

# THE BLUE BERET



DECEMBER 1980



# NOVEMBER IN RETROSPECT

## Rotations

10

Danish Contingent. In Sector 1. Battalion XXXIII handed over to Battalion XXXIV.

26

British Contingent. In Sector 2. 3rd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets (3 RGJ) handed over to 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (3 R ANGLIAN).

## Medal Parades

None.

## Visits

4-5

Norwegian Study Group, led by Under-Secretary of State for Norway, Mr Per Vassbotn, to HQ UNFICYP.

4-6

Capt R Renaud, to the Canadian Contingent, to inspect communications maintenance and repair work.

5

Mr P Pitfield, Clerk of Privy Council and Mr A Gotlieb, under-Secretary to Canadian Cabinet, to the Canadian Contingent.

5

Col P Dinchcombe and Lt Col Cooper, to the British Contingent to discuss manning of Support Regiment.

5-13

Capt J Suprenant, to the Canadian Contingent, to inspect ammunition storage facilities.

6-7

Maj Gen W N J Withall, Director Army Air Corps (DAAC), MOD UK, to HQ UNFICYP and UNFICYP Flt AAC, to discuss army helicopter support.

6-8

Mr E Lundblad and Ms M Leijonhufvud, of the Swedish Tax Office, to the Swedish Contingent.

11

Mr T Stock and Mr M H Sheppard, MOD UK Procurement Executives, to the British Contingent, to inspect communications equipment.

11-13

Mr D Digby, Mr G Culham and Lt Col P Renaud, to the Canadian Contingent to conduct survey of foreign duty allowances.

11-14

Lt Col J Hamilton-Russell, from the United Kingdom, to UNFICYP Medical Centre.

12-16

Capt J O Andersson, Swedish Army Staff, UN Branch, to the Swedish Contingent.

12-20

Lt Col J Bouvette, Canadian Directorate of Land Operations (designate) to the Canadian Contingent, to familiarise himself with UN operations.

17

Maj Nicholas, officer Commanding 15 Field Squadron Royal Engineers, to the British Contingent, to visit his squadron detachment.

18

Dr J J A Reid, Honorary Consultant in Community Medicine to the British Army, to HQ UNFICYP and UNFICYP Medical Centre.

19-23

Mr W Handlos, Reporter for Austrian Federal Broadcasting Agency, to the Austrian Contingent, to report on activities of soldiers in AUSCON.

25

Monsignor D McMillan, Principle Roman Catholic Chaplain of the British Army to HQ UNFICYP on a pastoral visit.

25-28

Lt Gen J Paradis, Commander Mobile Command, Canadian Army, Mrs Paradis and party of four to the Canadian Contingent.

25-28

Ms N Arvidsson, Swedish UN Training Centre, to the Swedish Contingent, to follow up work of Accounting section.

25-28

Comd E Ygge, Lt Col H Nannesson, Lt L Lidsjo and First Secretary I Sager, of the Swedish Army, to the Swedish Contingent to discuss security matters.

27

Maj Gen T L Morony, OBE, Vice-Chief of General Staff (designate), MOD UK to HQ UNFICYP and the British Contingent.

28-3 Dec

Dr J Hanak, Austrian Army Chaplain, to the Austrian Contingent, to administer religious services.

30-5 Dec

Lt Col E Schaltz and Maj C Harleman, the Swedish Army Staff, UN Branch, to the Swedish Contingent.

## Military and Recreational Competitions

UNFICYP Badminton Competition

# FUTURE EVENTS

## DECEMBER

**At the British Council**, 3 Museum Street, Nicosia, on Thursday 11 December at 7.00 pm

The Nicosia Singers present

Christmas Choral Music including "And the Glory of the Lord" from Handel's Messiah and "Shepherds' Chorus" from Amahl and the Night Visitors by Gian Carlo Menotti. Everyone is welcome.

on Thursday 18 December at 7.30 pm

Films on the History of the Motor Car (1½ hrs)

The Thirties: The age when expensive cars were at their most exotic. Among the many machines in this film are: the Hispano-Suiza, the Cord, the Packard and the Daimler.

Cars, Cars and More Cars: The motor car during the Forties and Fifties. At the end of the war, American cars were symbols of unattainable luxury for the rest of the world, but the recovery of the European motor industry was dramatic. Among the outstanding cars of the period are: the Baby Renault and the Dauphine, the Peugeot 203 and 403, Daf, Citroen, Mercedes, British Ford Prefect and the American Ford Thunderbird, the Daimlers, Ferraris, Jaguars and, finally, the Mini.

The Years of Plenty: Covers the development of the Motor industry during the Sixties and Seventies, particularly in France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

**At the American Centre**, 33B Homer Avenue, Nicosia, on Wednesday, 17 December at 7.30 pm a feature film 'Manhattan'

Woody Allen's look at urban life in the city he lives in and loves, and at relationships and the stresses of modern life on the people who try to "survive" in the big city. Filmed in black and white, the film shows Manhattan in its monochrome beauty. Directed by and starring Woody Allen, with Diane Keaton, Michael Murphy and Mariel Hemingway.

### UNFICYP CAROL SERVICE

At Holy Cross Church, Paphos Gate, Nicosia, on Thursday 18 December at 3.00 pm.

the UNFICYP Carol Service.

### UNFICYP CHRISTMAS PLAY

At St Michael's School Hall, UNPA on Sunday 21 December at 8.00 pm and Monday 22 December at 8.00 pm the UNFICYP Christmas Play, 'A UN Christmas Carol.'

Admission 250 mils. Tickets available from YMCA, RHQ UNFICYP Support Regiment or members of the cast.

Everyone welcome.

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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

The Force Commander, Maj Gen J J Quinn, stirs the Christmas Pudding.

Photo: George Moffett



# THE BLUE BERET

## Editorial

The feed back from my unabated appeal for articles for 'The Blue Beret' has been encouraging. Many congratulations to Toby Falk, the Unit Press Officer of the last Swedish Battalion, for his farewell article on SWEDCON. Tony has proved what can be produced with a little material and lots of original thought.

Response to the photo caption competition has been fairly good and the winning caption is shown in this month's issue. Ray Wregg has produced such an interesting drawing that it has been placed on the back page of this issue in lieu of a photograph for the next caption competition.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our readers!



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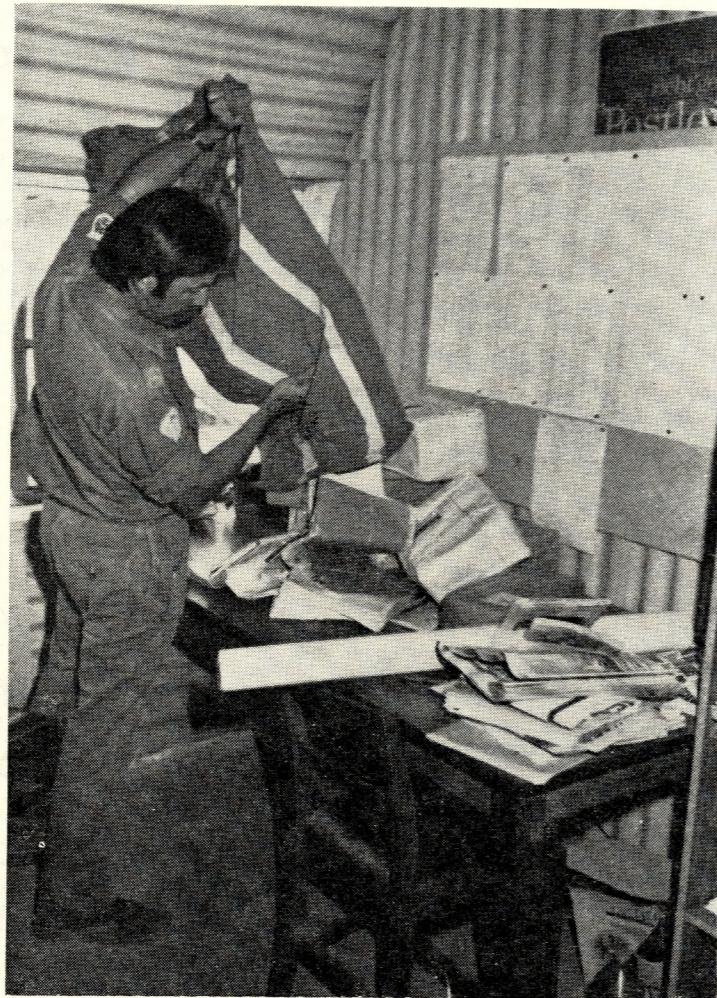
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# “POSTFOX” AT WORK

