughout the Peninsular Campaign under the Duke of Wellington taking a distinguished part in the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, the Pyrenees and Orthes. The Duke described the attack led by the 68th and 51st (KOYLI) as "the most gallant and finest thing, I've ever witnessed".

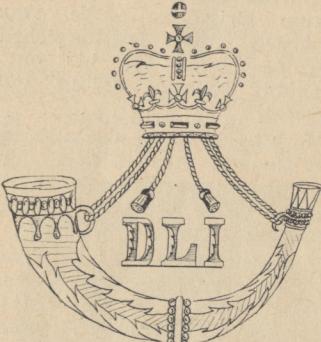
In 1854, during the Crimean War the 68th gained the first



Men of the Band and Bugles of The 4th Bn The Light Infantry marching on Vesting Day Parade at Kitchener Lines, Polemidhia, Cyprus.

of thirteen Victoria Crosses. This was won by Private John Byrne, who alongside his County kinsmen at the Battle of Inkerman drove the Russians from the field at bayonet point, in freezing conditions. The anniversary of this day has always been celebrated in the Regiment.

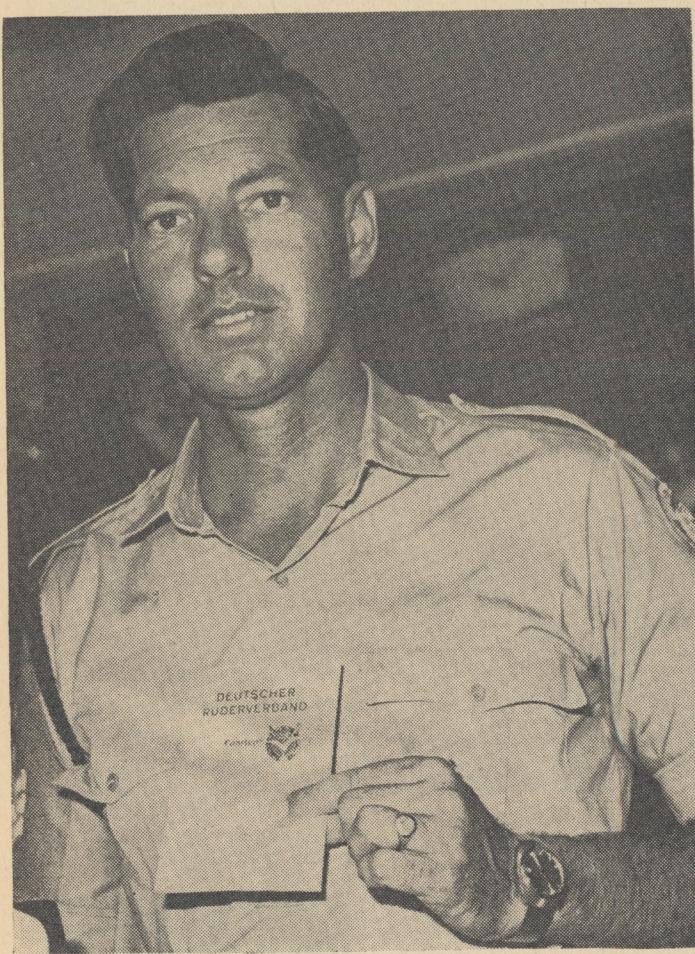
After the Crimean War and a spell in garrison in 1863, the 68th took part in the Maori war in New Zealand. In 1881 an amalgamation took place with the 106th Bombay Light Infantry. This was convenient (Continued on page 8)



BRITCON NEWS



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON!



Holding a unique certificate is S/Sgt John Plumpton of the 'Sappers', who was awarded it by Osnabruck Rowing Club, the only British oarsman to achieve 1500 kilometres in a Rowing Calendar with a German Club.

Hospital Commander

(Continued from page 1)

car was insufficient so the injured man was driven down to Kyrenia hospital, where Lt Col Effenberger removed the barb.

A Government medical Officer congratulated Lt Col Effenberger on his speedy action.

Road Safety Corner

Alcohol, even in small quantities, impairs your judgement and makes you less safe on the road. You may think you drive better after a drink or two, lots of people think this — you are all wrong. It is only because your judgement is effected that you think you are driving better.

