

THE BLUE BERET

Wednesday, 24th January 1968

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

Volume Five

No. 41



PHOTOGRAPH taken during the funeral of Capt McNamara at the Austrian Field Hospital.

FUNERAL HELD FOR IRCON'S CAPT McNAMARA AT AFH

A funeral — with full military honours — was held on Wednesday morning last in Nicosia for Capt Christopher McNamara of the Irish Contingent serving with UNFICYP who died suddenly in Cyprus last week.

The body of Capt McNamara was brought to Nicosia following his death from natural causes at Xeros Camp.

A requiem mass for Capt McNamara was celebrated at the Austrian Field Hospital by Rev Fr. P. McCabe, Chaplain of the 9 Inf Group. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Force Commander and each Contingent as well as the United Nations Secretariat.

Among those attending the Funeral and Mass were Lt Col J. I. Cooney, representing the Force Commander; Mr W. J. Y. Duke, UNFICYP Chief Administrative Officer, representing the Special Representative in Cyprus of the Secretary-General, and Lt Col A. Cullen, representing the Minister for Defence of Ireland.

The remains of Capt McNamara were later flown to Ireland — on Thursday, 18 January — and interment took place on Friday 19 January in the United Nations Plot, Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin.

URGENT APPEAL MADE FOR UNFICYP FUNDS

UN Secretary-General, U Thant, has issued a new and urgent appeal to Governments for voluntary contributions to cover the operation of the United Nations Force in Cyprus until 26 March, as authorized by the UN Secretary Council.

U Thant said in a letter that the financial situation relating to UNFICYP has been progressively deteriorating since inception of the Force in March 1964. He said new pledges totalling more than 10.8 million dollars must now be received if the Organisation was to be in a position to honor in full its past commitments to Governments providing contingents to the Force and to cover other costs involved in maintaining it until the end of the current three month mandate.

The Secretary-General recognized that such contributions were entirely voluntary and were understood to be made without prejudice to the positions of principle regarding the financing of peace-keeping operations.

On the other hand, U Thant emphasized, it was essential that necessary pledges be received if the UN was to be in a position to continue to carry out the mandate unanimously decided and

AAC FLIGHT 'VISITS' FIELD HOSPITAL FOR 'CASEVAC'

The Army Air Corps Flight of UNFICYP descended on members of the Austrian Field Hospital last week. The object of the exercise was to practise the loading and carrying of stretcher-borne casualties in the litters on each side of the Sioux helicopter used when the more luxurious and spacious Wessex is either not available or is impracticable due to the terrain.

The 'patients' were men of the Field Hospital and instruction in transportation was given by NCOs of the AAC Flight. They explained how it is vital for the patient to be wrapped in such a way that he (or she) is both insulated as far as possible and rendered immobile by the means of two blankets being used in a special way. A head support is also used whenever possible.

The 'casualties' were actually transported from the scene of a staged incident to the hospital, a few miles away, so that they had first-hand experience. As a result of this successful co-operation between the two units further practices with elaborations are being planned.

repeatedly extended by the Security Council, and to honor financial commitments incurred by it for that purpose.

JARRING TO PURSUE MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORT, S-G SAYS

U Thant, UN Secretary-General, last week reported that his special peace envoy to the Middle East, Ambassador Gunnar Jarring, had received positive reactions from all the Governments he had visited concerning the desirability of continued steps to improve the general atmosphere while searching for fundamental solutions.

In a progress report to the UN Security Council, U Thant said it would be premature for him to report at this time on the substance of Ambassador Jarring's talks with Israel, Jordan, the United Arab Republic and Lebanon since these were continuing at the wish of the parties and had not reached a stage at which any conclusions could be drawn.

(In Nicosia, the UN Middle East Mission which has its headquarters in this capital, announced that Ambassador Jarring was proceeding to Amman on Sunday and continuing on Monday to Jerusalem with the purpose of holding further discussions with

(Continued on Page 8)



Colonel Robert Wech, Commandant of the Austrian Hospital, (wearing beret) seen watching the securing of a patient in the litter of a Sioux before it takes off for the hospital. The pilot was Lieutenant Joe Williams, AAC.

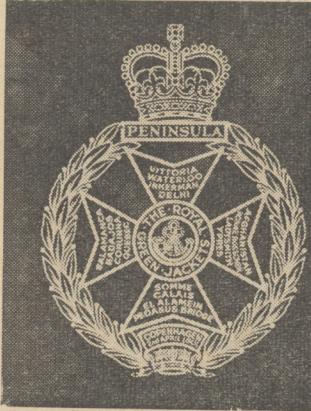
DANES VISIT BRITCON AT ZYYI

LAST week a party from the Danish contingent of UNFICYP paid a visit to 'B' Squadron, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards after the latter had previously enjoyed the Danes' hospitality.

