

# THE BLUE BERET

Wednesday, 24th May 1967



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## AMBASSADOR'S VISIT



On Saturday, 13 May 1967, the Force Commander, Lt General A. E. Martola, (left) received a courtesy visit by His Excellency H. B. Gullett, Australian Ambassador in Athens (right). They are pictured above at UNFICYP Headquarters.

## U THANT'S DECISION WELCOMED

MR. ARTHUR GOLDBERG, UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO THE UN, issued a statement last week welcoming U Thant's decision to go to the Middle East "in an effort to assure peace".

He said the United States "supports the presence of the United Nations in

this area".

Mr. Goldberg added that his country would not want to do anything that would interfere with U Thant's mission to Cairo. But it would, he said, keep in close touch with other Security Council members to follow developments and see what might be required.

## BUZZING OF UNEF AIRCRAFT

LAST WEEK UN SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT HANDED AMBASSADOR GIDEON RAFAEL OF ISRAEL a written demarche strongly protesting against an incident in which a plane carrying the UNEF Commander, General Rikhye, from El Arish to Gaza was intercepted and buzzed west of the

armistice line by two Israeli military aircraft. The incident took place last Thursday morning.

U Thant took the position that the incident was uncalled for, that it violated the armistice demarcation line, and could only serve to worsen the already threatening situation in the area.

## MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

## WITHDRAWAL OF UNEF U THANT IN CAIRO

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT FLEW TO CAIRO last Monday, 22 May, for discussions with United Arab Republic leaders on the Middle East situation which he considers more threatening than at any time since the 1956 Suez crisis.

The Secretary-General's trip was announced on Saturday last after he had reported to the Security Council that tension between the Arab nations and Israel was reaching a dangerous pitch at a time when the UN peace-keeping operations along the UAR-Israel lines were coming to an end.

Last Thursday, the UAR requested that the 3,400-man UN Force, which has acted as a buffer between that country and Israel for a decade, be withdrawn.

The Force, set up at the time of the Suez crisis, operated only on UAR-jurisdiction territory, Israel not having granted it access to her soil, and its right to be there, as well as its ability to function, depended on the continuing consent of the UAR Government.

U Thant notified the UAR last Thursday evening that the UN Force would be pulled out as promptly as possible. Meanwhile, its patrolling and observation operations have ended.

The wind-up of the peace-keeping operation was reported by the Secretary-General last Friday to the General Assembly, which had authorized it in 1956. (Excerpts from the

Secretary-General's report on pages 5/6).

In a subsequent report to the Security Council which surveyed Middle East tensions more generally, U Thant found the situation "extremely menacing", both as to relations between the Arab states and Israel, and among the Arab nations themselves. He did not expand on the latter point.

As of Friday evening, troop movements along the UAR-continued page ten

## U THANT'S ITINERARY

U THANT took off from Kennedy Airport on Monday at 7.50 p.m. New York time and after brief stops at Paris, Zurich and Rome landed in Cairo at 4.45 p.m. local time on Tuesday. His return to New York is scheduled for Friday, 26 May 1967.

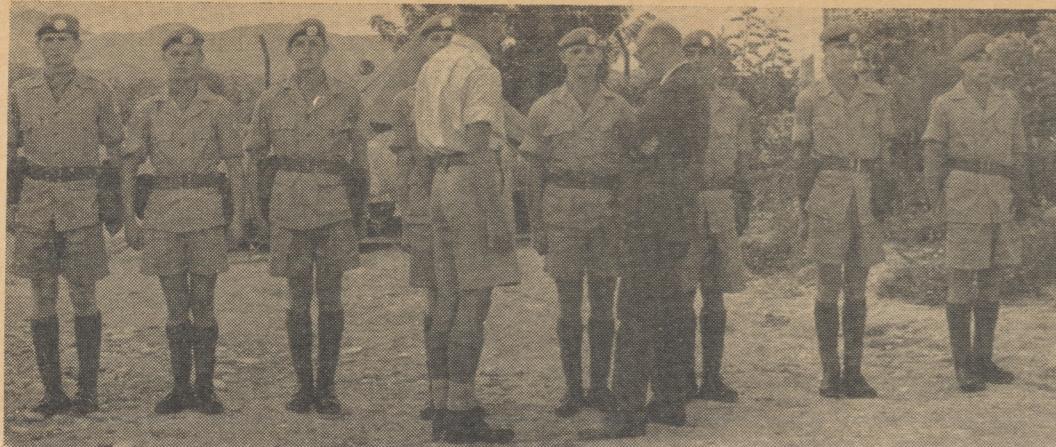
A United Nations spokesman said the Secretary-General had no plans for going elsewhere in the Middle East.

