

THE BLUE BERET

THE NEWSPAPER FOR CIVILIAN, MILITARY
AND POLICE PERSONNEL WITHIN UNFICYP



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DEAD BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



Federal Minister of Defence of the Republic of Austria, Dr Werner Fasslabend, pays tribute to the three Austrians killed in action in 1974

Austrian 1st Lieutenant Johann Izay, Master Sergeant Paul Decombe, Corporal August Isak and Lance Corporal Franz Sattlecker went on patrol together. It was 14 August 1974. Their destination was the village of Goshi.

Several soldiers were holding their positions there, but the opposing force planned an attack on the village. Lieutenant Izay tried to negotiate to prevent this attack from 10.30 in the morning.

At 14.10 hrs fighting broke out. The Austrian patrol decided to withdraw south of Goshi and to wait for a chance to resume their negotiations.

At 15.20 hrs some Turkish low-flying aircraft passed by. The men immediately decided to leave the area and drive in the direction of Larnaca. The first overflight was followed by a second. The patrol stopped and left their landrover to find shelter. This time the aircraft dropped napalm, soon followed by machine-gun fire.

Three of the Austrian soldiers had no chance of survival. Only Lance Corporal Sattlecker lived through the attack. He emerged from his shelter to find his deceased comrades only a few metres away.

14 August 1999 was the 25th anniversary of one of the saddest days in the Austrian history of peacekeeping. On Tuesday 17 August, the Austrian Contingent commemorated their comrades killed in action. The site of the memorial was softly lit by candles and stars while the strains of a horn completed the moving atmosphere.

The Austrian Federal Defence Minister, Dr Werner Fasslabend, and former Austrian



Chief of Mission Dame Ann Hercus inspecting the honour guard

UNFICYP Force Commander, Major General Greindl, were present at the ceremony, as well as WO1 Guenther Isak, the brother of August Isak. Dr Fasslabend, addressing his Austrian soldiers in his mother tongue, once again read out the names of the three soldiers, three names on the roll of honour of 40 Austrians killed while serving in peacekeeping missions. He pointed out that the contribution of each individual soldier serving in UNFICYP should be seen as a contribution to stability in Europe as a whole.

He thanked the soldiers for representing Austria so professionally, keeping up its good name, and wished everybody lots of soldier's luck.

Sector 4's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Plieschnegger, used a quote of British poet Laurence Binyon to stress that those killed in action will not be forgotten.

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
we will remember them*

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THE BLUE BERET

The newspaper for UNFICYP's
civilian, military and police
personnel

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Articles of general interest are invited from all members of the Force. Photographs, together with captions, should accompany the articles.

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QUOTATIONS

"The recipe for success is an infinite capacity for taking pains."

"There is sometimes an alarming tendency to use statistics rather like drunk people use street lamps; for support, rather than for illumination."

In issue no. 12 there was a mistake in the English and German translation of the Editorial.

Argentina does not contribute a peacekeeping unit to Slovenia, but to Slavonia. The Blue Beret apologises for this error.

EDITORIAL

The British army has been connected with Cyprus for many years. There is even a period in Cypriot history called the British period (1878 - 1959), just as there is a Hellenistic period, a Roman period and a Byzantine period. The British era may not have been popular with all inhabitants of the island, but like the other periods, it left behind a number of cultural influences such as some of the architecture, the name of the Republic's currency, and the fact that people drive on the left, something we find very sensible. It is also good to see that so many Cypriots seem to share the British fondness for fish and chips.

The first British troops disembarked at Larnaca on 8 - 9 July 1878 and arrived at the Nicosia garrison on 12 July. The British military presence has been uninterrupted ever since. Today, the main military presence is found in the two Sovereign Bases and with the British regiment within UNFICYP. This regiment is known as the UNFICYP Roulement Regiment 7 (URR). The URR is normally found from regiments within the Royal Armoured Corps (RAC) (the cavalry regiments and the two Royal Tank Regiments) or the Royal Artillery (RA). The increased commitment of the British Army in the Balkans has reduced the ability of the RAC to meet its commitment here, so we have recently seen a series of RA regiments in Cyprus. The arrival of the 1st Battalion, the Staffordshire Regiment, an infantry battalion, in December 1999 will mark another change.

The URR is a challenging role for British regiments which are more used to the operational environment in Northern Ireland or the Balkans. It demands new skills and a completely different mind-set. It is a great challenge to train soldiers who normally display aggression and initiative to become peacekeepers. This is, nevertheless, extremely worthwhile as the attributes acquired broaden the character of the soldier and make him or her much more adaptable.

The role of the peacekeeper is vitally important in the current world and, as many people tend to forget, it is the soldier, who has experienced conflict and its associated miseries, who wants peace more than anyone. Any way in which we can make a contribution to maintaining stability and peace in the volatile world in which we live must be a bonus.