After a look at the hardware owned by the squadron, the two contingents took part in a football match which the Danes won 3-1 and a volley ball match which went to the hosts and made an honourable draw of the overall contest.

Corporal Alf Iddison from Darlington, Co Durham, explaining the intricacies of a Ferret armoured car to two interested members of the Danish contingent.

THE ROYAL GREEN JACKETS IN BASE



Lieutenant Derek Hornblower is both Technical Quartermaster and Mechanical Transport Officer of the battalion. It is said that he has often sported a large adoration of the stiff upper lip and that others followed his hirsute example.

BROTHERS IN ARMS

After recently finding a pair of brothers serving together at Zyyi, another pair has been found at Polemidhia.

The brothers Suker from Edmonton, London; Rifleman Edwin (Ted) — left — and Lance-Corporal Peter. Both enlisted on the same day at Finchley, London, exactly three years ago and both are serving as clerks in the battalion, Ted in the Ops Room and Peter in the MT office.

BRITCON NEWS

A HAIRY STORY

RUOMOURS had been heard that there was a new fashion contest taking place amongst a few of the residents in Polemidhia Camp so the camera set out to discover a little more about it.

It found that the handlebar moustache was flourishing on some faces after much nurturing. It is intended to keep eyes open for any whiskers that show signs of extending beyond the limits gained by the current holders.



One of the moustachioed followers is Corporal Richard West from Chiswick, London, who with a seven-inch set of whiskers, is one of the more ferocious-looking Regimental Policemen in the battalion Guard Room (on the outside, of course!).

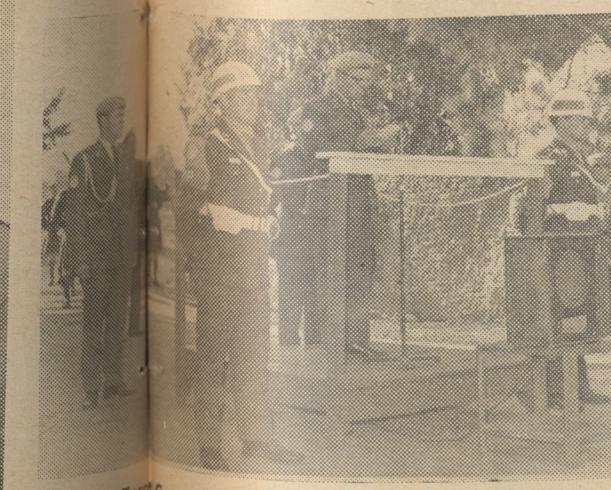


Lieut M. J. Murphy Officer Commanding 9 Inf Gp receives his medal from the Force Commander. At left Capt C. Leaney.



Capt Brian O'Farrell Adjutant 9 Inf Gp receives his UN Medal.

ICON NEWS



The Force Commander addressing the parade after the presentation of medals at Xeros.



The Force Commander inspecting the Guard of Honour commanded by Lieut James Mortell.

FORCE COMMANDER VISITS IRCON

THE Force Commander, Lieutenant General A.E. Martola visited Lefka District on Friday 19 January and presented the UN (Cyprus) Medal to members of 9 Infantry Group.

The Force Commander was met at Ghaziveran by an Armoured Car Escort and conducted to the parade which was reported to him by Lieutenant Colonel Murphy. The Force Commander then presented the medals, and addressed the parade.



Lieut Col M. J. Murphy Officer Commanding 9 Inf Gp with the Force Commander on his arrival at Headquarters Lefka District, Xeros. (R) Capt P. Sarvanto, ADC.



Everstiluutnantti N K J Brask



FINCON NEWS

Nämä miehet muodostavat esikuntaryhmän. Heidän toimipaikkansa ovat HQ UNFICYP:ssa, mutta vaikka he työskentevätkin tavallaan muusta Suomen pataljoonasta erillään, he siitä huolimatta tai ehkä juuri siksi tuntevat kuuluvansa ja haluavat kuulua siihen suomalaiseen rauhanturvaajien joukkoon, joka muodostaa Suomen kontingentin pääosan.



