

THE BLUE BERET



APRIL 1982



MARCH IN RETROSPECT

ROTATIONS

18— Force Scout Car Sqn
25—2 Apr Canadian Contingent

MEDAL PARADES

5 British Contingent
26 Swedish Contingent

VISITS

1—8 Mr P Soegaard, the Danish Minister of Defence, Mr P V Christiansen, Mr K G Konradsen, Lt Col G Bladbjerg and Maj H W Jensen visited the Danish Contingent and HQ UNFICYP.
2—3 Maj Gen (Retd) H E L M Garrett, CBE, Director of Security of the British Forces, visited HQ UNFICYP and the British Contingent.
6—10 H.E. Ambassador Pelletier, the Canadian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, visited the Canadian Contingent and HQ UNFICYP.
9 Lt Gen Sir Allen Reay, Director-General of the British Forces Medical Service visited the British Contingent.
9—24 Maj Lareaux visited the Canadian Contingent.
10—15 Lt Col Elvhammar, Lt Col Fransson, Lt Col Harlin, Lt Comd Friberg, Maj Litsen, Lt Col Wikstrom, Lt Col Fredrikson and Lt Col Assan, members of the Joint Nordic Military UN Programme staff, visited UNFICYP.
10—18 Capt E Runstedt visited the Swedish Contingent.
11 Mr P Blaker, Minister for the British Armed Forces, Mr Craine and Flt Lt Walsh, visited the British Contingent and HQ UNFICYP.
11 H.E. Ambassador Sir Peter H Lawrence, DCMG, MC, British Ambassador to Turkey, visited HQ UNFICYP.
11—18 Brig R L Peck, Commander 19 Inf Bde, visited the British Contingent.
14—16 Maj Tiihonen, Capt Kjellberg, Capt Heinila, Maj Eberhard, Maj Larsen and Capt Jenssen, Joint Nordic Course teachers, visited UNFICYP.
15—18 BGEN A Garlick and Capt J Lascelles visited the Canadian Contingent.
15—19 Mr Basilio Perez Martinez and two technicians from Spanish television visited UNFICYP.

16 H.E. Ambassador Cao Chi, Chinese Ambassador to Cyprus visited UNFICYP.
16—2 Apr Messrs Lamoureux, Giguere, Simard, Barre, Trudel, Guimond and Menard from the Canadian Customs authority visited the Canadian Contingent.
16—19 Mr M Chorney, Canadian National Defence Co-ordinator for Drug Education programme, visited the Canadian Contingent.
17 Lt Gen Sir Frank Kitson, KCB, CBE, MC Commander in Chief United Kingdom Land Forces (Desig) visited the British Contingent and HQ UNFICYP.
18—24 Maj W Ericson and Sgt McNeil visited the Canadian Contingent.
21—22 Maj Gen L Prendergast, Adjutant General of the Irish Defence Forces visited HQ UNFICYP and the Irish members of UNFICYP.
23 H.E. Ambassador J Blomberg, Finnish Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations visited the Finnish Contingent, accompanied by Lt Col V Yrjola.
23—1 Apr Lt Col C J Ask, Maj Franzen, Maj Oscarsson, Maj Linde, Maj Wallin, Maj Almer, Maj Jeppsson, Capt Hellstrom and WO1 Geyer, reconnaissance team for the Swedish UN Bn 80C visited SWEDCON.
23—1 Apr Ms A Risberg, Ms T Breitholtz, Mr Allan, Mr S Broms, Mr B Hallbert, Mr E Johansen and Mr A Wilhelmson, an entertainment group from Sweden visited UNFICYP and the Swedish Contingent.
23—8 Apr Mr David Carter from BBC Radio London visited Sector 2, the FSC Sqn and HQ UNFICYP.
24—26 Mrs Sadako Ogata, Professor at Sophia University and former Japanese Permanent Representative to the UN visited UNFICYP.
26—31 Mr P Lanz-Litschka, Austrian journalist visited the Austrian Contingent.
30 Mr L-G Larsson, Ms A-B Bergstrom, Mr H O Frederiksson and Mr RW Haggqvist, Swedish journalists, visited UNFICYP.

MILITARY AND RECREATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Nil

FUTURE EVENTS

AT THE AMERICAN CENTRE

Homer Ave Nicosia

Wednesday 28 April at 7.30 p.m.

THE CANDIDATE (110 mins, colour). Robert Redford plays Bill McKay, an idealistic civil rights worker who runs for the US Senate. Believing that he can handle his campaign his own way, he finds himself swept along on a tide of other people's needs and desires. He fights to remain a man when the world is bent on making him an image. The character of candidate Bill McKay incorporates recognizable traits of some of the best known American politicians of the sixties and seventies. This 1972 film looks critically at some of the ways that political campaigns have evolved under the influence of modern media techniques. Directed by Michael Ritchie from an Oscar winning screenplay by Jeremy Lerner.

AT THE BRITISH COUNCIL

3 Museum Street, Nicosia (Tel 42152)

THE STORY BENEATH THE SANDS. Films on archaeology (Repeat showings due to public demand)

Wednesday 21 April 7.30 pm Parts 1-3

Thursday 22 April 7.30 pm Parts 4-6

Feature Film The Europeans

Thursday 29 April 7.30 pm

Based on the Henry James novel and created by the successful and original production-direction-writing team of Ismail Merchant, James Ivory and Ruth Praver Jhabvala, who gave us Shakespeare, Wallah and Autobiography of a Princess. Those films dealt with cultural collision between India and Europe. This one is about the impact of cousins from Europe on the quiet, Godfearing Wentworth family in New England in 1850. Highly praised by "Sight & Sound" both for the perfection of its casting and the superb locations in autumnal New England.

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Austcivpol	— Ch Insp P Wise

The Blue Beret is the house journal of the United Nations Force in Cyprus and, as such, is intended to provide a source of information on current events within the Force, on UN matters of general interest and on local tourist advice.

Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Descriptions of recent local events or of visits to places of interest are welcome. Illustrations are most welcome. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper. 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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on the cover

Danish soldiers passing through the village of Spilia on Troodos during the DANCON March.
Photo: Bob Fousert

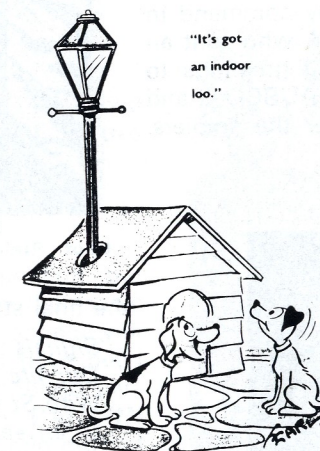


Editorial

March will be remembered for the large number of official visitors, honour guards and briefings. Sadly the UNFICYP Ski Competition had to be cancelled owing to the snow conditions this year, but hopefully 1983 will see a repeat of the bumper snowfalls of 1981.

The time has come again to ask readers for contributions to the Blue Beret magazine. Out & About articles of general interest would be welcome.

We must now plan ahead for the design of this year's UNFICYP Christmas Card, and submissions should be sent to the MPIO, HQ UNFICYP by 30 June 1982. All of last year's 7,500 Christmas cards were sold out!



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ST GABRIEL'S DAY AND AUSCON'S SIGNAL TROOP

By Major Freddie Lugert

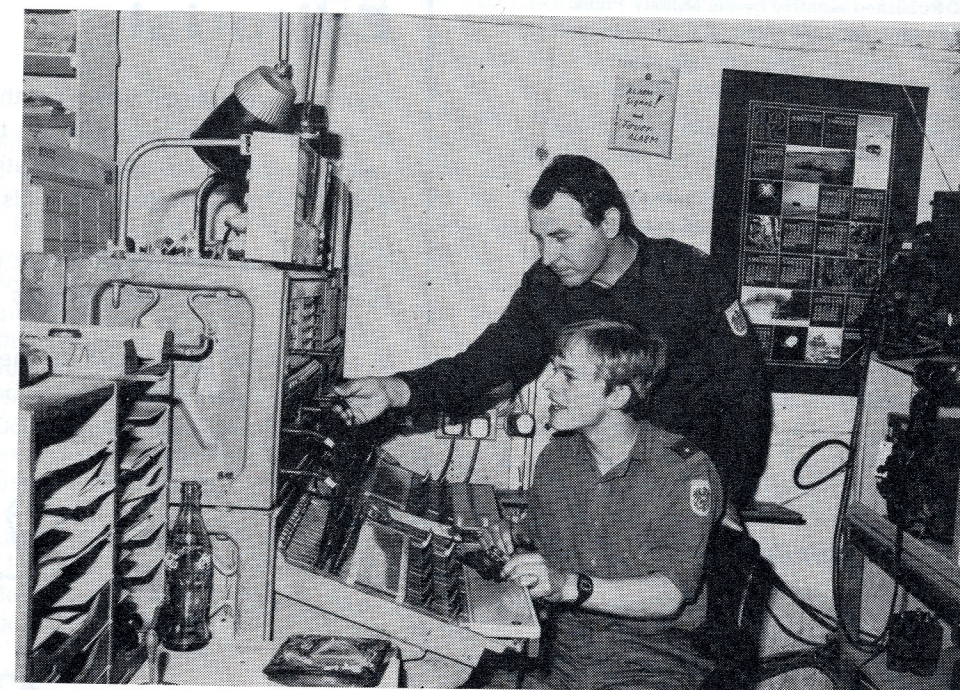
Photos Cpl Gunter Stubenvoll: WO1 Erik Nowak

"On the occasion of the feast day of the Archangel Gabriel, Patron Saint of communicators, the Signal Officers of the United Nations Force in Cyprus extend greetings to their fellow communicators in their home countries. We continue our work in the service of peace and thank you for your support."

This was the signal sent out by Signal Officers from all contingents from the Force to their respective National Rear Link back home. AUSCON's Signal Officer, Capt Rudolf Ganglbauer sent his cable to the highest ranking Austrian Signal Officer in the Army command in Vienna, Brig Ernst Oswald, who sent an immediate reply extending greetings to all the signal troops with AUSCON, and added a special poem for the soldiers,



Brig Ernst Oswald.



Capt Rudolf Ganglbauer with LCpl Peter Perauer at AUSCON's switchboard.

the final stanza of which was:

*"Signals up and signals down,
Our life goes round and round,
With St Gabriel's help you'll have fun,
In an easy way your duty's done."*

The highlight of the event was a cable sent on the direction of His Holiness Pope John Paul II from the Secretary of State, Vatican City, pointing out that His Holiness wished to express that he appreciated the sentiments which prom-

pted UNFICYP signallers to write to him, and that he will pray for them.

AUSCON's signal soldiers are an efficient part of the Austrian battalion, and they had better be, because the Commanding Officer Lt Col Helmut Weber is himself a versed signal officer with previous signal experience with UNFICYP. Capt Ganglbauer and his deputy, WO1 Ferdinand Windisch are experienced signal soldiers, both from the Austrian province of Salzburg.



Capt Rudolf Ganglbauer checks the incoming lines.



WO1 Ferdinand Windisch, deputy to the Signal Officer, and Cpl Johann Rossmann.

DANCON MARCH

By the Editor

Photos: Bob Fousert



Follow that donkey!

The DANCON MARCH was held over the weekends 20/21 and 27/28 March 1982. 433 participants from all contingents in UNFICYP and the Secretariat entered. The total distance covered was 50 Km (31.25 statute miles) divided into 25 Km on each day. Every soldier had to carry 10 Kilos (22 lbs) whereas women and children were free of this handicap. The starting line was in the village of Evrykhou which is approximately 400 metres above sea level and participants walked up the Troodos mountains following one or other of the small roads and tracks, continuously climbing up to 1300 metres (4264 ft) and down to the finish at Pedhoulas, 1200 metres above sea level.