An Israel spokesman said the UNEF plane was intercepted after it penetrated into Israel without advance warning, and that, in view of the tense situation in the area, UNEF had been requested to give notice of all scheduled flights along the border.

A United Nations spokes-

man subsequently stated that General Rikhye denied that the plane at any time overflew Israeli territory. He also announced that the Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defense Force had sent General Rikhye a cable of regret over the unpleasantness.





Mr. Boyden meets a member from his constituency, Pte Tony Wilson from Bishop Auckland.



BRITISH CONTINGENT NEWS

## VISIT OF UNDER-SECRETARY

ON Monday the 15th May, Mr J. Boyden, MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Ministry of Defence (Army), paid a visit to Headquarters UNFICYP and later visited elements of Britcon at Zyyi, Mari and Kophinou.

Mr Boyden, accompanied by his Private Secretary, Mr Morris, was met at HQ UNFICYP by the Chief of Staff, Brigadier M.N. Harbottle, OBE, and later flew by helicopter to the "Britcon" Zone.

Mr Boyden met members of the 1st and 3rd Troops of 'A' Sqn 5 INNIS DG at Zyyi and later was delighted to meet several men from his own constituency when he talked to the detachments from the "Dukes" at Mari and Kophinou.

### REME AT WORK

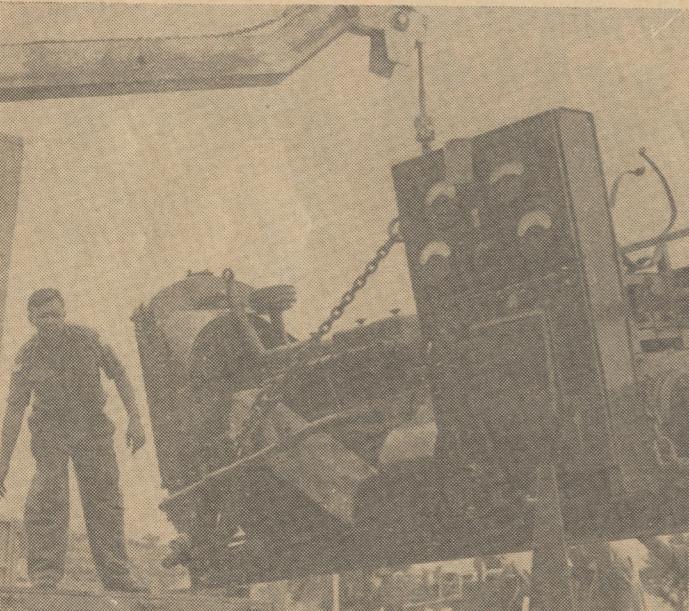
ON THE 4th MAY, THE UNFICYP WORKSHOP, REME CARRIED out the difficult task of transporting a 27½ KVA Generator from NICOSIA to Camp "GARRYOWEN" at Kato Pyrgos. The generator weighs approximately 2 tons and is to provide lighting for the Camp. Some trepidation was felt when the Scammel and the lorry carrying the generator, had to cross several bridges en route, but fortunately no hitches occurred!



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THE BLUE BERET  
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Mr. Boyden shaking hands with Tpr. McCormick at Zyyi. Next to Mr. Boyden is Lt. D.O.S. Whitley and in the background Major Anthony Millen, Officer Commanding 'A' Sqn, 5 INNIS DG.



Sgt Eddie Wakeham, REME, directs the loading of the generator onto the lorry.



Negotiating a tricky bend on the road.



Lcpl Charles Senior meets Mr Boyden Tpr David McCormick.



Mr. Boyden chats to Sgt George B.

## U THANT ACTS ON UNEF WITHDRAWAL

THE MANNING OF OBSERVATION POSTS AND PATROLLING by the United Nations Emergency Force in the Gaza Strip and Sinai stopped at 1500 hours GMT on Thursday, 18 May 1967, and an evacuation schedule was being prepared by the UNEF Commander. It is not yet known just how long the withdrawal will take.