Majuri Reijo (Roy) Maunula

ESIKUNTARYHMÄ



Kapteeni Pekka Sarvanto



Kapteeni Esko Heikkinen



Kapteeni Aslak Kettunen

Mies mieheltä ja tehtävä tehtäväältä:
Everstiluutnantti N. K. J. Brask: Chief Personnel Officer, komento-osaston päällikkö.

Majuri Reijo (Roy) Maunula: Staff Officer 2, "watchkeeper", Nicosia East District'n erikoistuntija.

Kapteeni Pekka Sarvanto: ADC to FC eli Force Commanderin adjutanti.

Kapteeni Aslak Kettunen: LO to TK leadership, yhteysupseeri.

Kapteeni Esko Heikkinen: AMPIO, lehdistö- ja tiedotusupseeri.

Vääpeli Mauri Uusitalo: Rikostutkija UNFICYPin Special Investigation Unit'ssa

Kersantti Leo Ohenoja: Esikuntaryhmän vääpeli, yhteysupseeri pataljoonaan.

Esikuntaryhmään kuuluu vielä kersantti Unto Sivonen, joka toimii Force Commanderin lähetinä. Valittavasti valokuva hänenestä jäi saamatta, sillä mies viettää parhaillaan lomapäivään jossakin saaren ulkopuolella.



Vääpeli Mauri Uusitalo



CANCON COMMANDER RECEIVES CENTENNIAL MEDAL

← Air Vice Marshal G.F. Jacobson, Deputy Commander Administration of Mobile Command presented the Canadian Centennial Medal to Colonel H.C.F. Elliot, Commander of the Canadian Contingent during a visit to CANCON. The medal was awarded to selected Canadians to honor the Nation's 100 birthday.

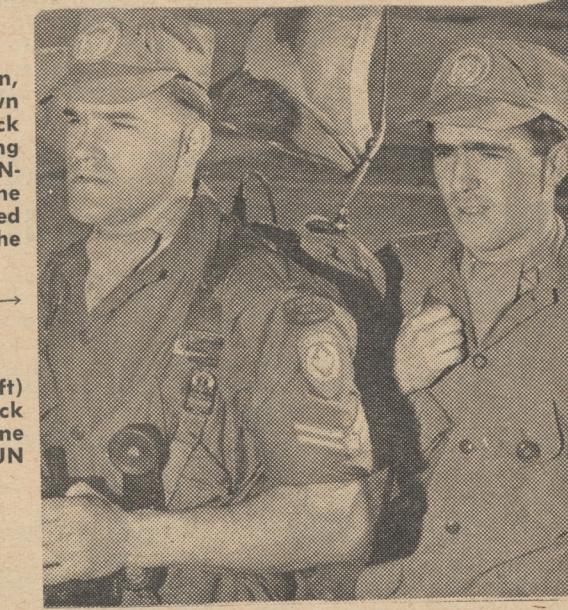


AIR MARSHAL VISITS HILLTOP OUTPOST

Air Vice Marshal G.F. Jacobson, Deputy Commander Administration of Mobile Command accompanied by Lt Col W. J. Newlands of Kyrenia District (left) are briefed by Cpl Ken Collins, Commander of Hill Top Outpost. The Air Marshal visited CANCON Jan 15-18.



Cpl Charles Richardson, (left) and Pte Thomas Brown carry out a foot patrol to check the countryside surrounding "Beaver Lodge" outpost. CANCON has 18 permanent and one temporary outpost, all manned by members of 1 Bn, The Black Watch.



Captain Joe Manning (left) and Cpl Fred Arbuckle check a field communications line which forms part of the UN communications network.

CANCON NEWS
(Canadian Forces Photos)

CHANGES AT UNFICYP HQ

Major C.F. Burant (left) has arrived from Canada to take up duties as S O 2 Special Projects succeeding Major Tim Smith (right) who now becomes OPS A2. Major Smith, in turn succeeds Major Don Porter (centre) who has completed a one-year tour of duty at UNFICYP Headquarters and now returns to Canadian Forces Headquarters in Ottawa.

ANYBODY FOR RUNNING???



HQ UNFICYP team with the minor trophy. (Back row) Cfn 'Taff' Jones, Lt Bob Baynes, Sig Derek Cowton, Cfn Ken Baker. (Front row) Cpl John Sabin, L cpl Bonar Law, Cfn John Newman (Driver Edwin Ellis, the missing team member, was on duty when the photograph was taken on the day following victory).