Very small quantities of alcohol, drugs, travel sickness pills, etc, can have an effect equal to large amounts of drink. If you are taking pills or medicine, check with the doctor and make sure they won't effect your reactions.

The only safe rule is:
If you are driving, don't drink.
If you are drinking, don't drive.

Developing Countries . . .

(Continued from page 1)

becoming increasingly aware of the gap which separated them from the rich and were increasingly impatient at the denial of adequate help".

"Also", he said, "the limited results of the recent UN Trade and Development conference, which met in New Delhi, was a matter for grave concern".

"Developed countries", he said, "had shown a reluctance to reserve a part of their consumption increases for export to developing states as well as a hesitancy to ease the terms under which they offered those states aid".

"However", he added, "blame should not rest solely on industrialized states". "Developing countries, also", he went on, "often exhibited a lack of farsightedness in their policies and deluded themselves with the notion that long-term benefits could be sacrificed to short-term expediencies".

The vital appointment of Mess Caterer in any Sergeants' Mess, is held in the Headquarters UNFICYP by Staff-surgeon John Plumpton, Royal Engineers from Bristol.

Staff-surgeon Plumpton previously served with the Royal Engineers when 37 Field Engineer Regiment occupied Polimidia Camp in 1957. Whilst there he was cross-country running champion for two successive years.

His main sporting interest, however, is aquatic and takes the form of rowing which he inherited from both his grandfather and father.

Both Staff-surgeon Plumpton and his father are members of the local rowing club at home and have represented it in many regattas in the West of England. He is also a member of the German Rowing Club at Osnabruck where he won two international level events at Essen and Hamburg.

USA Contribute To UNFICYP Cost

The United States has informed the Secretary-General that it is prepared to make a contribution of up to four million dollars towards the cost of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for the period June 27, 1968 to December 15, 1968.

The amount ultimately contributed by the United States against this pledge will depend on the contributions of other Governments towards the cost of the operation and confirmation of the cost estimates.

DLI VESTING DAY...

(Continued from page 5)

because the 106th had kept a depot in Durham and recruited there for many years. Together they formed the 1st and 2nd Battalions. Later, during the South African War, the 1st Bn took part in the Relief of Ladysmith.

During the First World War 37 bns of the Durham Light Infantry were raised and by 1918, six VC's had been won by officers and men of the Regiment. To add to this already splendid achievement, a further two VC's were won in the Second World War. Six battalions of the Regiment fought in France, including one battalion in the rearguard of the British Expeditionary Force at Dunkirk, in 1940. These battalions fought through the Western Desert and the length of Europe, and the 9th Bn went on to Berlin in 1945.

Perhaps Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein, summed up our views in the House of Lords recently when he commented that it was impossible to remember all the Regiments by name mentioned in the proposed Defence cuts, but there was one which could not go without a mention, The Durham Light Infantry, which had marched with him from Alamein to Germany and never put a foot wrong.

FOOTBALL RESULTS
At RAF Nicosia on Thursday 11 July, 1968.
42 Sqn RCT - 3
(Whiteman, Cooper, Johnstone (penalty)).
BRITCON - 1
(Murr).

FAMINE RELIEF

SUPPLIES FOR NIGERIA-BIAFRA

UN Secretary-General, U Thant, on 11 July, 1968, urged secessionist leaders in Nigeria to take advantage of the international offers of food and medicine for the population of the eastern region known as Biafra.

At a press conference in Geneva, U Thant said he was glad that the Federal Nigerian Government had promised, a week ago, to help get emergency supplies into the rebel-held area.

Famine conditions have been reported, there although there is some controversy as to just how acute food and other shortages may be.

The Secretary-General noted that the UN Childrens Fund—UNICEF—and several of the UN specialized agencies had offered substantial aid through the International Red Cross to alleviate the suffering in the stricken areas.

He added that he had discussed the problem with the

head of the International Red Cross as well as those of UNICEF, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and others, and that he would follow through on this humanitarian work upon his return to New York, scheduled for 12 July 1968.

The Nigerian Government has said it would facilitate the shipment of relief supplies by making the airports available and ensuring a safe passage through the front lines.

It also stipulated that there must be some check to see that arms are not being smuggled in. Biafran leaders have urged that supplies be flown directly to the area they control.