The second day's march followed another route, albeit from the same starting point at Evrykhou. The route lay to the east side of the main road and by way of mountain tracks through Kourdali. The route passed Moutti tou Spi-liou 1350 metres (4428 ft) and then

down to the finish at the main road junction at Karvounas 1100 metres (1308 ft).

NOT A COMPETITION

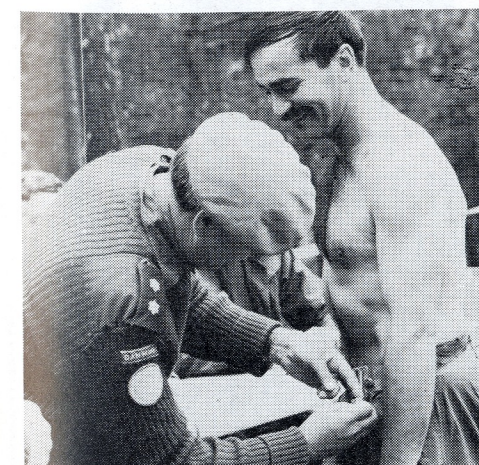
The March is not a competition, but an opportunity for a "walk" in the scenic Troodos mountains. Some readers will have noticed that no results have been published for this reason, although perhaps Lcpl L KOCK of B Coy DANCON will be slightly upset if the world did not know that he completed the March in the fastest time of 7 hours.



Yes... it is 10 Kilos

MEDALS AND DIPLOMAS

Upon arrival at the finish each participant was presented with a diploma and a Dancon March Medal by the Commander of Sector 1, Lt Col H R L Madsen. The arrangements made for refreshments and sandwiches during the March were excellent and much appreciated by all the weary participants.

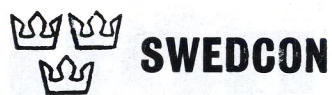


Capt Gilbert Dube (CANCON) receives his Dancon March Medal from Lt Col HRL Madsen.



The price of setting a 'blistering' pace.





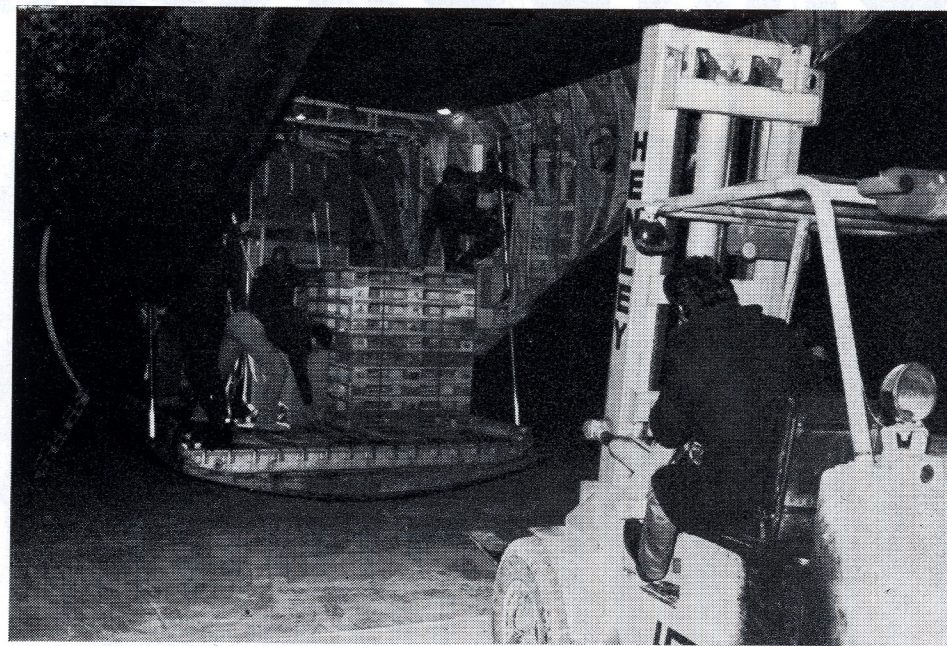
SCACYP - GOODS AND GOOD NEWS BY AIR FROM SCANDINAVIA

By Åke Edwardson and Björn Svensson.

SCACYP — that is the name of the air transportation between SCAndinavia and CYprus, bringing goods to SWEDCON and DANCON. But that is not the whole picture; the goods and people come to Cyprus all right, but there is also further transportation to Beirut and Lebanon for the Swedish Medcoy there and to the Norwegian UN Battalion.

Every two or three weeks the big plane, looking like a flying whale, touches down at Larnaca Airport. It's a Hercules C 130 and it usually comes on a Monday evening. It has taken eight hours to fly the 4000 Km from Sweden, the speed has been around 600 Km/Hr and it has been drinking 15,000 litres of fuel during the trip.

The SCACYP is the supply plane for the Scandinavians. Sweden has its own plane and Denmark and Norway share another one. The arrival of the SCACYP is good news. SWEDCON's supply crew is waiting at the airport when the Her-



Late in the evening the SCACYP arrives from Sweden for immediate unloading.



Personnel for Swedish Medcoy in Lebanon board the Hercules for the 30 minute trip to Beirut.

cules lands and the offloading starts immediately. Everything everybody has been waiting for is on board; parcels and letters for soldiers, tools and things that have been sent home for repair, newspapers and magazines, SNUFF (no Swedish Battalion can exist for more than a couple of days without this lovely/gruesome type of tobacco!), all types of equipment, and also a drop of the hard stuff in bottles for the messes.

Next morning following the arrival of the SWEDSCACYP, it flies off to Beirut with equipment and personnel for the Swedish Medcoy. The Hercules is unpacked and refuelled during a couple of hours at Beirut Airport, and then heads back to Cyprus again. It rests for one day, while the crew takes a look at Aphrodite's Island, then flies back to Sweden the following day.