In a letter to the United Arab Republic's Foreign Minister, Mr. Mahmoud Riad, the Secretary-General explained that he was acting in the light of a formal request for the withdrawal of the Force addressed to him by the Foreign Minister through the UAR Ambassador at the United Nations.

He noted that he had already indicated to Ambassador El Kony that, since the UN Force entered Egyptian territory in November 1956 with the consent of the Government of the UAR, it could in fact remain there "only so long as that consent continues".

At the same time, the Secretary-General told the UAR Foreign Minister that "irrespective of the reasons for the action you have taken, in all frankness, may I advise you that I have serious misgivings about it".

He recalled that in his past annual reports to the General Assembly he had stated his belief that the Force had been an important factor in maintaining relative quiet and that its withdrawal "may have grave implications for peace".

The Secretary-General also informed the UAR Foreign Minister that a full report covering events which led to the order for withdrawal of the Force would be submitted promptly to the General Assembly. And he added: "I consider it necessary to report also to the Security Council about some aspects of the current situation in the area".

The Secretary-General made public his exchange of communications with the UAR Foreign Minister in his report to the General Assembly issued on 19 May. He states that on the evening of Tuesday, 16 May, General Rikhye, Commander of UNEF, received a letter from General Fawzy, the UAR Commander, stating that instructions had been given that all UAR armed forces were to be ready for action against Israel the moment it might carry out any aggressive action against any Arab country.

If, on the other hand, it meant a general withdrawal of UNEF, the request should have been addressed to the Secretary-General, not to the Commander of UNEF.

At the same time, he informed the UAR that the request for a temporary withdrawal of UNEF from the Armistice Demarcation Line would be considered tantamount to a request for complete withdrawal, since it would reduce UNEF to ineffectiveness.

Rikhye to order the withdrawal of his troops and report back on the fulfilment of that request.

The Secretary-General said General Rikhye had quite rightly pointed out that he had no authority to withdraw or in any way re-deploy UNEF troops except on instructions from the Secretary-General, to whom he had immediately reported the incident.

U Thant asked for an immediate meeting with the UAR Ambassador and told him the letter addressed to the UNEF Commander was not right procedurally since General Rikhye could not take orders other than from the Secretary-General.

He also asked for a clarification of the UAR's demand. If it meant temporary withdrawal of UNEF troops from



Briefing Major D. Vukotio (right) and his Yugoslav officers and men at Canadian border camp, "Fort Saunders", Gaza Strip, is the troop commander, Lt M. E. Loo. (GAZA, 1966)

### EXCERPTS FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT ON UNEF



Major-General Indar Jit Rikhye, of India, who assumed command of the United Nations Emergency Force on 1 February 1966.

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SPECIAL REPORT ON UNEF (Document A/6669), distributed at United Nations Headquarters at 1700 hours GMT on 19 May 1967:

"On 18 May 1967, at 1200 noon, I received through the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Republic the following message from Mr. Mahmoud Riad, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the UAR:

"The Government of the United Arab Republic has the honour to inform Your Excellency that it has decided to terminate the presence of the United Nations Emergency Force from the territory of the UAR and Gaza Strip.

Therefore, I request that the necessary steps be taken for the withdrawal of the Force as soon as possible.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to Your Excellency my gratitude and warm regards."

With warm personal regards.

Instructions relating to the withdrawal of UNEF were cabled by me to the Force Commander in the evening of 18 May as follows:

"I have the honour to acknowledge your letter to me of 18 May conveying the message from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the UAR concerning UNEF. Please be so kind as to transmit to the Force Commander the following message in reply:

"Dr. Mr. Minister, Your message informing me that your Government no longer consents to the presence of the UNEF on the territory of the UAR, that is to say in Sinai, and in the Gaza Strip, and requesting that the necessary steps be taken for its withdrawal as soon as possible, was delivered to me by the Permanent Representative of the UAR at noon on 18 May.

As I have indicated to your Permanent Representative on 16 May, the UNEF entered Egyptian territory with the consent of your Government and in fact can remain there only so long as that consent continues. In view of the message now received

continued page six



UNEF JANUARY, 1966 — On arriving in Gaza, General Rikhye (left centre, background) inspects an honour guard, accompanied by General Sarmento (to his left), his predecessor, and the Commander of the guard, Indian 3 Punjab Battalion's Major H.S. Dala (foreground).