22 Regiment is wholeheartedly committed to its current role and is finding it most rewarding to work with all the different nationalities in UNFICYP. However, although it is thoroughly enjoying its time on the island, it does secretly pine for just a little rain and cooler temperatures.

Lieutenant Colonel Huw Lawford
CO Sector 2

Die Britische Armee ist seit Jahren mit Zypern verbunden. Es gibt sogar einen Teil der zyprischen Geschichte der sich Britische Periode (1878 - 1959), wie die hellenistische, römische und byzantinische Periode, nennt. Die Britische Periode war nicht bei allen Bewohnern der Insel beliebt, so wie wahrscheinlich alle anderen Perioden, hat aber trotzdem viele Spuren hinterlassen, wie zum Beispiel in der Architektur, den Namen der Währung und den Umstand, daß auf der Insel immer noch links gefahren wird. Außerdem erfreut es einen, daß hier auf der Insel genauso gerne "Fish und Chips" wie in Großbritannien gegessen wird.

Die ersten britischen Kräfte verließen den Hafen in Larnaca am 8./9. Juli 1878 und trafen am 12. Juli 1878 in der Kaserne in Nikosia ein. Seit damals ist die Anwesenheit britischer Truppen auf der Insel ununterbrochen. Heute besteht diese Anwesenheit hauptsächlich aus den Kräften in den beiden "Sovereign Base Areas" und einem Regiment bei UNFICYP. Dieses Regiment ist bekannt als das "UNFICYP Roulement Regiment" (URR). Das URR wird normalerweise aus Teilen innerhalb des "Royal Armoured Corps" (RAC) oder der "Royal Artillerie" (RA) gebildet. Das gesteigerte Engagement der britischen Armee am Balkan hat dazu geführt, daß immer mehr Teile der RA hier in Zypern Dienst versehen. Die Ankunft des "Royal Staffordshire Regiments", ein Infanteriebataillon, im Dezember 1999 wird wieder einen Abschnitt kennzeichnen.

Das URR ist eine besondere Aufgabe für ein britisches Regiment, da sie mehr in einem Einsatz in Nord Irland oder am Balkan geübt sind. Es verlangt gänzlich neue Fertigkeiten und eine andere Art der "geistigen Kriegsführung". Es ist eine Herausforderung einen Soldaten, der normalerweise darauf trainiert ist Aggression und Eigeninitiative zu zeigen, auf einen friedenserhaltenden Einsatz einzustellen. Trotzdem ist es die Mühe Wert, da ein Soldat dadurch einen größeren Horizont erwirbt und auch leichter auf andere Aufgaben eingestellt werden kann.

Die Rolle eines Friedenserhalters ist in der heutigen Welt lebensnotwendig und, was leider sehr viele Leute vergessen, es sind auch die Soldaten die den Konflikt und diesen mit allen Grausamkeiten kennen, wer als sie tritt daher für Frieden ein. Aber jeder Beitrag den wir zur Erhaltung der Stabilität und des Friedens erbringen ist ein kleiner Bonus in dieser Welt.

Das 22. Regiment ist mit seinem ganzen Herzen bei der jetzigen Aufgabe und findet es als besondere Bereicherung im UNFICYP Einsatz mit anderen Nationen zusammenzuarbeiten. Und obwohl es den Einsatz auf der Insel genießt hofft es doch insgeheim auf etwas Regen und kühlere Temperaturen.

Oberstleutnant Huw Lawford
CO Sector 2

El Ejército Británico ha estado relacionado con la Isla de Chipre por muchos años. Incluso, existe un período en la Historia de Chipre llamado el período Británico (1878-1959), del mismo modo que hay un período Helénico, un período Romano y un período Bizantino.

La era Británica puede no haber sido popular con los habitantes de la Isla pero, como en otros períodos, dejó algunas influencias culturales tales como obras de arquitectura, el nombre de la moneda de la República y el hecho de que la gente conduzca por la izquierda, algo que nosotros encontramos muy lógico. Es también agradable ver que muchos Chipriotas parecen compartir el gusto Británico por el pescado y las papas fritas.

Las primeras tropas Británicas desembarcaron en LARNACA los días 8 y 9 de Julio de 1878, y llegaron a la guarnición de NICOSIA el día 12 de Julio. La presencia militar Británica ha sido ininterrumpida desde entonces. Hoy, la presencia militar Británica está basada en las Bases Soberanas y el regimiento Británico dentro de UNFICYP. Este regimiento es conocido en UNFICYP como el Regimiento Rotativo de UNFICYP (URR). El URR es normalmente requerido de los Regimientos de los Cuerpos Reales Blindados Británicos (RAC) (en Regimientos de Caballería y en dos Regimientos de Tanques Reales) o la Artillería Real (RA). El incremento del compromiso del Ejército Británico en los Balcanes ha reducido la capacidad de los RAC para cumplir los compromisos aquí, como hemos visto recientemente una serie de estos Regimientos en Chipre.