Besides the equipment on board are personnel from SWEDCON who take the opportunity to fly home free for a few

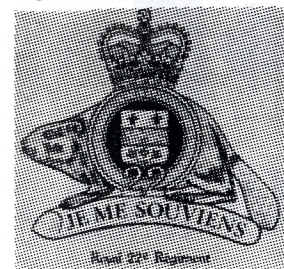


The crew on the SCACYP (Left to right): Freight Manager Inge Carlson, Pilot Ingemar Gustavsson, Mechanics Erik Nilsson and Stig Carlsson, Pilot Leif Ekman and Navigator Mauri Svensson.

days leave, or for other reasons. It's a nice ride—if you like sitting while you're standing up, and like to watch the world above the clouds with headphones on for eight hours! Eight—that is if you're lucky; the SCACYP to Sweden a few days before Christmas had to stay in the air for over eleven hours. The weather wasn't nice.

There are six crew on the SCACYP; first and second pilot, navigator, two mechanics and one cargo conductor. A crew member makes three or four SCACYP trips a year, and as many crewmen make the trips to Cyprus and the Lebanon, they get used to new faces.

When the SCACYP has left Cyprus, the canteen manager at SWEDCON can hand out the long awaited chocolate and the even more long awaited SNUFF to the writer of these words!



Let me first say that some of our guys don't want to leave. This was the case with Pte Coulombe who had to be forced on to the air-raise craft by Lt Giguere.



Captain Dumont (Economics Officer), who is very close to retirement age, has opted to raise kebabs.



Without training these guys will be able to form a S.W.A.T. Team.



The JOC being what it is, these three duty officers are now desperate cases and will have to go in for rehabilitation.

AU REVOIR

GOODBYE TO THE VANDOOS

By Capt Bernard St Laurent

The time has come to say goodbye! Our six month tour has now ended and we look back at it as a great experience. We are happy to leave and return to our families and friends, but it is with sorrow that we are leaving behind many new friends.

Before tears pearl out of my eyes and spoil this paper, I would like to stress again that serving in Cyprus was a great experience. You all know that we are a professional army. Retirement comes at 40 years of age, so we have to plan our future or second career. You probably wonder what I'm getting at? Simply that many skills were developed here and will certainly be used in the future!



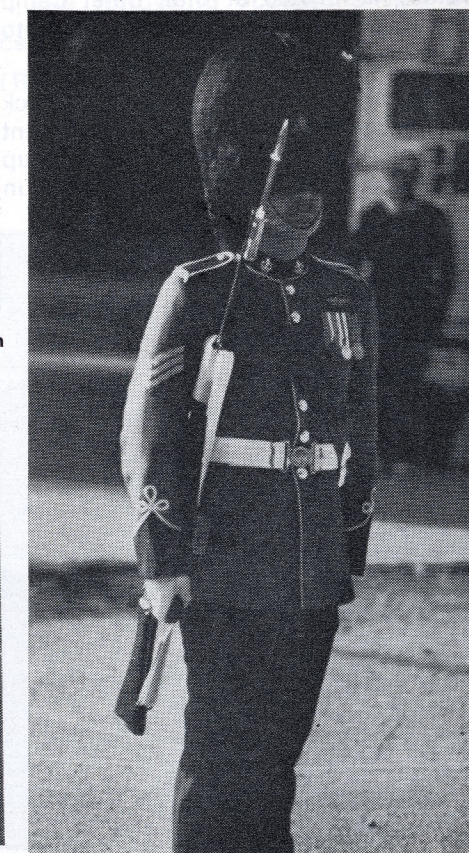
Le raison d'être.



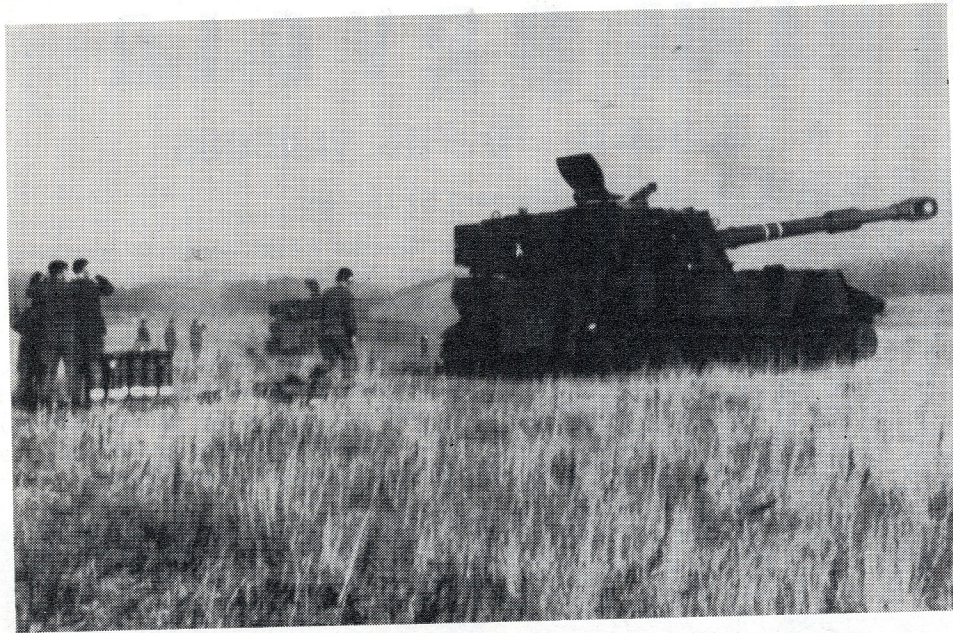
Cpl Guay's intention is to apply for a job with Bell Telephone Canada.



Excellent tour guides were trained here. Quebec also being a walled city, our guides will find the transition very easy!



For the time being, however, we have to go back to regimental duties.



M109 A1 self-propelled howitzers adjust firing for a technician's shoot.