## EXCERPTS FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT

from page five

On 17 May the Secretary-General informed the representatives of the countries providing contingents to UNEF of the situation as then known. The Report then refers to the developments reported by the Commander of UNEF.

The Report adds: "The exchange of notes between the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the UAR and the Secretary-General quoted at the beginning of this Report, explains the position which I have found myself compelled to adopt under the resolutions of the General Assembly and the agreements reached between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Egyptian authorities as the basis for the entry of UNEF into the territory of the UAR in November 1956, and its subsequent deployment in Gaza and Sinai in 1957.

I have taken this position for the following main reasons:

(a) The UNEF was introduced into the territory of the UAR on the basis of an agreement reached in Cairo between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and

the President of Egypt, and it therefore has seemed fully clear to me that since the UAR consent was withdrawn it was incumbent on the Secretary-General to give orders for the withdrawal of the Force. The consent of the host country is a basic principle which has applied to all United Nations Peace-keeping Operations.

(b) In practical fact, UNEF cannot remain or function without the continuing consent and co-operation of the host country.

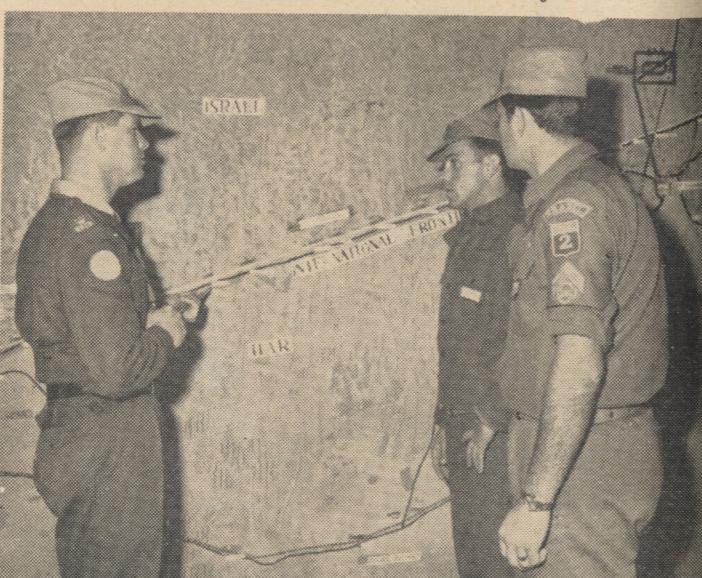
(c) I have also been influenced by my deep concern to avoid any action which would either compromise or endanger the contingents which make up the Force. The UNEF is, after all, a peace-keeping and not an enforcement operation.

(d) In the face of the request for the withdrawal of the Force, there seemed to me to be no alternative course of action which could be taken by the Secretary-General without putting in question the sovereign authority of the Government of the UAR within its own territory.

I cannot conclude this Report without expressing the deepest concern as to the possible implications of the latest developments for peace in the area. For more than ten years UNEF, acting as a buffer between the opposing forces of Israel and the UAR on the Armistice Demarcation Line in Gaza and the International frontier in Sinai, has been the principal means of maintaining quiet in the area. Its removal inevitably restores the armed confrontation of the UAR and Israel and removes the stabilizing influence of an international force operating along the boundaries between the two nations. Much as I regret this development, I have no option but to respect and acquiesce in the re-

quest of the Government of the UAR. I can only express the hope that both sides will now exercise the utmost calm and restraint in this new situation, which otherwise will be fraught with danger.

Finally, I must express the highest appreciation to the Governments of all the members of the United Nations which have supported UNEF and especially to those which have provided the military contingents which make up the Force. The appreciation of the United Nations is also due to the many thousand officers and men who have served so loyally and with such distinction in UNEF. The Force at its inception represented an extraordinary innovation in the efforts of the world community to find improved methods of keeping the peace. It goes without saying that I shall continue to do all within my power towards the attainment of both these objectives."



Briefing Lt. P. R. Uchoa and Sgt. A. B. Santos (right) of Brazil on the operations of the Canadian Recce Sqn, on the International Frontier is the Recce Officer Commanding, Major P. A. Neatby. The briefing session took place on a relief map of the I. F. at the Sqn base camp — "Fort Worthington," Gaza Strip.