UNFICYP TEAMS TAKE CROSS-COUNTRY HONOURS

LAST week's issue of the Blue Beret announced that three men of HQ UNFICYP would run in the Army (Cyprus) Cross-Country Running Championships at Dhekelia last Friday. It was not then known that the 1st Battalion The Royal Green Jackets would send a team to compete in the major units section or that HQ UNFICYP would be able to raise a complete team in the minor units section.

In the end Lieutenant Bob Baynes of 644 Signal Troop raised a team of eight with the three known runners as its nucleus; they ran to such good effect that they won the minor units championship and have the trophy to prove it!

To stress the fact that UNFICYP keeps active, The Royal Green Jackets team won the major units championship and likewise received a trophy.

The 4th Royal Anglians team from Malta actually took first place but they were running by invitation only.

Cpl John Sabin was unlucky not to be the overall winner from a field of over 90 runners but pulled his ankle whilst negotiating one of the rougher pieces of ground on the tough 6½ mile course. He was placed second to his old rival in England, Lcpl Clue from a British base unit in Famagusta. After being opponents last week the two men have been selected for inclusion in the Army (Cyprus) team to meet the RAF in the inter-service match next Saturday at Episkopi.

Blue Beret takes great pleasure in heartily congratulating

both teams on their conspicuous success.



THE ROYAL GREEN JACKETS team before the race. (Back row) 2 Lt Philip Ling, L cpl Michael McKinnon, L cpl Lloyd Pitkin, Lt Robin Laisher, Rfn John McDermott. (Front row) Rfn Colin Grey, Cpl John Cobley, Rfn Paul Knights.

SECRETARY-GENERAL SEES TALKS FOLLOWING END OF VIET-NAM BOMBING

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, last week declared that recent statements from the North-Vietnamese Government had reinforced his conviction that an end to the bombing of North-Viet-Nam would bring about meaningful talks between Hanoi and Washington within three or four weeks.

Speaking at a press conference held at UN Headquarters in New York, U Thant added, however, that talks between Hanoi and Washington would not of themselves solve the problem of Viet-Nam.

The aim of such talks, he said, should be to pave the way to the reconvening of the 1954 Geneva Conference which spelled out the internationally agreed basis for the independence of the former French colonies in Southeast Asia, and the maintenance of peace in the area. And the purpose, he declared, should be to achieve full implementation of the 1954 accords.

U Thant said, while he was convinced an end to the bombing of the North would clear the way for negotiations, he did not believe fighting in the South would stop while talks were going on. He noted that if North Viet-Nam were to agree on a total cease fire, it would amount to open admission of its predominant role in the fighting in the South. And this Hanoi was obviously not prepared to admit.

The Secretary-General observed that it was common knowledge that there were about 50,000 North Viet-Nam regulars operating in the South, that there were over 200,000 indigenous South Viet-Nam fighting with the National Liberation Front, over 200,000 in the South Viet-Nam Army, and about half-a-million Americans and their allies. From Hanoi's point of view, he

suggested, if they agreed to reciprocal steps for an end to the bombing of the North, they would place themselves in a very disadvantageous position militarily.

U Thant stressed the complexity of the Viet-Nam problem and warned against attempts to over-simplify the causes of the conflict.

ON CYPRUS . . .

The Secretary-General said he was continuing his round of talks with the Representatives of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey in an effort to find a common ground.

He said: "In the context of the Security Council resolution of last December (see BLUE BERET of 27 December 1967, P. 8), I had several rounds of discussions with the representatives of the three Governments here, offering my good offices — and the talks are still going on. The positions of the parties, you will remember are more or less the same as they had stated publicly in the Security Council debate. But I am carrying on with my efforts to find a common ground and a common denominator to help bring about a peaceful settlement of the problem."

RUGBY

Congratulations to Lieutenant Chris Stanger of the 1st Battalion, the Royal Green Jackets, on being selected to play for the Army (Cyprus) team against the RAF at Happy Valley, Episkopi, last Saturday week. The Army won the game for the first time in six years by 11 points to 8 points.

MIDDLE EAST . . .

(Continued from Page 1) the Jordanian and Israel Governments.

In his report, the Secretary-General said talks had covered two types of questions. The first was concerned with the large and fundamental problems which, he pointed out, were of course the most difficult ones. The other type, involved secondary problems whose solution, he said, would contribute to an improvement of the general atmosphere by relieving certain unnecessary hardships which had essentially resulted from last June's Arab-Israeli conflict.

Such questions, said U Thant, included the release of ships stranded in the Suez Canal, exchange of prisoners of war and certain humanitarian measures.

Ambassador Jarring is carrying out his mission under the terms of a UN Security Council resolution of 22 November.