3 RCHA took over peacekeeping duties from the "VANDOOS" on 31 March and will serve with the United Nations Force in Cyprus for the next six months. 3 RCHA is a close support artillery regiment stationed at Canadian Forces Base Shilo, Manitoba in Canada's mid-west. At present, the Regiment is composed of two gun batteries (155mm self-propelled howitzers); one air defence battery (blowpipe) and a regimental headquarters battery.

G Battery is located at Camp Maple Leaf and functions as a line battery; U Battery operates from Ledra Palace Hotel as the second line battery and J Battery is located at Blue Beret Camp functioning with part of RHQ Battery to provide logistic support.

The origins of the regiment date back to 1951 when the Canadian Government announced it would form a brigade group to serve with NATO in Germany. Six gun

batteries were formed and later trained at CFB Shilo where 79 Field Regiment was formed and prepared to serve overseas. The regiment served in Germany from December 1951 to December 1953 and on returning to Canada was redesignated 3 RCHA. The regiment served six months in Korea from April 1954 to October 1954 and again in Germany at Deilinghofen until early in 1964.

Since its return from Germany, 3 RCHA's primary role has been the provision of artillery fire support to its brigade group. In addition, the regiment has carried out many other duties. While the Royal Canadian School of Artillery was located in Shilo, 3 RCHA often provided support to school courses and exercises. The regiment has a continuing commitment to provide an officer and gun detachment for avalanche control duties in the Canadian Rockies at Rogers Pass, British Columbia. On several occasions

UNIT FEATURE



THIRD REGIMENT



ROYAL CANADIAN HORSE ARTILLERY

By Lyn Cook



batteries of the regiment have deployed overseas in participation with Ace Mobile Force exercises in Norway and UN peacekeeping in Cyprus. In 1968, X Battery served in Cyprus with the 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. In 1972 a 52 man augmentation force participated with Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), and in 1979 U Battery served with them

again on their second regimental tour of the decade.

Recent activities for the regiment at home have included call outs on a number of occasions to fight major floods in the Canadian provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan and to fight forest fires in the northern woods of Manitoba. The regiment has also supported the 1967



U Battery blowpipe detachment firing a missile on Canadian Forces Base Shilo ranges.

Pan American Games, the Montreal Olympics and the Canadian Civil powers in search and rescue and internal security operations.

3 RCHA has changed shape often over the years and has moved many times to various locations in Canada and Europe; still its effectiveness remains unchanged. The regiment is an integral part of a mechanized brigade group and is recognised throughout the Canadian Forces for its ability to effectively support combat operations.

UN Peacekeeping duties in Cyprus are not new to 3 RCHA and the regiment is looking forward to its six months tour as this will be our first tour as a complete unit, and we are hoping to add our part to preserving international peace.

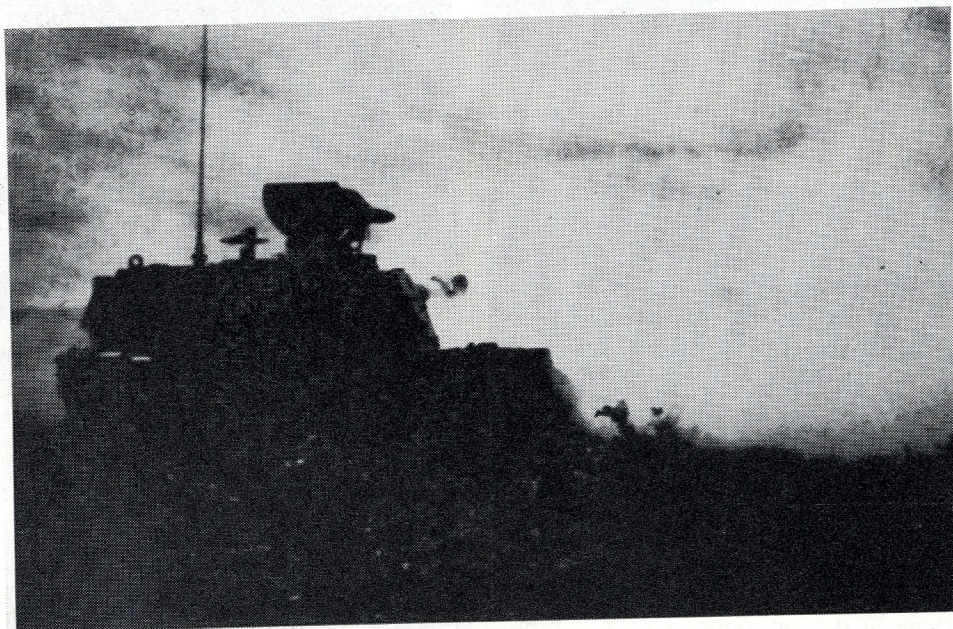
The Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) in a reciprocal agreement

for their 1979 tour in Cyprus, have provided a recce troop in support of 3 RCHA's 1982 tour. This recce troop are members of an armoured regiment stationed at Canadian Forces Base Calgary, Alberta and are part of the same brigade group as 3 RCHA. Their members have also served many times before in Cyprus on Peacekeeping duties and their expertise is greatly appreciated by 3 RCHA.

The following occasions will be celebrated by 3 RCHA and LdSH (RC):

26 May — Artillery Birthday

1 July — Canada Day



3 RCHA fires for effect during Commanding Officer's field training exercise at Camp Shilo



Not all activities are work. A Canadian gunner enjoys the slopes in the Canadian Rockies at Brigade Ski School



Blowpipe, a very low level air defence weapon fired during artillery air defence training.



ROAD SAFETY YEAR 1982



MARCH REPORT A DISAPPOINTING MONTH

The first quarter of Road Safety Year 1982 ended with a disappointing month following the most encouraging February results. These units earned a monthly certificate showing that they stayed within monthly accident ceilings set by the Force Commander:

SECTOR 2

SP REGT

AUSTCIVPOL

SWEDCIVPOL

CIVILIAN STAFF

PROJECTION FOR 1982

The projected annual saving for 1982 against 1981 accident totals is now 27%; still commendable, but 10% lower than the situation a month ago.