## COMPOSITION OF UNEF

The composition of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) as of 30 April 1967 was as follows:

Brazil	432
Canada	800
Denmark	3
India	978
Norway	72
Sweden	528
Yugoslavia	580
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,393</b>

## IRISH CONTINGENT NEWS

# "ALL - IRELAND" PLAYERS

"Glad to meet you again sir. Last time was in 1948 when we played together in Croke Park". With these words the tallest man in 8th Inf Group, 6' 4" Sgt Bill Gartland greeted the Ops 'A' officer, Capt Liam Donnelly when he reported to him for overseas service.

Capt Donnelly, who lives with his wife and three children at Tuam, Co Galway is the son of Lt. Col. Bill Donnelly (retd). He is an artillery officer like his father and served in the Congo in 1961. He graduated from the Command and Staff School in 1966. A noted sportsman, he has represented his Army Command in Gaelic football, hurling, basketball, soccer and rugby. A keen golfer too, he won the County Galway trophy in 1965 and 1966. When only 16 years of age he won All-Ireland medals in hurling and football. This was in 1945, and by 1948 he had played for Dublin in six All-Ireland finals embracing hurling and football through minor, junior and senior grades. He was on the winning side on three occasions.

Sgt Bill Gartland's playing was musical rather than sporting and he first "played" in Croke Park with a famous Dublin Boys band in 1948 when 12 years of age. So perhaps one could say he really did then play with the future Ops 'A'. Very fond of music, he spent five years with this band and was its tallest member at 5' 10" when 16 years old. His interest in music comes from his father who played clarinet with St James's Brass and Reed Band, Dublin and Sgt Bill followed his example until he switched to the saxophone four years ago. He has broadcast over Radio Eireann several times and in 1950 was invited to play with the Vancouver Boys Band in the Theatre Royal when it visited Dublin. In addition to being a member of the St James's Band he is a member of the Father Mathew Hall Orchestra which performs at Light Operas, Pantomimes and Charity Shows.

He joined the Army in 1956 and served with 7th Inf Bn in Dublin. He lives at Phibsboro, Dublin City, with wife and daughter.

## REUNION

Last week the NCO's of 8th Inf Gp stationed at Xeros were visited by NCO's and their families from RAF AKROTIRI. Many from the Southern bases have friends in IRCON, some indeed from school days in Ireland years ago. Arrangements for this meeting and a return one to Akrotiri on Sunday, the 28th May, were made by Rev. Fr. D. Killian, CF IRCON, and Rev Fr Ken Payne, RAF. A most enjoyable day was had by all, particularly the children.

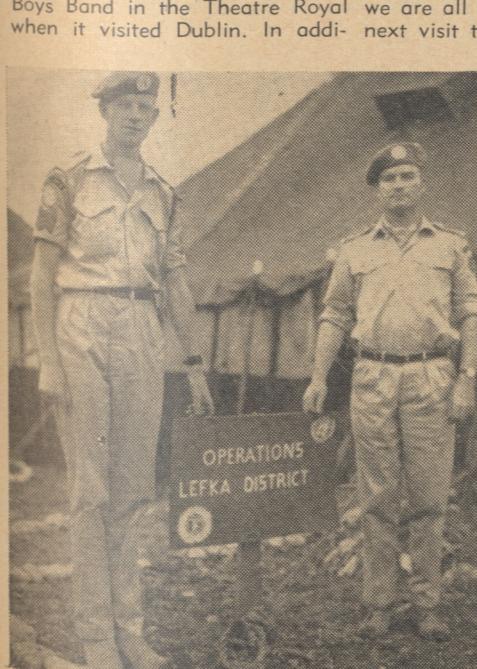
## VISIT TO CANCON

The ICA Coy's weekly Panhard patrol this week paid a courtesy call on the Canadians at their HQ at Kyrenia and at the HQ of their Recce Tp. at Camp Maple Leaf, Nicosia. The Tp's Armd Cars caused a great deal of comment at both locations. Facts and figures of the Canadian Ferrets and our Panhards were exchanged to the mutual benefit of all.

Lieut. Dave Holden was in charge of the patrol with Sgt. Vinny Bradley as his Troop Sgt. Sgt. Billy Watson and Gnr. John Cleary came along for the trip to represent the Infantry and Artillery respectively.

All in all it was a most enjoyable and instructive day, and we are all looking forward to our next visit to CANCON.

picture is



Sgt Bill Gartland (on left) at 6 ft 4 ins the tallest man in 8th Inf Gp is shown with Ops A - Capt Liam Donnelly outside their CP at Xeros. Both have had many associations with All-Ireland sporting finals at Croke Park, Dublin.