Article by Hubert Shermann



‘Postfox’ in front of his ‘fox burrow’!



Careful handling of the post!



“My hobby!”

The coming events of Christmas cast their shadows before them. This means much work for the Field Post Office and this is reason enough to introduce the Field Post Master. His work is the direct connection to the home country and therefore he is popular with all ranks. FPM Gerhard Meisthuber is 35 years old and comes from Salzburg. Since the rotation of April 1980 he has done this job to everybody’s satisfaction. “Postfox” Meisthuber is well known at all checkpoints on the road from Famagusta to Larnaca because of this daily mail-run. In his leisure time he occupies himself on a very interesting hobby — surrealistic painting. His favourite subjects are Utopian scenery.

# CANCON REMEMBERS

Articles by DAVE CHAPLIN



At 11 am on 11 November, 1918, the guns fell silent, ending the bloodiest, most horrific war man had ever known. Canada, which had entered the war as a backwater colony and an unknown quantity on the international stage, ended the war with an established reputation of military prowess, and a national identity distinct from the British Empire.

From a country whose own territory was never threatened, the price was appalling: out of a population barely exceeding 5 million, there were 60,000 dead and 200,000 wounded. Ever since, Canada has, out of respect to those who paid that price, observed Armistice Day every year since the silencing of the guns in 1918. To prevent that price being paid, anew, Canada joined and supported first the League of Nations, then the UN on its formation after World War II. A Canadian veteran of the Great War, later to become our Prime Minister, Lester Pearson, won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in establishing the first UN Peacekeeping Force, organised in the aftermath of the 1956 Suez crisis.

Against this background, the Canadian Contingent observed Armistice Day at 11 am, 11 November, with a guard of honour, parade, prayer, the two minutes silence and the laying of wreaths. Maj Savoie, the Regimental Padre in the invitation to the prayer recalled to particular remembrance the Canadian soldiers who died in the service of peace in Cyprus, Egypt, Syria, the Congo, Viet Nam, Kashmir and Korea.

Wreaths were laid by Lt Col Sparling, CO 5 RALC, Col Hewson, Commander CANCON, and C/Inspector Graham of the Australian Civil Police.

## FIXING UP THE PLACE

On a less sombre note, the Operations Battery, with help from outside experts (like the M113 Bulldozer driver!) got cracking on a clean-up, fix-up programme at Wolseley Barracks. Top target: that egregious eyesore, the softball diamond.

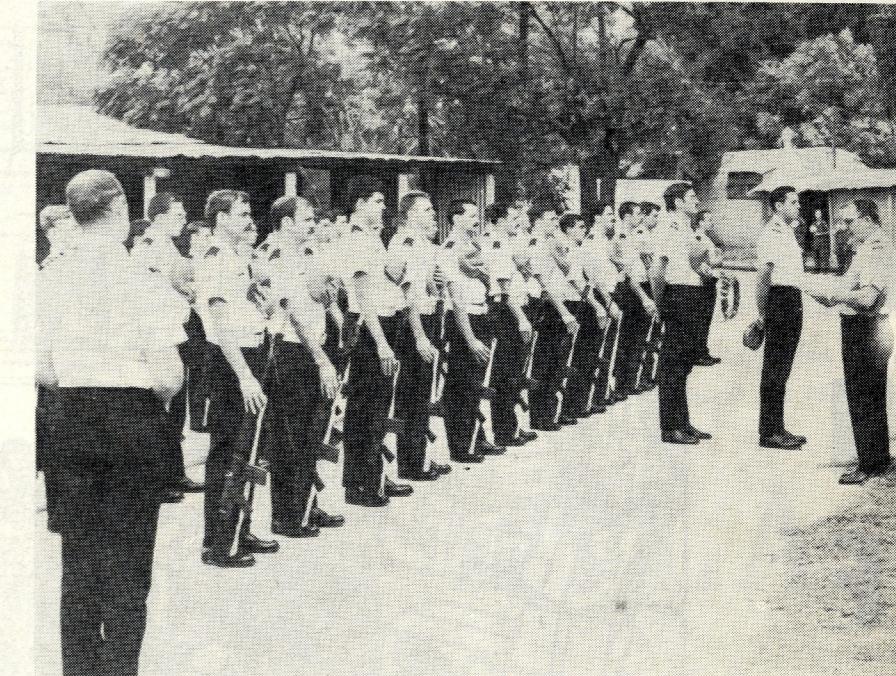
On our arrival, it was recognisable as a sports field only by the high curved chain-link screen in one corner. It was bounded on two sides by a 30m strip of high dead vegetation and debris jocularly referred to as “The Minefield” by the troops. The field itself was a hard flat sand area liberally strewn with pebbles which made sliding into third highly uncomfortable.

To this, drastic measures were applied. First the vegetation was burnt, revealing a pit one metre by three by a metre in depth, just lying in wait for the unwary fielder chasing the ball to the boundary. Then the whole field was ploughed up with a Bulldozer, and the various hazards were filled in or removed.

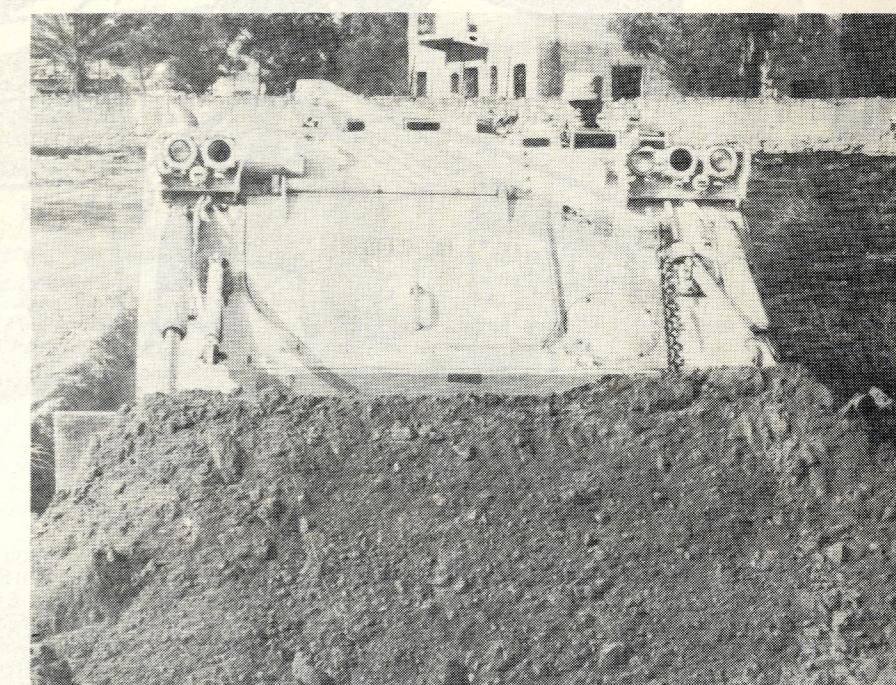
Work in progress includes the laying out

of a regulation softball diamond and re-erection of the backstop screen and score-board, followed (we hope) by the installation of bleachers and lights for night play.