CAUTION REMAINS THE KEY

Extracts from accident reports tell their own story:

"The Civ Veh stopped at the traffic lights when the lights changed from green to yellow. The UN Veh following was unable to stop in time and a collision occurred."

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

"The UN Dvr entered a sharp curve, and on coming out of the curve, lost control and went into a ditch."

KEEP THE SPEED DOWN

"When exiting from the MT Compound the vehicle struck a concrete post."

NEVER RELAX - EVEN IN CAMPS

"The UN Veh was following the Civ Veh. The Civ Veh stopped to talk to a passer-by, reversed and collided with the UN Veh."

BEWARE THE UNEXPECTED!

IMPROVE THE FIGURES

UNFICYP drivers have proved that each unit's monthly ceiling of 50% of 1981 average monthly accident figures is achievable and not an impossible challenge. Each and every driver must strive that little bit harder to let the accident-free days roll into weeks, then months, then a complete UNFICYP tour. The plea remains:

DON'T JOIN THE STATISTICS

Out & About in Cyprus

CYPRUS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Society exists for the encouragement of the study of birds in Cyprus, for the publication of works on the birds of the island, for the bringing together of people interested in the bird life of Cyprus, for the protection of birds, for the promotion of systematic observation of birds and for organising ringing and other field activities.

Field meetings are held each month at different locations, a monthly bulletin is issued, film shows and illustrated lectures are given. Annual reports are printed and distributed. There is liaison with international organisations and other bodies in Cyprus concerned with wild life conservation. Visiting tourist-ornithologists are welcomed and assisted during their stay on the island. Membership is open to anyone of any age, but from this year it is hoped to encourage younger enthusiasts, especially permanent residents in Cyprus, to join the Society by offering a special subscription rate and by organising activities for them.

Present subscriptions are:

Over 18, C£3.000 per year

Under 18, C£1.500 per year

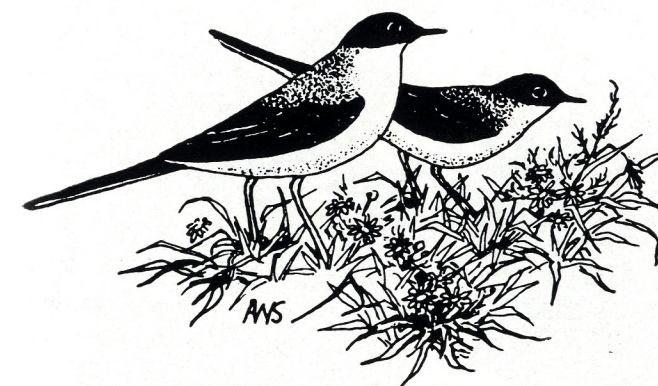
In 1981 this Society recorded the presence in Cyprus of over 260 species of birds. This good figure could be improved upon if the Society had even more members willing to observe and record throughout the island. Why don't you consider joining now—as an act of faith—so that Cypriots and their friends can further the objects of this Society?

Further information may be obtained from the following officers of the Society:

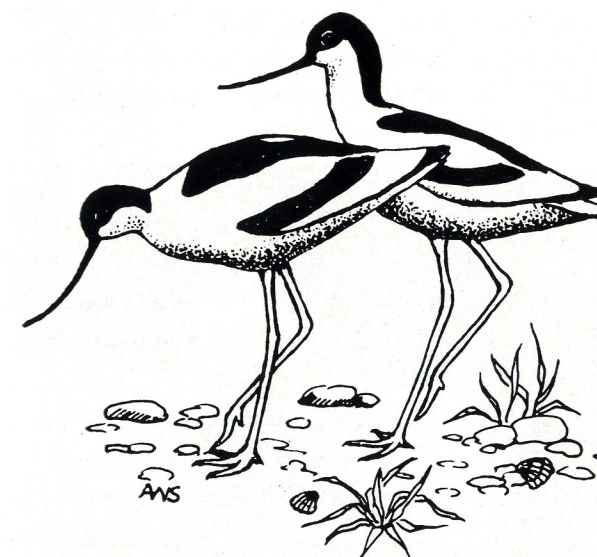
Chairman: P O Box 3889 Nicosia
(Tel: 021 43674)

Hon Secretary: P O Box 2065 Nicosia
(Tel: 021 45373)