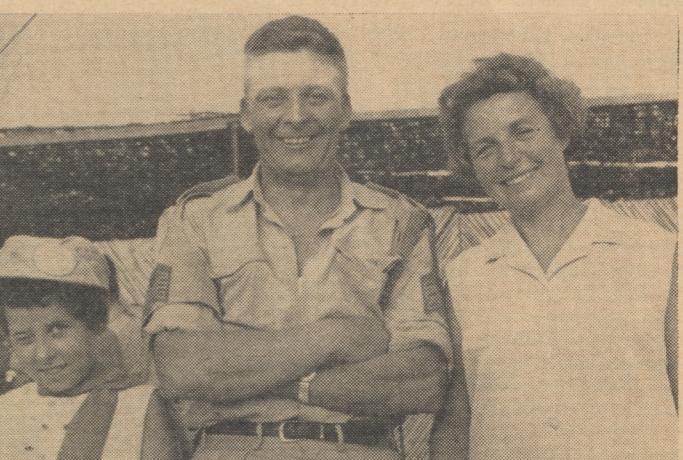
Mess Staff Relax - (L to R) Cpl. Noel O'Connor, Sgt. Jim Furong and Pte. Pat Connolly taking it easy when all the visitors had departed.



SCHOOLMATES - Coy-Sgt. Joe Kelly (on right) of IRCON HQ Coy renews acquaintance with Sgt. Sean Brick of RAF Akrotiri at 8th Gp HQ. They had last met in the same class at school at the Curragh, Co Kildare, 35 years ago.



BABY SITTER - Sgt. George Kent established friendly relations with these youngsters from RAF Akrotiri during their visit to Xeros Camp.



NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOURS - Coy-Sgt. Harry Wolverson of IRCON Engineers meets former neighbour from CLONTARF Ireland when Mrs. Maureen Mara and daughter came up from Akrotiri. Both knew one another well when children.



Tämä kuva on Myllyn karsinnoista. Yliväpeli Kanerva kolmannesta komppaniasta on miettivän näköinen. Mihin Kleopatra kuoli?



Juontaja, yliluutnantti Viskari neuvottelee tässä sihteerinsä, kersantti Sepän kanssa jostakin pistelaskun ongelmasta.

Yleisöä oli Myllylä yllättävän paljon. Tässä taputtavat oman joukkueen mestryselle jääkäri Nurminen ja alikeräntti Koivisto. Kolmannen miehen nimeä ei toimitus onnistunut selvittämään.



## SAUNAVIERAITA



Sauna tekee jatkuvasti mainosta suomalaisille, ja diplomin antaminen on kaunis ele, joka jättää püsivän muiston. Tällä kertaa on elävältä keitettynä RCT:n upseereita, ja kuva on 3.K:n upseerimessin diplominjakosseremoniasta. Vasemmalta vänrikki Wilkins, luutnantti Graham, kapteeni Lloyd ja 3.K:n pääliiköö majuri Ahtikoski.

## FINCON NEWS

Joukkueet studiossa loppukilpailussa. Vasemmalla EK:n joukkue, jonka jäsenet niinikään vasemmalta ovat luutnantti Holma, ylikersanti Laitala ja jääkäri Turunen. Oikealla HK:n sotilasmestari Puuppo, yliluutnantti Palvalin sekä jääkäri Niskanen.

## TIETOKILVAN VOITTO HUOLTOKOMPPANIAALLE

SUNNUNTAI-ILTANA RADIOSTA KUULLUSSA TIETOKILSPAILUN loppukisassa, josta tuli tasaväkinen ja erittäin tiukka, peri huoltokomppania lopuksi voiton vastustajastaan esikuntakomppaniasta pistein 22 - 20. Joukkueet olivat kahdentoina kilpailukysymyksen jälkeen aivan tasoisissa, ja vaadittiin neljä lisäkysymystä ennen kuin voittaja löytyi. Aika oli silloin ehtinyt kulua jo melko tarkkaan loppuun.