It won’t be Montreal Olympic Stadium, (it should be cheaper), but the next team to visit Wolseley Barracks will not be required to bring their own shooting sticks and mine detectors!



Padre Savoie reads the invitation to the prayer.



The First Swath.

# NORTHWIND PATROL

Article by Philip Crisp

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Every second Tuesday a convoy, including trucks of the UN Transport Squadron, leave the UNPA for the north of Cyprus on one of the Northwind Patrols.

The UN Transport Squadron has recently changed over and is now provided by 8 Squadron Royal Corps of Transport, commanded by Major Bob Birrell. Normally stationed in Aldershot the squadron left dark, damp, cold England at the beginning of November for a six month tour with the UN. The squadron provides first line transport support for HQ UNFICYP and second line transport for UN contingents. In addition 'A' Troop is tasked to provide humanitarian support for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and Red Cross agencies.

The Northwind Patrol is an example of the humanitarian support provided by the squadron and the Tuesday patrol has the particular task of re-supplying the Maronite community who live in Kormakiti and the nearby villages of Karpasha and Asomatos.

Corporal Graham Timms is in charge of the three trucks, donated by the UNHCR, which are used for this re-supply task. Early on Tuesday morning the vehicles are loaded with stores at Interfair in Nicosia. Typical loads may include individual food parcels, flour, fruit, vegetables and cooking oil. As soon as the vehicles are loaded they are escorted to the north of the island by the Economics Officer of Sector 2, an interpreter, a member of the UN MP Coy and an UNCIVPOL officer. In Myrtou the escort is joined by two Turkish Cypriot Police Officers and while two of the trucks wait at Myrtou, the third, with its escort, travels to Karpasha and Asomatos. It then travels on to Kyrenia to re-supply ten Greek Cypriot refugees. Having completed this task the escort then collects the other trucks and travels on to Kormakiti.

The following day the vehicles will be involved in another Northwind Patrol, this time to Rizokarpaso.

Kormakiti is the home of the majority of the 500 Maronites who are Roman Catholics of Lebanese extraction who speak their own form of Arabic language in addition to

any other games.

The Northwind Patrols show just one aspect of the many and varied tasks which the UN Transport Squadron fulfills. The Sqn works hard and plays hard, fielding rugby, football and volleyball teams and is keen to play against other UN contingents at these

or any other games.

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or any other games.



The OP at Pyla has been constructed on the roof of Pyla's mixed cafe.



Swedes and Pyla villagers in friendly conversation. The soldiers are, from left, Sgt Boman, Sgt Unsgaard and Pte Karlsson.

## LIFE IN OP PYLA

ARTICLE BY SVEN HOVNE



SWEDCON

Photographs by George Moffett

This must be one of the best OPs in Sector 5. "It is interesting to be on duty here and one never gets bored". So says Pte Kupari of SWEDCON, newly arrived from wintry Sweden for six months of UN service in sunny Cyprus, starting with a three week period at SWEDCON OP S29 at the village Pyla. From his OP, picturesquely situated on the roof of a cafe, Pte Kupari overlooks a view now unique on the island.

Pyla, in the Buffer Zone and close to the Dhekelia base, is now the only mixed village in Cyprus. In Pyla 650 Greek Cypriots and 350 Turkish Cypriots live and work peacefully together.

In front of the combined OP-cafe lies the Village square where the villagers come and go, children play and tourists stroll along. Pyla was recently opened for tourists, and amongst Pte Kupari's duties is the control of tourists to ensure that they do not break the strict photo regulations.

Today there have been visits of mostly Swedish tourists, but also some Germans. They come here, perhaps, to get an idea of how life was in Cyprus before 1974 and also to see UN soldiers at work. We

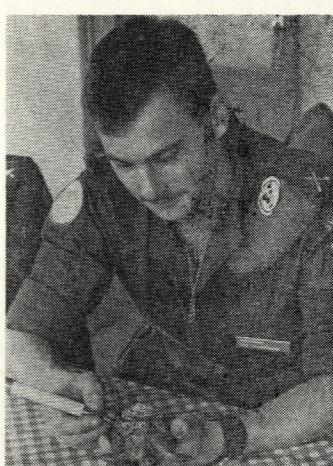
greet them, tell them about UNFICYP and about our duties here. Altogether about 20 Swedes live at Pyla. They are billeted, near to the OP, in Camp Carl Philip, named after the Swedish prince. When off duty the Swedes are free to walk around Pyla and they are on friendly terms with the villagers. The Swedes are often seen taking a cup of coffee or a beer with the villagers in any of Pyla's three cafes.

Attached to the small Swedish colony at Pyla and also billeted at Camp Carl Philip are two experts in slow march; the tortoise UNO Nilsson and the chameleon Hugo. UNO Nilsson is a battle scarred veteran who has seen UN service in the Middle East before and proudly wears the UN symbol and his ribbon painted on his shell.

Hugo, on the other hand, is a raw recruit who joined SWEDCON only a couple of days ago and he still feels a bit upset in his military surroundings. But in time he will learn how to live together with other beings of different backgrounds and with different manners and customs; thus becoming a true representative of Pyla, the only mixed village left in Cyprus.



Pte Kupari at his OP in Pyla.



Pte Waidinger smartens up the appearance of the pet tortoise UNO Nilsson.



WO2 Rahlstedt and his new recruit at Camp Carl Philip, the chameleon Hugo.

# C SQUADRON THE BLUES AND ROYALS

## UNIT FEATURE

ARTICLE BY  
FRANCIS LUKAS



A trooper in ceremonial uniform.



Chatting to the next generation in Northern Ireland.

The Blues and Royals were formed on 29 March 1969 as a result of an amalgamation of two of the oldest and most famous Cavalry Regiments of the British Army, the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues) and The Royal Dragoons (1st Dragoons). Now together with the Life Guards they form part of the Household Cavalry.

The Royal Horse Guards (The Blues) were directly descended from the Regiment of the Horse which Cromwell asked Sir Arthur Heselrigge, the Governor of Newcastle, to raise in 1650. Under the command of James Berry they built a fine reputation during service in Scotland and the West Country during the Civil War. When the restoration of King Charles II took place they were incorporated in the British Army in January 1661 and styled "The Royal Regiment of Horse". They were placed under command of Aubrey de Vere, Earl of Oxford, and wore blue tunics, which was the livery colour of the Earl of Oxford, and for many years were known as "The Oxford Blues". This name became stylised in 1750 as the Royal Horse Guards Blue which was their official title until 1819 when they became the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues).