La llegada del 1er Batallón del Regimiento Staffordshire, un Batallón de Infantería, en Diciembre de 1999, señala el marco de otro reemplazo. El URR está realizando un rol que desafía las actividades para los Regimientos Británicos que son mas usados para el ambiente operacional en Irlanda del Norte o los Balcanes.

Esto exige nuevas destrezas y una predisposición mental completamente diferente. Es una gran desafío adiestrar soldados que normalmente exhiben agresividad e iniciativa, para convertirlos en soldados mantenedores de la paz. Esto es, sin embargo extremadamente valeroso como amplias atribuciones adquiridas por cada soldado y mas adaptables, el hecho de lograr hacer de ellos o ellas que se cumpla. El rol de Soldado Mantenedor de la Paz es de vital importancia en el mundo actual y, como mucha gente tiende a olvidar, es el soldado quien tiene experiencia vivida y sabe asociar las miserias de las guerras, es por eso que desean la paz mas que ninguno. De cualquier manera, en aquellas oportunidades en que podamos contribuir con el mantenimiento de la estabilidad y la paz en el mundo volátil en el que vivimos, deberá ser un premio.

El Regimiento 22, encomendado incondicionalmente a su actual rol, está encontrando la mayor recompensa que es trabajar con las diferentes nacionalidades en UNFICYP. Sin embargo, aunque el tiempo en la Isla se disfruta, se anhela un poco de lluvias y temperaturas mas frías.

Teniente Coronel Huw Lawford
Comandante del Sector 2

NIKI CHRISTODOULOU: "SAY CHEESE"

By Noel Evdokiou



Niki - 1977

There is one person in UNFICYP who by the very nature of her job gets to see everyone who works for the peace-keeping force. Indeed, these days she gets to meet everyone who steps foot into the UNPA.

Niki Christodoulou has been issuing UNFICYP ID cards since the new, plastic, higher-security cards were introduced last year.

And since the system of carrying cards was extended to include all regular entrants into the UNPA, from military, local and international staff to contractors and foreign diplomats wishing to make use of the Britcon pool, this has meant she has been extremely busy.

Her present role is a far cry from when she first joined UNFICYP in 1977 as a typist.

Then, her main piece of equipment was a trusty old typewriter. Now, she operates a sophisticated computer system - replete with camera - that instantaneously takes pictures of applicants and churns out shiny new plastic

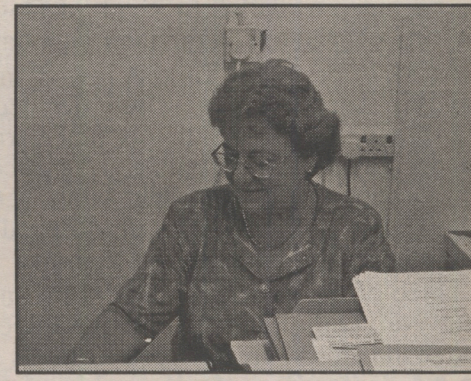
ID cards in a matter of minutes.

The swiftness of it all does catch some people by surprise.

Niki says that one man, surprised to learn that his picture was to be taken there and then, insisted on first going home in order to change his shirt.

Others have too high an expectation of what modern technology can do. She recalls that two elderly Armenian gentlemen entered her one day office to receive their cards, and asked: "Is this the place where they make old people young again?"

In a varied career with UNFICYP, which began in the typists' pool and took in stints at the old Personnel/Logistics branch, Camp Command, Procurement, and the UN Flight, Niki says that she couldn't be happier than in her present



Niki - 1999

job with the Personnel and Travel Office.

"I'm very happy with my colleagues and supervisor," she says. "We're like a family in this office. There's such a mutual understanding and rapport. I'm very happy here."

A DOG'S LIFE IN THE BUFFER ZONE

Recent articles about a goat and a jackdaw in Sector 2 have resulted in complaints about the under-exposure of some other animals helping to keep the peace.

Almost every troop location has its own pet, usually a dog.

NB: All have been inoculated and neutered to prevent a BZ canine population explosion.

Rocky, by Gunner Dave Alexander of Ortona Troop



Rocky

At Ortona house, we believe that all dogs need loving, especially the troop dog, Rocky. He was left to us by 47 Regt as they departed for the UK, and as yet, no one's quite sure what breed of dog Rocky is.