Karsinnat, joihin otti osaa joukkue kustakin komppaniasta, oli pidetty Myllylää tiistaina 16.5. Kahdentoina kysymyksen jälkeen oli silloin käynyt selväksi, että huoltokomppania oli parhaalla pistemäärällään ilman muuta oikeutettu paikkaan loppukilpailussa, mutta toisesta sijasta tasossa kampailevien toisen ja esikuntakomppanian välillä jouduttiin turvautumaan lisäkysymykseen, joka sitten ratkaisi kilvan esikunnan voitoksi. Pistetili muodostui karsinnassa seuraavilaiseksi:

1. HK	15 pist.
2. EK	12 "
3. 2.K	12 "
4. 1.K	11 "
5. 3.K	8 "

Perjantai-iltana vietettiin loppuotteluun selvinneet sitten radioon, missä vahvistavan ja rampikkumetta lievittävän kahvikupin jälkeen siirryttiin studioon äänystä varten. Joukkueet saivat kuitenkin mikrofoninsa, jonka takana supistut neuvottelut eivät kuuluneet kilpailijoiden korviin, ja osapuolten välissä oli juontajan, yli. Viskarin pöytä. Kun valokuvaaja ja hippailijä vielä ottelijoiden väliä ihkuistamassa historiallista kilpaa, oli pienessä studiossa suomalaista melkoisia joukko. Kilpailu siirtyi nauhalle rauhallisesti ja komelliukisittä; olisi voinut luulla tietoviisaiden viettäneen pienin ikänsä radio töissä.



## WELCOME TO CLIFFSIDE

Riflemen Wayne Tupper and Gorden Curtis of the 2nd Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, are part of a six-man team manning Cliffside outpost in the Kyrenia Mountains. Men of the Canadian outposts take pride in improving and decorating their temporary homes and that's just what Tupper and Curtis are doing by painting the Welcome sign in front of their outpost. Both Riflemen are from Lantz, Nova Scotia.

(Canadian Forces Photo)

## SIGHT-SEEING AT SALAMIS

Corporals Leo Fournier, Montreal, and Jerry Marchand, London, Ontario, both of the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanised Engineers, take time out from their peace-keeping duties with the Canadian United Nations Force in Cyprus to do some sightseeing. They are examining a statue in the crumbling remains of the ancient Greek city of Salamis, capital of the island in the days of Christ. Corporal Fournier's wife Carmen and their four children live at 2565 Hays St., Montreal, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Napoleon Fournier, live at St. Jean Port July, Colitel Islet. Corporal Marchand's wife Lois and their four children live at 14 Paradeberg Court, London, Ontario.

(Canadian Forces Photo)

## FARMING TALK

Corporal Art Gauthier, 2nd Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, chats with a Cypriot shepherd at his United Nations outpost in the Kyrenia Mountains. The Queen's Own arrived in Cyprus in mid-April for a six-months tour of duty with the United Nations Peace-keeping Force. Art is the son of Mrs. Eliza Gauthier of 14760-107 Avenue, North Surrey, B.C. While he is in Cyprus, his wife, Heather and small son Rodney are staying with her parents in Douglas, Manitoba.

(Canadian Forces Photo)

## WITHDRAWAL OF UNEF

... from page one

Israel line had not seemed to have reached alarming proportions, he said, and despite one brief shooting incident there was no indication of any important offensive move.

But unless there was very great restraint on both sides of the line, he said, local clashes might readily break out and lead to a heavy conflict.

U Thant said he hoped that the 1949 truce machinery could be reactivated along the border, specifically that Israel would resume participation in the Egyptian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, one of four set up to supervise the 1949 armistice between Israel and her Arab neighbours. It has been dormant since 1956.

On the other Israel-Arab borders, mixed commissions under UN chairmanship are active in checking incidents and arranging prompt ceasefires in case of clashes.

The Secretary-General said that the UN Force, with its deterrent and restraining influence, had "allowed us for ten years to ignore some of the hard realities of the underlying conflict. The Governments concerned, and the United Nations, are now confronted with a brutally realistic and dangerous situation".

Two particularly sensitive areas as to Israel-UAR relations, he said, were the Gaza Strip and the Straits of Tiran. The Strip on the Mediterranean, and under UAR control contained over 300,000 Palestine refugees as well as substantial units of what is known as the Palestine Liberation Army, U Thant noted.

The Straits, also controlled by the UAR, are Israel's only access to the Red Sea and the oceans eastward.

Surveying the situation between Israel and her other Arab neighbours, U Thant again urged the full use of the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission to ease border tension between those two countries.