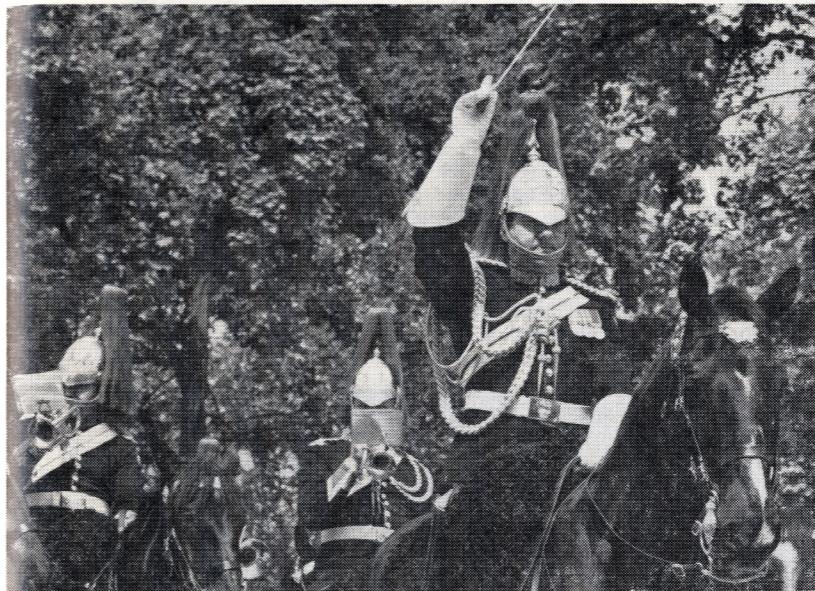
The Blues occupied a unique place in the British Army being always a special Regiment with strong Royal connections and expected to share with The Life Guards in the duties of protecting and escorting members of the Royal Family. Often regarded as the senior Regiment of Horse, whose status lay somewhere between The Life Guards and the senior Regiment of the Line, they were in 1820, as a compliment to their Colonel, The Duke of Wellington, and in consideration of their distinguished service at Waterloo in 1815, raised to the official status of Household Cavalry.

Because of their status, the active service career of The Blues closely paralleled that of The Life Guards, with whom they fought side by side in many of the British Army's campaigns and battles, one notable exception being that The Life Guards did not participate at the Battle of Warburg in 1760 during the Seven Years War.

After distinguished service in the Peninsular and at Waterloo, The Blues took part in the Egyptian Campaign of 1882, the Sudan in 1885, the South Africa War of 1899—1900 and the Great War for 1914—18. In the Second World War of 1939—45 they served with The Life Guards and formed two Regiments of Household Cavalry. The 1st Household Cavalry Regiment, including service in Syria, Egypt, Italy and North West Europe. The 2nd Household Cavalry Regiment acted as the Armoured Car Regiment for the Guards Armoured Division and led the advance of the British Army through France, Belgium and Holland and on into Germany.

The Royal Dragoons (1st Dragoons) were the oldest Cavalry Regiment of the Line having been raised in 1661 as a Cavalry

# THE BLUES AND ROYALS FORCE RESERVE



The mounted band of the Blues and Royals.

Troop for the defence of Tangiers, which had come as a dowry to King Charles II on his marriage to Catherine of Braganza, sister of the King of Portugal. Originally known as "The Tangier Horse" the unit spent twenty-two years fighting the Moors and returned to England in 1694 when it received the official title of "His Majesty's Own Royal Regiment of Dragoons".

After service in the War of the Spanish Succession, the War of Austrian Succession and the Seven Years War during the 18th century, The Royal Dragoons won further fame in 1794 against the French Revolutionary Armies at Beaumont and Williams. Then came services in the Peninsular before the Royals fought with the Union Brigade at Waterloo, of the 105th French Regiment of the Line. Later the Regiment fought with the Heavy Brigade at Balaclava in 1854, in the Egypt campaigns of 1880—1886, in South Africa from 1889 to 1902, and in the First World War in France. They were mechanised during the Second World War and fought in the Desert and North West Europe.

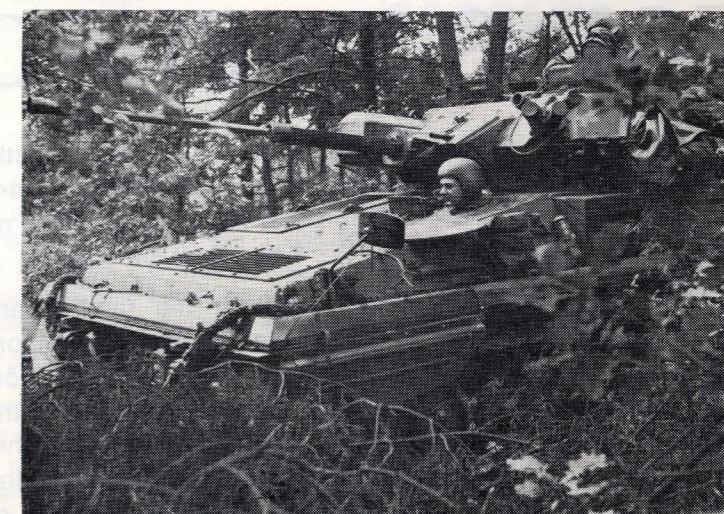
On the amalgamation of the two Regiments in 1969 they were reorganised as an Armoured Regiment serving in Germany, and since then have served on a roster with The Life Guards, either serving in Germany as an Armoured Regiment or at Windsor as an armoured car regiment. Whether serving in tanks or armoured cars, they have always taken their share of overseas duties with other Regiments of the British Army and have served in Northern Ireland (both as armoured and infantry soldiers) in Cyprus with the United Nations, and in Dhekelia B Squadron also undertook an emergency tour in Cyprus in 1974, or as part of the ACE Mobile Force (land).

In addition to their armoured role, The Blues and Royals also provide a Mounted Squadron for service with the Household Cavalry Regiment based in London. The Squadron are responsible with the Squadron of The Life Guards for providing the traditional Queen's Life Guards at Horse Guards in Whitehall and the Mounted Ceremonial Escorts on State occasions. The Blues and Royals Squadrons in London wear the traditional Full Dress of the Regiment, blue tunic, helmet with red plume, cuirass, white breeches and Jack Boots, and since their amalgamation have worn an Eagle on their Full Dress uniform in recognition of the Eagle which they captured at the Battle of Waterloo.

The Blues and Royals are at present stationed at Windsor having moved from Germany in February of this year. This has meant two moves and two changes of equipment for C Squadron in seven months. Equipped with Ferret Scout Cars for our tour as Force Reserve the Squadron provides a recce troop for each Sector. Three of these troops live in their sectors at Skouriotissa, Atheniou and the Carton Factory (OP A20).



Fitting of a Trumpeter Full Dress Coat.



Scimitar Armoured reconnaissance vehicle.



A Chieftain tank on exercise in West Germany.



# UNFICYP BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP 1980

Article by Lt Louis Boily, 5 RALC

On Friday 28 November, some 28 players representing nine UNFICYP organisations, gathered at Camp Maple Leaf and Wolseley Barracks to contest the 1980 badminton championship. In this competition two events were planned: the men's contingent Doubles and the men's open Singles, the two counting toward the shield for the best contingent.