We thought that communicating with the opfors was difficult until Rocky showed up and broke the ice with his goofy expression, one ear drooping lower than the other and eyes half shut. Rocky has become a good member of the troop, although he needs 23 hours' sleep a day. He also manages to do more sunbathing than us, but is always ready for each patrol. He (surprisingly) enjoys running next to bike patrols through the AOR and follows the foot patrols at a more leisurely pace. His preferred method of transport is to stand in the back of the patrol vehicle like King Tut.

Rocky generally lives a good life at Ortona Troop with excellent food. Bath-time, however, is a nightmare for LBdr Chris Edis, our qualified dog handler. He always gets the job of cleaning and pulling the ticks off Rocky. We then have a sweet-smelling dog for all of 10 minutes until he goes and rolls around the flower beds again. Then he's off on patrol down the BZ to chase away the cats. We also have to make sure there's plenty of water at the observation posts along the BZ, as Rocky has not quite mastered the art of carrying a webbing belt with water bottles.

Fist, by Corporal van der Els and Corporal Ribbens of Bengal Troop



Fist

The biggest pet in UNFICYP has to be our dog, Fist. When we took over Bengal troop location from 47 Regt we saw "it". Unsure of what "it" was, we went to the library and read up on all the strange animals in Cyprus with a snout, four paws and a wagging tail. Once we had ruled out the possibility of this animal being a horse or a donkey, we were left with the fact that it was a dog of gargantuan proportions.

We don't know how Fist got so large, (sausages, bacon and eggs?), but he's on a diet now and has already lost several pounds. When we go on patrol he walks with us, and he probably knows the patrol track better than we do. At first, walking with the "flying Dutchmen" proved to be a strain, for Fist used to be even slower than the Brits. Now it is beginning to be a problem for us, as he is starting to walk faster than we do. Nowadays he also joins us on PT sessions in the gym, although he has not yet mastered the art of weight-lifting.

His latest trick is camouflage. Whilst we were painting our tower (UN 45), he managed to roll around in so much paint that he resembled a black and white cow – and it took a while to clean him up. Back to looking like a dog now, Fist is definitely part of the troop, and anyone is welcome to come and visit the biggest but friendliest animal in UNFICYP.

Daf, by Lance Bombardier Stu Roberts of City Troop

When we first came to this island we received our initial brief from our troop commander. The one thing he reiterated more than anything was that we had a new member to the troop, and he was to be looked after properly. He is Daf by name and daft by nature.



Daf

Still a baby at only 20 months, he is already a fair size, but what do you expect from a cross-breed of pointer and great dane? You would think he'd be quite energetic and require a lot of exercise due to his size, but he is probably the laziest dog I have ever come across. He is fairly good at warning us about strangers, but all he does is lie there and bark. When he does finally get up, his favourite hobby is chasing cats off the premises. Unfortunately, he gets so carried away with what he's doing that he loses all fear of danger, and has been known to run into things. He receives a lot of affection from the troop commander and the troop sergeant major, but then again, we can see distinct similarities in their behaviour.

ZinZan by Major Wils Hein, Ypenburg Troop



ZinZan

Besides cockroaches, sandflies, ants and mosquitoes, livestock at Ypenburg also includes a dog. His name is ZinZan, but he's affectionately known as Zinny. On our arrival, Zinny was rather shy, but he soon got used to a Dutch treat and forgot about our British predecessors.

Zinny became particularly good friends with our BSM, Aert van de Bruggen. It is rare to see them apart.

During the day, when he is not wandering around the minefields in the vicinity of Ypenburg, he's probably sleeping, but when a soldier starts up one of the vehicles, he's up like a shot and jumps onto the back seat. When he is not allowed to do so, he will run alongside the vehicle for the first 500 metres with an average speed of up to 25 kilometres per hour.

In the evenings he is always at Ypenburg, hoping somebody will go for a run. He will then accompany the runner as protection from the wild dogs in the vicinity.

During the first couple of weeks, ZinZan was always away at night. Now he will lay down in front of the BSM's door, safeguarding his best friend. Even though we are only halfway through our tour, we are already afraid what will happen when the BSM leaves in December. We're not worried about ZinZan. He will find a new friend. No, we are worried about our BSM. Will he actually go back to Holland with us, or will he just stay? Rumour has it that he is applying for a new appointment with one of the incoming units. S2W will closely monitor their BSM and does not consider this incident closed.

Diesel by Gunner Marco Heydens, Falcon Troop



Diesel

Dogs were getting rather commonplace, so Falcon troop decided to do something a little different. A kitten turned up on the doorstep, and decided that the Dutch would make good housemates.