He again deplored both terrorist incursions into Israel and threats of military reprisals emanating from some Israel leaders. U Thant noted that Syria as well as Jordan and Lebanon officially disclaimed any responsibility for the terrorist activities. He said he was not in a position to say whether any or all of the three Governments had done all they could to prevent them.

But the fact was that they recurred with disturbing regularity, and that some recent incidents indicated a new level of organization and training.

He added that the Israel Government had assured him it would take no action unless the Syrians did so first.

## SAUNA CERTIFICATE



The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Bibiano F. Osorio-Tafall, attended a Sauna initiation last week hosted by the Commander of the Finnish Contingent, Colonel Nuutilainen. The picture shows Mr. Osorio-Tafall receiving his diploma from Colonel Nuutilainen, having previously gone through the ordeal of a Sauna, with a temperature in excess of 100 degrees centigrade. In the background is Lieutenant Colonel Kuosa, second-in-command of the Finnish Contingent, and Lieutenant Noel Dwyer, of the Irish Contingent.

### SOUTH WEST AFRICA

## ASSEMBLY VOTES FOR TAKEOVER

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAST WEEK DECLINED THAT AN ELEVEN-NATION COUNCIL should take over South West Africa's administration from South Africa and bring it swiftly to independence.

By a vote of 85 in favour, 30 abstaining and two against, it adopted a resolution outlining direct UN takeover of the large territory entrusted to South Africa shortly after World War One under the League of Nations mandate.

The resolution was a compromise between the African-Asian and Latin American groups and received the virtually unanimous support of those three continents.

The abstainers were almost all Western and East European — prompted by different reasons.

A number of the abstainers noted that The Assembly's decision would require the support of the major powers holding permanent Security Council seats — support which was lacking.

Among the abstainers, the Soviet Union argued that the UN administration could be turned against the population and said it would not be held responsible for contributing to any expenses. It urged a crackdown by the West on South Africa to get her out of the territory. Similar views were voiced by other East European

members.

The United States, while reaffirming support for last autumn's Assembly resolution declaring South Africa's mandate ended, said further progress required discussions with the South African Government, which remained in physical control of the territory.

Other Western nations, notably Britain, also argued that there were very definite limits to what the UN could do immediately — and that they should be recognized.

The two negative votes came from South Africa and Portugal, whose rule of other territories in the southern part of the African continent has been censured by the United Nations.

South Africa regarded the 1966 Assembly decision as illegal and politically unjustified, and did not take part in the debate of the current Special Assembly session. She said the UN attempt at a takeover will be rebuffed.

The resolution includes provision for talks with South Africa on takeover procedures, and hopes, independence will come not later than June next year.

The General Assembly is expected to wind up the special session next Tuesday, after dealing with a second issue — peace-keeping operations and their financing.

### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

## NARCOTICS CONTROL

### ABUSE OF L.S.D.

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL HAS UNANIMOUSLY supported proposals aimed at the international control of narcotics.

One resolution expressed deep concern at the increased abuse of L.S.D. as posing a grave danger to the health and safety of both the individual and society. It asks states to take immediate action to strictly control the import, export and production of L.S.D. and recommends that use of the drug be restricted to scientific research and medical purposes.

Another resolution approved arrangements for a new International Narcotics Control Board which will take over the functions of the present Central Narcotics Board and Drug Supervisory Body next year.

The Council also approved the appointment of Mr. Joseph Dittert of Switzerland as Secretary of the Permanent Central Narcotics Board and took note of the Report of the Narcotics Commission on its work last year.

### STOP PRESS

#### CROWDED SCHEDULE

U.N. Secretary-General U Thant had a crowded schedule on Monday prior to his departure for Cairo. His first appointment was with Ambassador Gideon Rafael of Israel, at 10.30 in the morning.

Mr Rafael told reporters afterwards that he reaffirmed Israel's desire for the restoration of peace along her borders while stressing her right to defend herself if attacked.

He said the Middle Eastern crisis was caused by terrorist incursions from Syria and by the United Arab Republic's "expulsion" of the 3,400-man UN peace-keeping force and the massing of troops on the border with Israel where it has acted as a buffer between the two countries for a decade.

Asked about stationing the Force in Israel territory — to which it has never had access, Mr Rafael said there would be no purpose to this as Israel was not threatening anyone or sending terrorist gangs into other nations.

U Thant's other appointments today included separate meetings with the Ambassadors of the four major powers holding permanent seats on the Security Council, France, Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

The appointments were all at the request of the representatives of these countries.