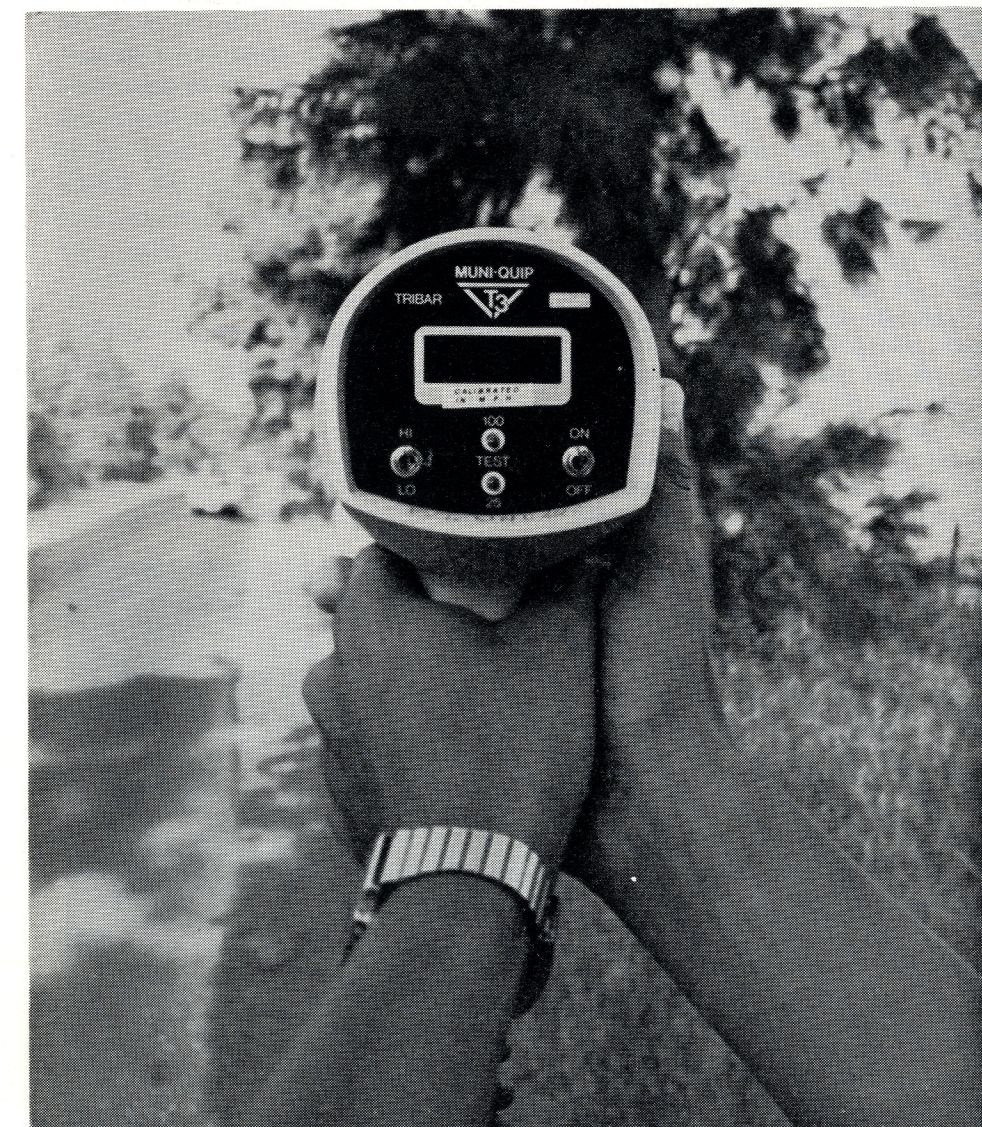
Hon Treasurer: P O Box 54 Larnaca
(Tel: 041 52243)



YELLOW WAGTAIL



AVOCET



WATCH YOUR SPEED



ST PATRICK'S DAY - 17th MARCH

By Coy Sgt Tommy Brace and the Editor.

Photos Bob Fousert.

THE SHAMROCK

Saint Patrick used the shamrock, according to legend, to show the mystery of the Blessed Trinity. It once figured in a strong attempt to establish a different type of union, of the Irish public with the British Army. In the military context, it was, and still is, linked with the Irish Guards.

The Boer War shook the military establishment in Britain to its roots. Unable to cope with the mobility of the Boers, the ordinary British soldier was an easy target. The Irish regiments suffered heavy casualties.

When Queen Victoria in February 1900 told the commander in chief of her concern at the heavy losses sustained by her brave Irish soldiers, she set in motion the chain of events which led to the establishment of the Irish Guards.

Lord Wolseley had prompted the Queen's message. He suggested that she should order all the Irish regiments to wear shamrock in their head-dress on Saint Patrick's Day, as a further example of her appreciation. This was approved.

This general regulation came into effect in 1900, but even without the official recognition the Irish regiments regarded it of symbolic import, identifying them strongly with their national traditions.



Maj Gen Gunther G Greindl presenting shamrocks to members of IRCON.

THE DAY IN UNFICYP

In UNFICYP the Irish Contingent celebrated St Patrick's Day as follows: the morning began with a service in St Barnabas's Roman Catholic Church in the UNPA. Afterwards the Force Commander, Maj Gen G G Greindl presented shamrocks to members of IRCON, Irishmen from BRITCON and also to the

Irish members of the UN Secretariat. A family buffet lunch was given in the Sergeants' Mess in Jubilee Camp. The lunch was then "worked off" on the football field when a fancy dress match was played called "Ireland versus The Rest Of The World". The day ended with a reception and dinner in the HQ UNFICYP Officers' Mess hosted by the Irish Contingent.



The SRSG Dr Hugo Gobbi welcomed by Comdt and Mrs John Murray to the IRCON reception and dinner night.



Fancy dress football match—"Ireland v the Rest of the World"



ST PATRICK

Nothing in Ireland is ever simple, as anyone who has been there will tell you! For example, almost everyone has heard of St Patrick, the national Saint of Ireland, after whom Irish people are called Paddy (at least by the English) and whose

feast day, 17th March is also Ireland's National Day. But how many people know that St Patrick was an Englishman? No, it's not an Irish joke.

In the 5th Century, St Patrick first saw the shores of Ireland at 12 years of age. He had been kidnapped by an Irish raiding party on the west coast of England and carried off into captivity. In Ireland he was sold as a slave and tended sheep on the slopes of Slemish Mountain in County Antrim for seven years until he finally escaped to Scotland. In all the time of his captivity, Patrick, who was a member of an English Christian family of Roman origin, had prayed for his release and had never lost contact with his faith. On escaping he entered a Monastery in France and was ordained to the Priesthood.

One night he saw in a dream the Irish calling out to him to bring them the faith. The religion of Ireland at this time was 'Druidic'. This was a somewhat cruel and warlike religion in which the High Priests or Druids were advisors to the Kings. Patrick went to Rome where he was consecrated Bishop and granted permission to organise a mission to convert the Irish to Christianity. With a band of followers Patrick arrived at Skerries, now a seaside resort in north County Dublin, in the year 432, and immediately set about converting the natives. That he was successful is a tribute to his courage and organisation, as the Irish

of the 5th Century AD were not a people to be trifled with.