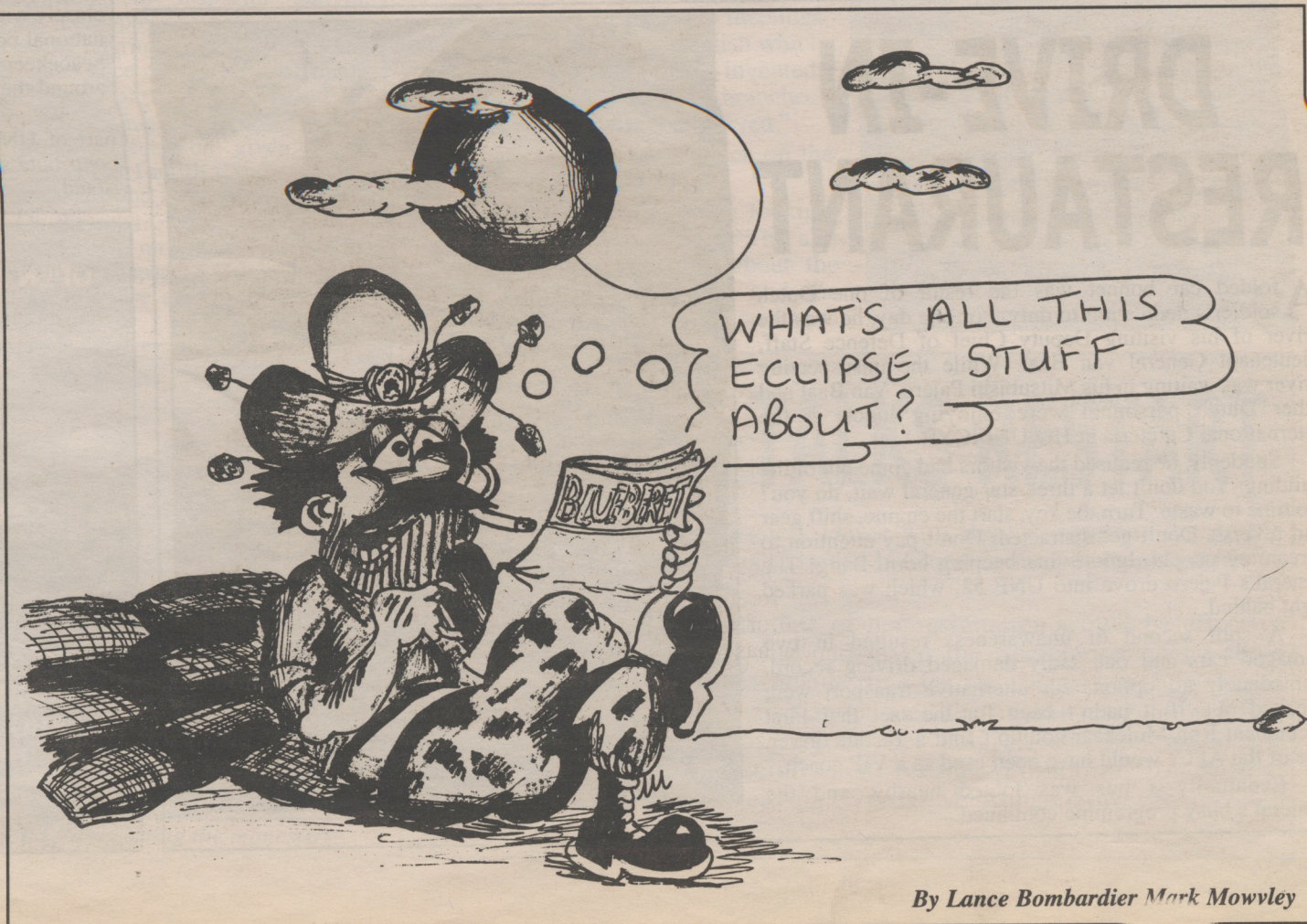
In the beginning, Diesel stayed only for the night, but soon started to hang around all day. She found more and more (in)convenient places to rest - in the bar, on the stairs and under the table. She gets hyper-active towards the end of the day, playing with anything that she can make move, including her tail. She hasn't yet started patrolling duties, but this will surely follow soon.

VOICE MESSAGING SYSTEM INSTALLED

Do you have a day off, or a meeting or just want to go for lunch? Now you don't have to miss a single incoming call. Since last June, a high-tech voice messaging system has been installed which enables everybody to open a voice mailbox. How does this work?

"Quite simple", says Roger de Weever, Chief Communications Officer. "Even I can operate it! To set up your voice messaging service you have to dial 4800 and follow the voice prompt instructions. And the good thing is, even when you can't come to your office, you can dial your mailbox from an external number. By entering a security code, you make it a safe system too."