First of all, in the Doubles, the SWEDCON team composed of Sgt Nilsson and Pte Olsen, had no problem reaching the final game. In this game they beat Dvr Webb and Dvr Park from Support Regiment 15-1, 15-1 to win the title of this event. In the game for the third place, Sgt Boucher and Sgt Roy from CANCON beat Lt Sutherland and Lt Kisielewski-Dunbar of Force Reserve.

and Lt Kisielewski-Dunbar by 15-1, 15-3. Thus in the men's contingent Doubles, the results were as follows:

1st Sgt Nilsson & Pte Olsen of SWEDCON  
2nd Dvr Webb & Dvr Park of Support Regt  
3rd Sgt Boucher & Sgt Roy of CANCON  
4th Lt Sutherland & Lt Kisielewski-Dunbar of Force Reserve

In the men's open Singles, the story was almost the same. SWEDCON showed the other contingents that they were the best. In the final game, Pte Sundstrom from SWEDCON overcame J Neilson from MP Coy by 15-13 and 15-7. For the third

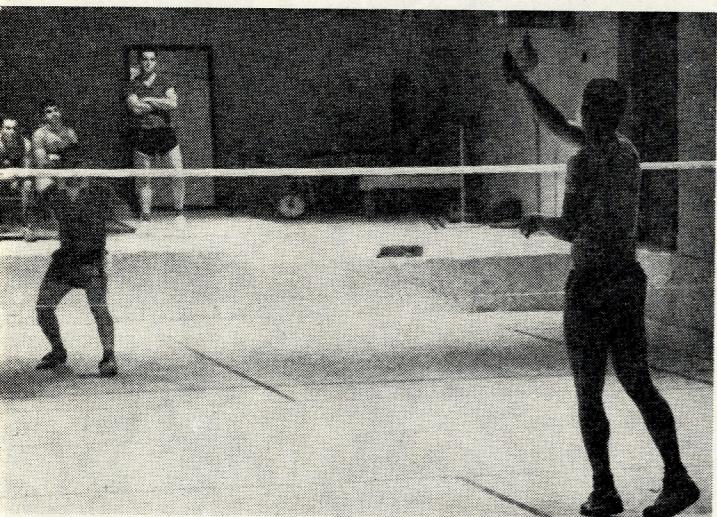
place, Capt Tremblay from CANCON beat Capt Lindstrom from SWEDCON by 15-4 and 15-9.

For the men's open Singles the results were as follows:

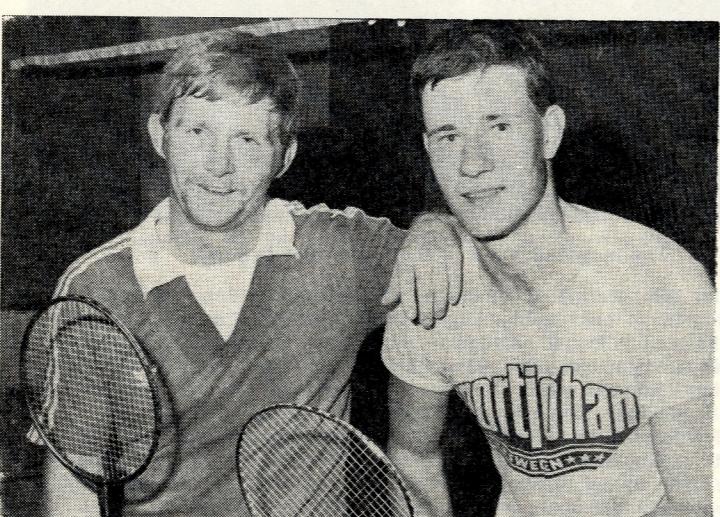
1st Pte Sundstrom of SWEDCON 6 pts  
2nd J Neilson of the MP Coy 3 pts  
3rd Capt Tremblay of CANCON 2 pts  
4th Capt Lindstrom of SWEDCON 1 pt

Overall the best contingent was undoubtedly SWEDCON which won the doubles and the singles and gathered 19 pts. In second place were CANCON and Support Regiment with 6 points each and finally, the MP Coy and Force Reserve with respectively 3 and 2 points.

Congratulations to all the players of this competition and particularly to the winners.



"Where's the Shuttlecock?"



Singles winner Pte Sundström SWEDCON (on the right) with runner-up J. Neilson, MP Coy.

# BJORN BORG JOINS SWEDCON

"People often take an extra look and ask me to repeat my name when I introduce myself." So says 2Lt Björn Borg of SWEDCON. By coincidence 2 Lt Borg bears the same name as the presumably most well known of all living Swedes; tennis superstar and five time Wimbledon winner Björn Borg. "I have never met the 'real' Björn Borg, only watched him many times on TV," says 2Lt Borg, who is a tennis player himself. "But I have only the

name in common with Björn Borg. No other comparisons!!... but I must admit that my backhand isn't that bad".

Both the family name Borg (the Swedish word for castle) and the first name Björn (Swedish for bear) are rather common in Sweden and there must be hundreds, maybe thousands of Björn Borgs. But only one tennis star... and only one 2Lt Borg, who is a tennis player himself. "But I have only the



# INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK

## Pip's Christmas Fayre

Recipes by Pip Johansson

### CLOGG (SWEDISH)

#### Ingredients

1 ham  
6 peppercorns  
Enough cider to cover ham  
2 teacups moist brown sugar  
1 tablespoon mustard

#### Method

Soak ham overnight if it is salt. Drain it, put it into a large pan with the pepper and enough dry cider to cover it. Bring slowly to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes to the pound and 15 minutes over. Keep skimming. Remove ham. Cut off the rind and place the ham in a baking dish. Mix the sugar and mustard with enough cider stock to make a stiffish paste. Spread over the meat. Cook at the top of a very hot oven for a few minutes until the sugar bubbles and becomes crisp. Move it to the bottom of the oven for about another 30 minutes. Should the sugar start to burn then turn the heat down a little. Eat hot or cold.

### TURKEY ROASTED WITH PORT

#### Ingredients

Stuffing  
1 tin unsweetened chestnut puree  
450 gr sausage meat  
2 glasses port  
450 gr breadcrumbs  
2 eggs  
2 chopped onions  
sage or parsley  
salt & pepper  
1 turkey  
1 tablespoon oil  
salt & pepper  
1/2 pt port  
flour  
cream

#### Method

Make stuffing by first mixing the chestnut and sausage meat. Stir the port into the breadcrumbs and when they have absorbed the liquid, mix them into the sausage meat.

Add the beaten egg and other ingredients, then stuff the bird and sew it up. Using a pastry brush, coat the bird with oil. Put it into a roasting pan and sprinkle generously with salt and pepper. Pour over the drain.

Preheat oven to 160°C or 325°F. first of several glasses of port. Cook in a flameproof casserole heat the butter or

hot oven for 20 minutes, then turn down bacon fat and fry the onion gently until to moderate and cook for a total of 20 soft. Add the cabbage and sauté lightly until minutes per pound. Baste frequently with well buttered. Season with paprika pepper,

pan juices and add more port from time salt and freshly ground pepper. Stir in the to time. When it is finally cooked, remove soured cream and mix well. Cover with a

lid and bake in the oven for 20 minutes, or cook over a low heat on top of the stove.

Do not overheat or the cream will separate. Stir in cream just before serving.