The early Celtic Church was successful because it adapted the religion of the people to Christianity, offering them a Christian God in place of the Celtic ones and converting the shrines of the Druidic religion to Christian ones. One story of St Patrick's skill should illustrate this. He was preaching to the people of Swords, a town near Dublin, and was telling them the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity. Because the people could not grasp this, Patrick plucked a Shamrock from the soil. He explained that, though the Shamrock was one plant, it contained three leaves. The use of the Shamrock, a plant common to Ireland but unknown elsewhere, is an example of Patrick's skill in adapting to local conditions. The Shamrock is now regarded as the Emblem of Ireland, and is worn by the Irish on St Patrick's Day.

The Shamrock is also the emblem on the National badge worn by the Irish soldiers who have served continuously in UN Peacekeeping missions since 1958. Now on 17th March throughout the world, wherever Irish people are found, St Patrick, the Englishman who brought the light of Christianity to Ireland, is celebrated.

"Cead Mile Failte do gach dhuine ar La le Padraigh, agus Dia dhuit."



Comdt John Murray reads the lesson during the service at St Barnabas's Roman Catholic Church.

Pictorial news



SWEDCON MEDAL PARADE

On 26 March, SWEDCON, with the kind permission of the Headmaster, held their Medal Parade at the Makarios School, Larnaca. The Force Commander, Maj Gen Gunther G Greindl was the reviewing officer. All the spectators were treated to an extremely impressive array of rifle drill. A nice touch was to see a goldfish in a bowl held by one of the members of Goldfish Camp during the parade.



Another representative from Goldfish Camp, a goldfish in a bowl!



Maj Gen Greindl talking to one of the female members of SWEDCON after presenting the UN Medal.



The rifle drill demonstration squad executing complicated rifle movements whilst on the march.

Adjutant General of the Irish Defence Forces

On 22 March Maj Gen L Prendergast, Adjt Gen of the Irish Defence Forces, was welcomed to UNFICYP by a multinational Guard of Honour. Maj Gen Gunther G Greindl looks on as Maj Gen Prendergast shakes hands with Comdt Philip McMenamin of IRCON.



BRITCON MEDAL PARADE

Photos: Bob Fousert

The BRITCON Medal Parade took place at Nicosia International Airport on Friday 5 March 1982. Maj Gen G G Greindl was the reviewing officer and presented the UN Medals. The parade was directed by Brig J D Bastick and was commanded by Lt Col PF Packham Commanding Officer 2nd Bn The Queen's Regiment. The following units were on parade:

B Sqn 13/18 Royal Hussars

2nd Bn The Queen's Regiment and their Regimental Band

UNFICYP Support Regiment, comprising:

UNFICYP Engineer Detachment

254 (UNFICYP) Signal Squadron

UNFICYP Flight AAC

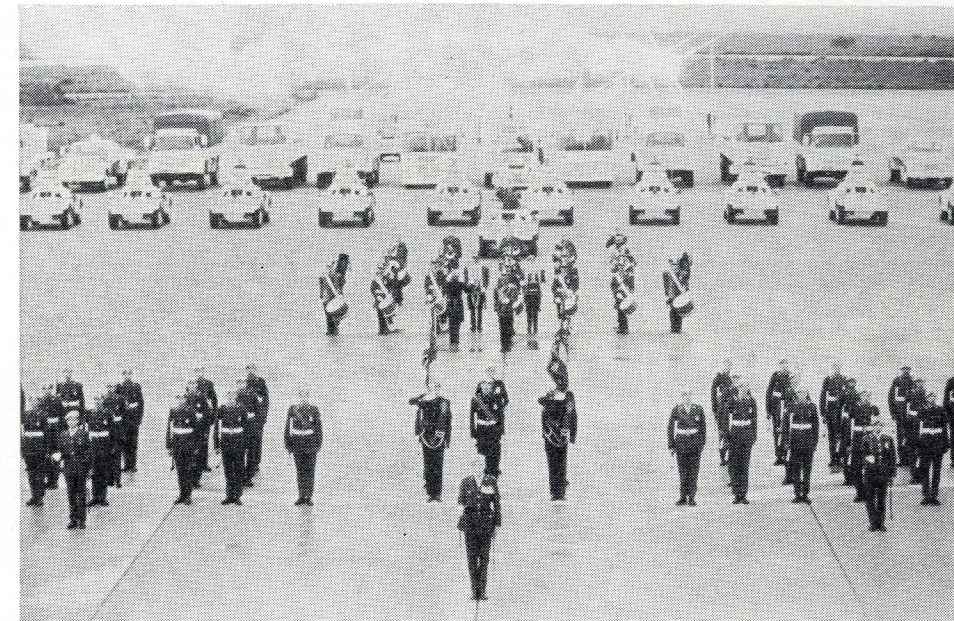
1 Squadron RCT

UNFICYP Medical Centre

UNFICYP Ordnance Detachment

UNFICYP Workshops REME

84 Squadron Detachment RAF



The inspection.

The Force Commander, Maj Gen Greindl presents the medals.

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF BRITISH ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES

On 9 March, Lt Gen Sir Allen Reay, Director General of the British Army Medical Services visited UNFICYP. He is pictured being briefed at an OP in Sector 2.



G IN C UKLF VISITS UNFICYP

On 17 March Lt Gen Sir Frank Kitson, Commander in Chief United Kingdom Land Forces visited UNFICYP. He was welcomed by a multinational Guard of Honour. He is pictured inspecting the Guard whilst the Force Commander, Maj Gen G G Greindl looks on.





UN NEWS



DANISH MINISTER OF DEFENCE

On 2 March, Mr P Soegaard, the Danish Minister of Defence, visited UN-FICYP. He is pictured inspecting the Danish soldiers of the multi-national Guard of Honour during the visit.



CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO CYPRUS

On 16 March, H.E. Ambassador Cao Chi, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Cyprus, visited UNFICYP for a familiarisation visit. He is pictured being welcomed by the Chief of Staff, Brig J D Bastick.



MINISTER OF BRITISH ARMED FORCES

On 11 March Mr P Blaker, Minister for the British Armed Forces, visited HQ UNFICYP and the British Contingent. He is pictured inspecting the multi-national Guard of Honour.