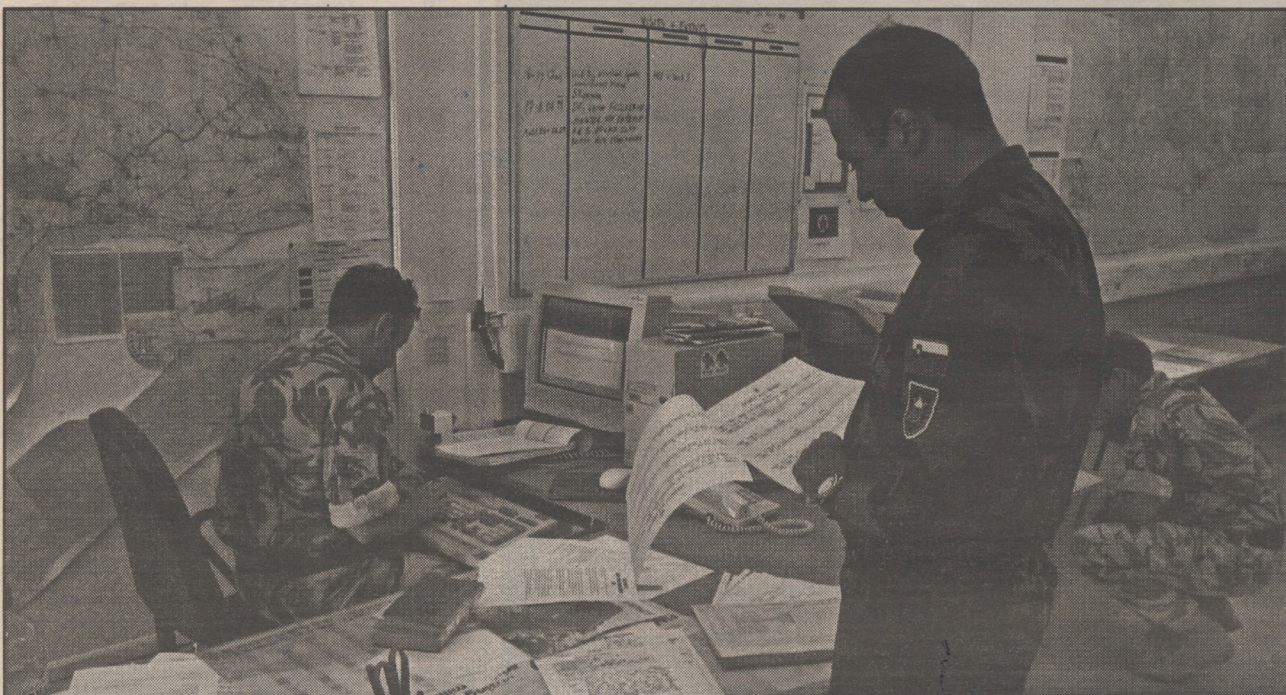
Of course, nothing beats a real live human voice. Wellknown services as "forwarding" calls are still available. (Press *21* + the extension you want to forward to + #, e.g. *21*4567#). To undo, dial #21#.



By Lance Bombardier Mark Mowley

REAL LIFE

JOC, THE SPIDER IN THE UNFICYP WEB



Slovenian duty officer Captain Gregory Hvastja reads incoming reports while Sergeant Craig Churchill works on the database

All information collected by UNCIVPOL and the soldiers of all three sectors comes together at the Joint Operations Centre (JOC) in the UNFICYP headquarters. The JOC's task is to collect, collate, put together, compare, deal with and distribute operational information concerning all matters in relation to our mission. It can be seen as the spider in the UNFICYP web and is operated 24-hours-a-day, every day of the year, by personnel from most Force military contributing nations.

The basic staff consists of a duty officer and a duty radio operator. There are also senior duty officers. One of them has to be on call, on a rotational basis, for 24 hours a day. While the duty officer takes care of all routine procedures, he has to refer to the senior duty officer for all major operational decisions.

"But we do have some additional tasks too," says Austrian radio operator Corporal Jürgen Schautzer. "We are responsible for notifying the

heat stress indication to UNPA personnel, and when the Joint Command Centre is activated for major operations or incidents we are the main communications center. Outside normal working hours, we operate the HQ's telephone exchange."

"Don't forget to mention we run the security control for the UNPA, and coordinate the use of fire fighting assets," adds the newly arrived Argentinian duty officer Captain Patrick Salazar. "And every morning we must provide a briefing, in order to update the HQ staff on events that have taken place within the last 24 hours."

For Captain Oliver Vincze, his work in the JOC is completely different from what he was used to in the Hungarian army. "I like to work in a multinational environment like this mission. I can cope well with it, although I miss doing the work I'm trained for, which is flying a helicopter. Now I seek my thrills in performing my hobby during off-duty hours. I like to dive, so for me, Cyprus is a good mission area."

SECTOR 1 CELEBRATIONS

By Captain Jhonny Torrez.

In our contingent we have two officers from the Bolivian Republic, myself and Captain Raul Hurtado. So on 6 August, Bolivian Independence Day, Lt Col Rodolfo Mujica, Sector 1's CO, led a commemoration ceremony at San Martin Camp.