### AUSTRIAN CABBAGE WITH SOURED CREAM

#### Ingredients

1 small white cabbage  
25-50 gr butter or bacon fat  
1 small onion, peeled and chopped  
1 teaspoon paprika pepper  
3 fl oz soured cream  
extra paprika pepper or fried pimento strips to garnish

#### Method

Remove any discoloured or coarse leaves from the cabbage. Cut the heart into quarters and remove the stalk. Shred finely, wash and

rougly with salt and pepper. Pour over the drain. Preheat oven to 160°C or 325°F.

first of several glasses of port. Cook in a flameproof casserole heat the butter or

hot oven for 20 minutes, then turn down bacon fat and fry the onion gently until to moderate and cook for a total of 20 soft. Add the cabbage and sauté lightly until minutes per pound. Baste frequently with well buttered. Season with paprika pepper,

pan juices and add more port from time salt and freshly ground pepper. Stir in the to time. When it is finally cooked, remove soured cream and mix well. Cover with a

lid and bake in the oven for 20 minutes, or cook over a low heat on top of the stove.

Do not overheat or the cream will separate. Stir in cream just before serving.

### A KIND OF CASSATA

#### Ingredients

2 tablespoons currants  
2 tablespoons sultanas  
1 tablespoon chopped orange peel  
1 tablespoon chopped glacé cherries  
1 tablespoon flaked almonds  
1 tablespoon brandy  
1 tablespoon orange juice  
1/2 pt double cream  
1 tablespoon icing sugar

#### Method

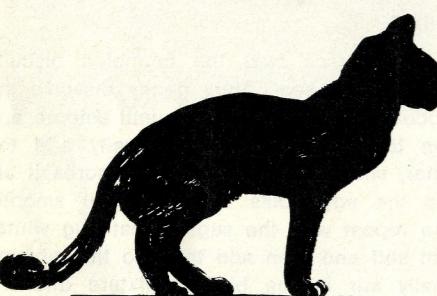
Soak the fruit and nuts in the brandy and orange juice in a screw-top jar overnight. Shake it every now and then. Whip the cream and sugar until fairly stiff. Fold in fruit and mix well. Pour into pretty dish and freeze.

Out &  
in About  
Cyprus

# ST NICHOLAS

Article By Tim Whitehead  
Photographs By George Moffett

Two miles east of Akrotiri lie the ruins of a monastery. It is called **St Nicholas of the Cats** and its history goes back to the 4th Century, at the time when St Helena, the mother of Constantine, left Jerusalem with a piece of the "true cross" and stopped in Cyprus before proceeding to Constantinople. The Empress soon saw that the promontory of which Limassol was the chief city was infested with snakes and other "noxious beasts." She consulted Chalocer, her regent in Cyprus (the first Christian Duke of the Island), and she decreed that a monastery would be built above the place called Nimona. The monastery was built for a community of Basilian monks in the honour of St Nicholas, and one of the clauses of the foundation stated that the monks should maintain **100 cats** whose task would be to eradicate the snakes and vermin that had made the whole area a dangerous place to live in.



REMAINS OF THE OLD WELL

We know little or nothing of what happened in the next thousand years, but, incredibly, in 1409, Father Felix Faber, a Dominican monk reported that the cats were still being used to hunt down serpents. Faber recounted that: "At night they remain within the walls and roam about the offices lest any reptile be hidden there, but during the day they hunt in the surrounding woods; and when their dinner-hour comes the Monk on Duty rings a bell, at the sound of which they all run to the place where they are fed. For the "mouse catcher" has good hearing and better smell, but best of all is his sight, which can pierce the shades of night, hence he is called cat: for cattus means cunning, and the ancients thought that cats were akin to the 'Genii' or 'Lares', saging that 'Genii', though unseen by man, could not remain invisible to cats."

In 1484, Suriano used much the same language adding that he had seen these marvellous creatures all bearing the wounds of their struggles with the snakes and rats of Nimona. Some of the cats had lost an ear, others a nose, some were blinded or lame and most had their skins torn.

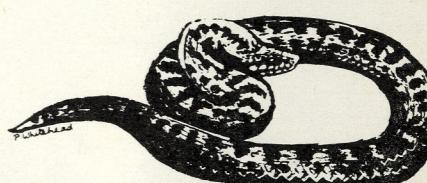
Another European traveller, Bathelemy de Salignac, writing about his visit to Cyprus in 1518 and a day spent at the monastery

# OF THE CATS

Illustrations By Priscilla Whitehead

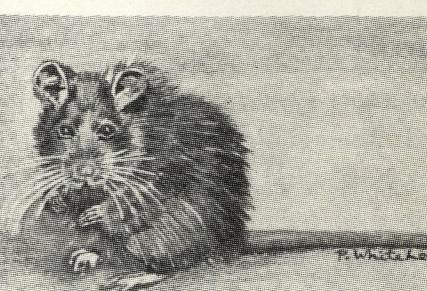
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called the cats the "saviours of the century". In 1578, eight years after the Turkish conquest, the explorer Carlier who also spent several weeks on the island, wrote that the monastery was intact with several monks in attendance and of the cats still being used to combat the great snakes "seven feet long and thick as a man's leg."

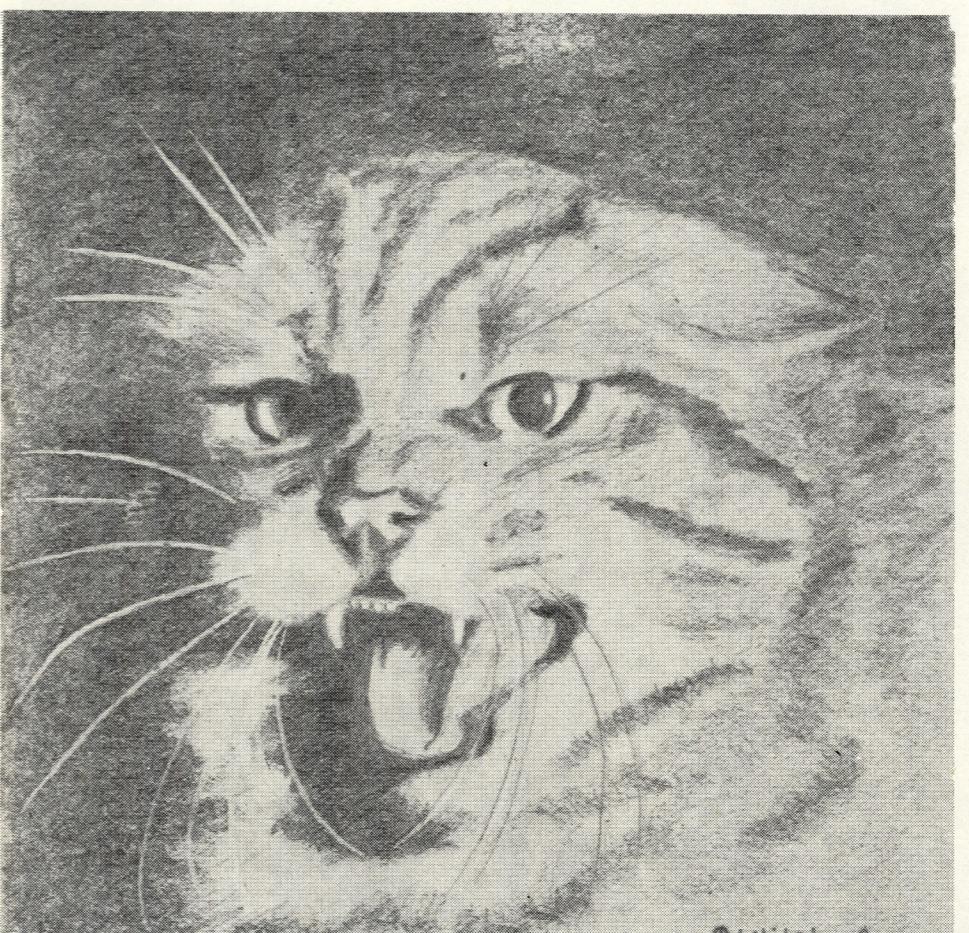


At about the same time, in 1580, Etienne de Lusignan wrote that there were still 40 cats in service adding that the promontory was still called the Cape of Cats. However Villamont (who was in Limassol in 1590) and also Caleppio, writing about that date, said that St Nicholas was pillaged. Villamont remarked that although the monks of the order of St Basil had been dispersed along with the cats, the monastery was slightly damaged but still standing. In 1608, Beauvan travelled to Limassol and said that the cats had disappeared but that the stone cat cages, or "chatoyers" were still clearly visible.

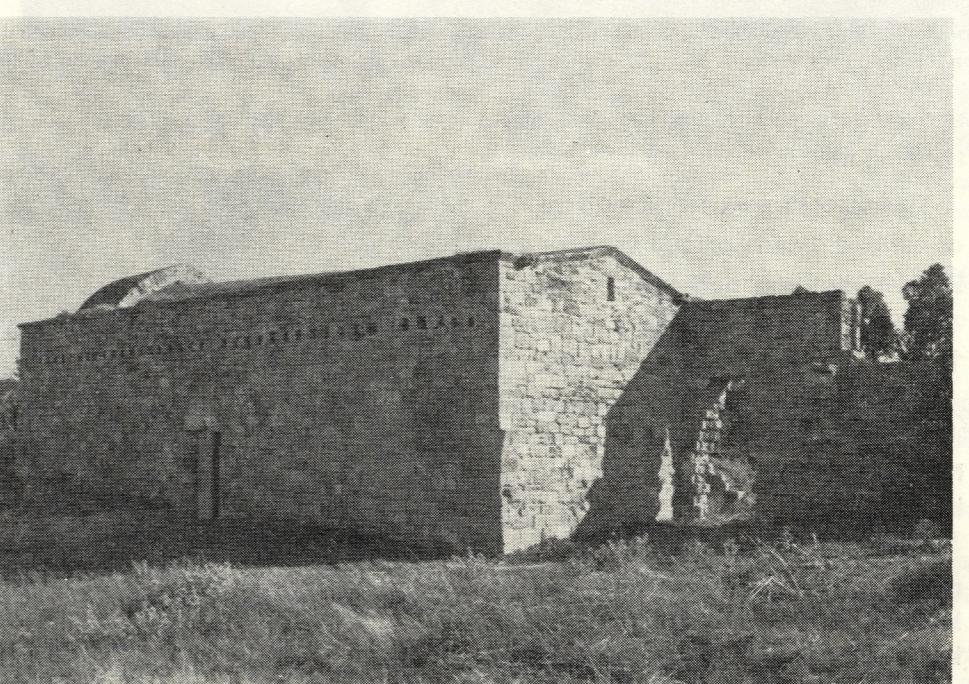
The historian Enlart felt that the cats may have had an Egyptian origin and that perhaps there was once a shrine of the Egyptian cat-headed goddess gazing out to sea on the Akrotiri peninsula. When in Cyprus Enlart said he saw the descendants of an angora-type of cat thought to be extinct, a powerful animal that he personally saw attack and strangle very large chameleons. He also told of having heard that the Knights of Rhodes had imported cats from Cyprus, when they moved their headquarters from there to Rhodes, and used them to kill snakes.



Today the ruins of **St Nicholas of the Cats** are very much covered by the local vegetation. The only remaining part of the monastery is the west gallery of the cloisters which is used to this day as a small chapel. The "chatoyers" or cat cages are barely recognisable but the remains of St Nicholas of the Cats with its chapel and the name Cape Gata (Cape of Cats) preserve the memory of these remarkable animals.



P. Whitehead.



THE CHAPEL WHICH IS USED TO THIS DAY

# Pictorial news

## UNFICYP HONOURED

MAJ GEN J J QUINN RECEIVES  
"PEOPLE OF THE YEAR" AWARD



The Minister for Health and Social Welfare of the Republic of Ireland Dr Michael Woods presenting the Award to Major General James Quinn

"People of the Year" is an Irish son selected for the award at international Award presentation function national level.

The selection was made by a jury of editorial heads of Dublin, Cork and Belfast morning newspapers, Radio, Television and women's magazines. The purpose of "People of the Year" is to give public recognition to persons who, through their personal participation, courage and achievements, have made an outstanding contribution to the community at local and/or national level. This is the sixth year of the awards scheme and for the first time an additional Award was granted to a person working outside Ireland.

The formal Award Presentation Ceremony took place in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin on Thursday 27 November 1980. Over 700 people attended and Major General Quinn gave a speech on behalf of all the award winners.

## NEW FACE

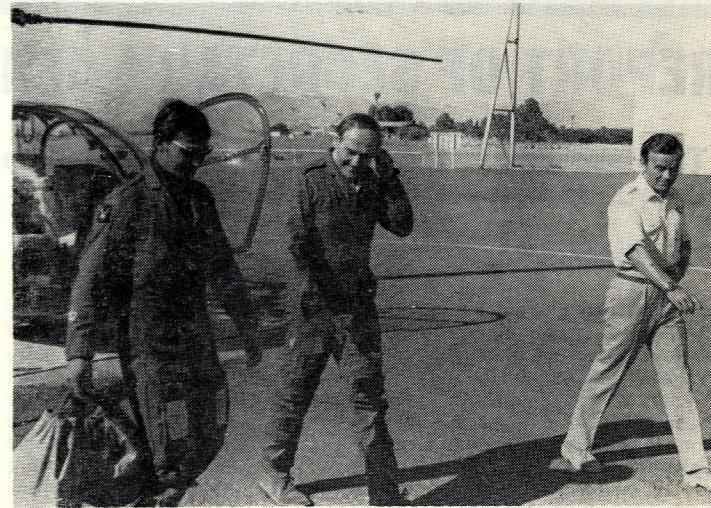


Mr Gilberto B Schlittler, a Brazilian, from the office of the Under-Secretaries-General for Special Political Affairs, has joined UNFICYP temporarily as the Senior Political Affairs Officer, standing in for Mr Remy Gorge who is away on leave.