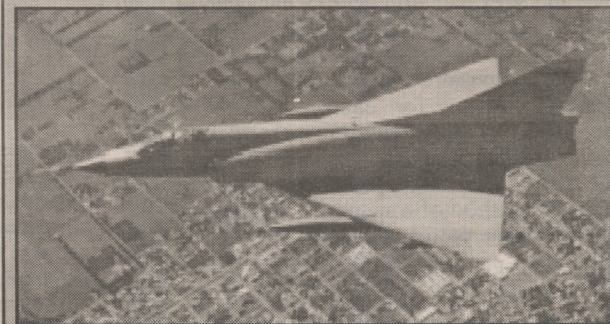
Bolivia gained its independence after 16 difficult years. In 1809, there were a number of conflicts in 1809, in Chuquisaca, La Paz, Cochabamba, and Santa Cruz.

The Bolivians fought bravely and made many sacrifices, winning a major victory in the Battles of Junin, under Field Marshal Simon Bolivar and José de Sucre.

The first national assembly finally met on 6 August 1825, and proclaimed the Independence of Bolivia as a free and sovereign republic.

After 174 years of independence, Bolivians are patriotic and forward-looking, taking an active part in the modern world.

There are very few of us here in Cyprus, we were very moved and flattered by the fact that our comrades from other countries joined us in celebrating our independence day.



Mirage III, flying over Tandil City, Buenos Aires

By Major Daniel Busetti

On 10 August, Argentina celebrated the 87th anniversary of the Argentinian Air Force.

The air force came into being mainly thanks to the selfless efforts and perseverance of the pioneers who came from other armed forces, plus civilians from Argentina and abroad who helped to build up the new force.

At the moment, the Argentinian air force works closely with the army and the navy following Argentina's national policies. We work to defend our country and in peacekeeping missions in more than ten countries around the world.

We are proud of our air force and we are proud to be part of UNFICYP. We hope that our efforts will help contribute to solving the problems of this beautiful island.

DRIVE-IN RESTAURANT

A folded car bonnet was the result of one Dutch soldier's dedication to duty. For one day, he was the driver of his visiting Deputy Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General van Baal. While the unsuspecting driver was waiting in his Mitsubishi Pajero, Van Baal and other Dutch personnel were enjoying lunch in the International Cafeteria at HQ UNFICYP.

Suddenly, he realised the visitors had come out of the building. You don't let a three-star general wait, do you? No time to waste. Turn the key, start the engine, shift gear and reverse. Don't get distracted. Don't pay attention to screaming people. Ignore that beeping horn. Bang! The general's Pajero drove into UNF 52, which was parked right behind.

A split second of unawareness resulted in two damaged cars and one sadly damaged driving record. Immediately all options for alternative transport were checked out. If it hadn't been for the fact that First Lieutenant Ron Molenaar couldn't find a Tactica driver, one of the APCs would have been used as a VIP coach.

Eventually a bus was located nearby, and the General's busy programme continued.



Bang!

OPEN INVITATION TO ALL UNFICYP PERSONNEL

MOBILE FORCE RESERVE BEACH PARTY AT THE UNPA DOLPHIN SWIMMING POOL

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST 1999 20.00 HRS

**ENTERTAINMENT:
DJ BEN DOVER (NL)
DJ SEYMORE BUTTS (GB)
MULTILEVEL DANCE AREAS
BBQ POOL CASH BAR
DRESS CODE: HAWAIIAN
ADMISSION: CP 1,
PROCEEDS TO CHARITY**

NEWS

GENEVA CONVENTIONS ANNIVERSARY

August 12 1999 marked the 50th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions in their present form. These conventions, and two protocols added in 1977, constitute the cornerstone of humanitarian law in situations of conflict. Initiated by the International Committee of the Red Cross, the conventions were born out of a growing realisation that, with the emergence of the nuclear bomb and the threat of a rising tide of nationalism, humankind risked slipping into a new and terrifying age of warfare.

The conventions aim to "place limits on war" (in the words of the current ICRC President, Cornelio Sommaruga). They recognise the need to distinguish between the causes of war and the rules of war and lay down guidelines for behaviour while a war is being fought. The conventions ban indiscriminate destruction. They forbid the targeting of civilians. They stress that war must not inflict lasting damage on the environment.

They are among the most widely-ratified conventions in the world. Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Canada, Cyprus, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay are among the 188 countries that have signed them.

At a ceremony to mark the anniversary in Geneva, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan stressed the need for a continued international determination and commitment to ensuring respect for the treaties.

"We should not, and we cannot, believe that the next 50 years will require any less determination and commitment on our part to limit the suffering of civilians in war," he said.