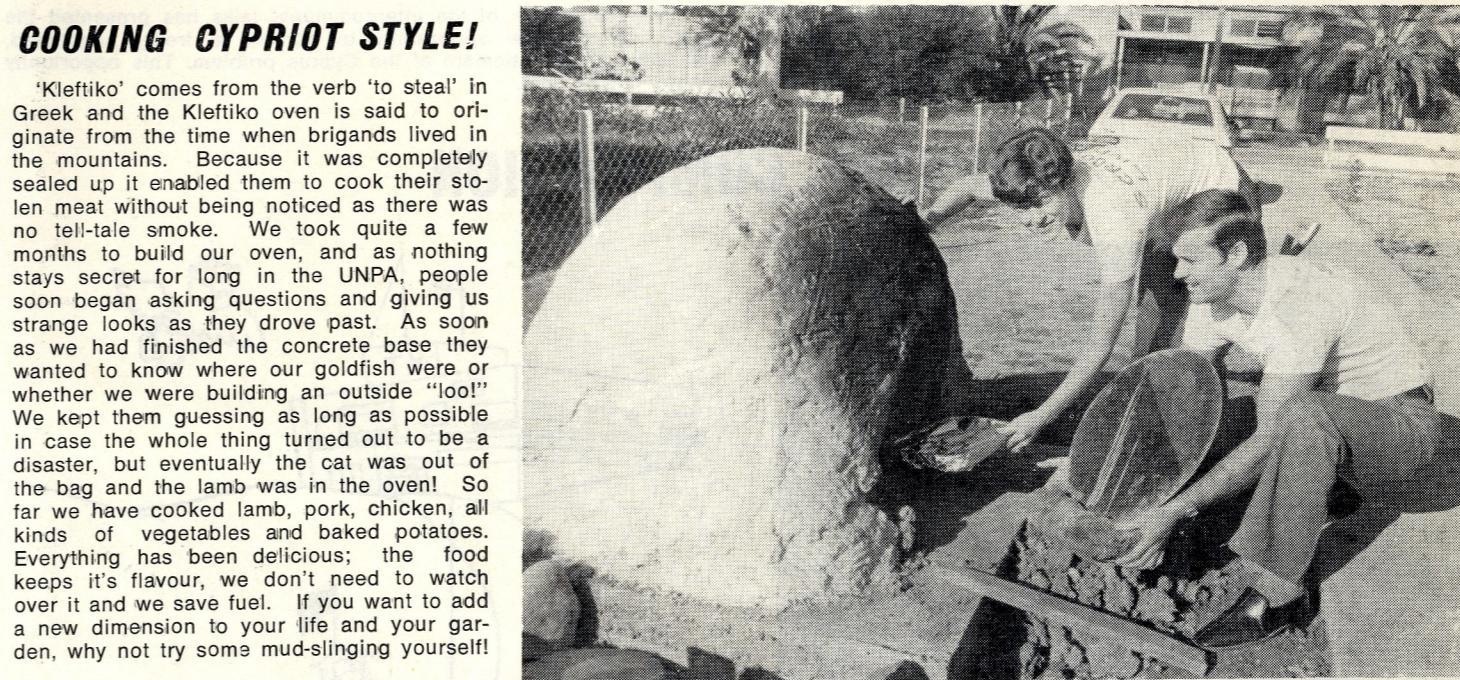
## VISITORS



Major General T L Morony (right of picture), Vice Chief of the General Staff (designate) seen with Brigadier J D Bastick, Chief of Staff, HQ UNFICYP.



Major General W N J Withall (centre of picture), Director Army Air Corps during his visit to the UNFICYP Flight AAC, seen with the OC, Major Nigel Thursby (on the right) and the Helicopter Instructor, WO2 John Lay.



The photo shows the writer, Sue Bingham and the builder, Graham Bingham, about to put the Kleftiko into the oven.



## CYPRUS 1,000 HOURS

Flight Lieutenant Reg Wargent of 84 Squadron Detachment RAF is seen celebrating his 1,000 hours flown for UNFICYP. Reg has a total of 3000 hours flying experience and he has served in Aden/Sharja, Northern Ireland and with the British Army of the Rhine in Western Germany. He has been a unit local test pilot at Shawbury and before coming to Cyprus he attended a helicopter Flying Instructor's course in England. He has flown Wessex, Gazelle and Whirlwinds.



# UN NEWS



## REPORT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM ON CYPRUS

The following is the text of Chapter IV, Observations, of the Secretary-General's Report on Cyprus to the General Assembly.

### IV. Observations

The evolution of the Cyprus problem since the adoption by the General Assembly of Resolution 34/30 has been dominated by developments relating to the intercommunal talks, which were formally resumed on 9 August 1980 after a hiatus of more than a year, and which on 16 September entered their substantive phase. It seems evident that all concerned have accepted the process of the talks carried out under my auspices, as the best available way of working towards a just and lasting settlement and of seeking to achieve the objectives of the United Nations concerning the problem of Cyprus.

The talks have proceeded in a friendly and business-like atmosphere. Two cycles of the talks have been held, and the third cycle is now under way. The parties have stated their initial positions on the four items of the agenda, and there have been the first substantive responses. Some common ground has been indicated on certain practical questions: while progress so far has been slow, the discussions have been constructive. It is hoped that an acceptable arrangement has at last been found for a sustained, serious and result-oriented joint exploration and negotiation both of the basic problems confronting Cyprus and of the approaches to their solution. I look forward to the continuation of this process.

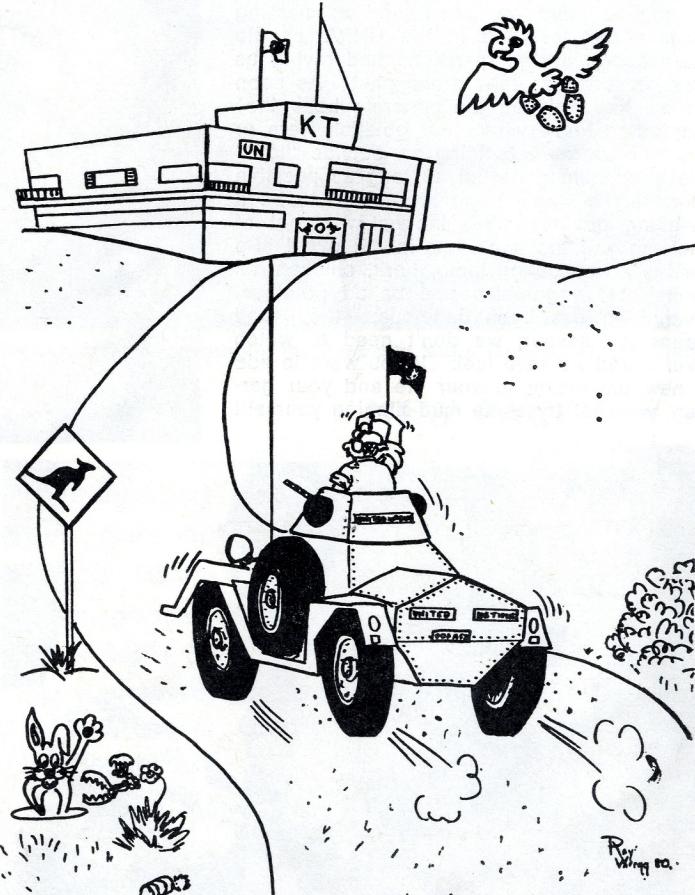
As I pointed out to the General Assembly in my previous report on this item, there is no alternative to a concrete and effective negotiating process if a mutually acceptable, just and lasting solution of the Cyprus problem is to be achieved.

One of the problems that the interlocutors will no doubt have to face at some point is the difficult issue of how and where to start the actual give-and-take which is the essence of an effective negotiating process. In this connection, it is relevant to recall that the high-level accord of 19 May 1979 specified that certain matters are to be given priority both as regards reaching agreement and implementation.

My Special Representative has kept me fully informed about the proceedings. At the same time, as part of the exercise of my good offices, it is my intention also to continue to maintain direct personal contact with the parties from time to time, with a view to reviewing periodically the progress that might facilitate the conduct of the negotiations. While a complex negotiating process such as the present one must of necessity proceed with careful deliberation, it must also, if it is to maintain its credibility, produce concrete results.

The resumption of the intercommunal talks has presented the parties with a new opportunity to achieve a freely negotiated, just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. This opportunity should not be lost.

### CAPTION COMPETITION



The winning caption for the photo in the November issue is: "I'm knackered", sent in by the Medical Staff of the BRITCON Medical Centre.

Captions for this cartoon are invited and they should be sent to the MPIO HQ UNFICYP by 29 December 1980.