He noted that during the 1990s, civilians had been targets of warfare in campaigns of genocide and "ethnic cleansing" and that flagrant violations of international humanitarian law had taken place "not as an effect of war, but the essence of war".

Annan said the UN International Criminal Tribunals for former Yugoslavia and Rwanda had breathed new life into the Geneva Conventions. He added that the creation of the International Criminal Court was further evidence of the commitment to global justice, and expressed hope that the court's statute would be universally accepted.

The Secretary-General has this month issued a bulletin, based on the Geneva Conventions, on the applicability of international humanitarian law to UN peacekeepers. The bulletin includes sections on violations of humanitarian law, protection of the civilian population; means and methods of combat; treatments of civilians and persons hors de combat; treatment of detained persons; and protection of the wounded, the sick, and medical and relief personnel. The bulletin came into force on 12 August.

Copies have been distributed to all UNFICYP sectors.

PILGRIMAGE TO APOSTOLOS ANDREAS

By Noel Evdokiou

Thanks to UNFICYP, and a lot of goodwill on both sides of the island's Buffer Zone, nearly 1,000 Greek Cypriots were able to visit the Apostolos Andreas monastery on August 15, the day of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, one of the most important holidays in the Greek Orthodox calendar.

Pilgrimages to the monastery, situated on the island's very northeastern tip, by Greek Cypriots living in the south have been occurring since 1997, when the leaders of Cyprus' two communities agreed to approve them in return for pilgrimages by Turkish Cypriots in the north to the Muslim shrine of Hala Sultan Tekke near Larnaca. UNFICYP's role as coordinator in these exchange trips is crucial.

For the latest pilgrimage to Apostolos Andreas, overall coordination was entrusted to Civil Affairs Police Liaison Officer (CAPLO) John Galvin, acting on behalf of CCAO Wlodek Cibor.

Inspector Galvin's initial task was to ensure, with the assistance of UNCIVPOL and Sector 2 officers and soldiers, the smooth early morning transfer of the 963 Greek Cypriot pilgrims from the South Ledra Checkpoint to the North Ledra Checkpoint, where Turkish Cypriot coaches were waiting to take them on the 102 mile journey to the monastery.

UNFICYP also provided a minibus to ferry infirm and elderly pilgrims between the two checkpoints.

After a tranquil and good-humoured transfer, the convoy of 24 coaches was soon on its way, accompanied by four UNCIVPOL vehicles, Turkish Cypriot police, and a Turkish Cypriot ambulance just in case. The hot summer temperature had been a cause for concern, particularly as the majority of pilgrims were elderly, but thankfully no one needed medical attention.

After a brief stop at the scenic, seaside village of Bogazi, the convoy

made its way through the rugged beauty of the Karpas peninsula. On arriving at Rizokarpaso, it was greeted by waving locals, many of whom later came up to the monastery to meet relatives. At the monastery, the pilgrims were able to follow a liturgy, light candles they had brought with them, kiss the icons, and generally walk around the grounds and soak up the atmosphere of one of Orthodox Christendom's holiest sites. Many filled up containers with holy water to take back with them.

According to Inspector Galvin, "Despite the oppressive heat of over 40 degrees, the pilgrims had a very fulfilling trip to their place of worship, as demonstrated by the many words of thanks."

One of the highlights of the day was the friendly reception given to the pilgrims by the Turkish Cypriots, both at the monastery and Bogazi.

On the return stopover at Bogazi, a Turkish Cypriot on holiday from London came up to Inspector Galvin and said: "It's great to see all these people here, really great."



Pilgrims visiting the monastery

UN DAY PREPARATIONS IN FULL SWING

Although UN Day, Sunday 24 October, seems to be ages away, preparations to make the event successful have started already.

Sarah Russell, focal point for the day, said: "United Nations organisations throughout the world celebrate UN day. In Cyprus, we plan to mark the occasion with an afternoon of activities designed to appeal to the families of both Cypriot communities, and UNFICYP personnel."

What have you done so far?

"We have so far held two meetings to generate ideas and to establish which wheels don't need to be re-invented. To share the workload, all branches, units and sectors will be involved."

What can we expect to see on the day?

"Well, you won't just be looking, you'll be doing and hearing. The aim will be to inform visitors about the United Nations, UNFICYP, and the different nations that are represented

within UNFICYP, as well as providing a range of entertainment."

Can you give some details?

"There'll be non-stop music, performed by professionals as well as by UNFICYP talents. There'll be dancing, sport, sideshows and exhibitions. We want it to be something that's fun for all ages."

PHOTO EXHIBITION

One of the events scheduled for UN day, is an exhibition of photographs.

All pictures must be taken in Cyprus by UNFICYP personnel.

Please send your entries with captions and your name and unit to the

UNFICYP Public Information Office by Monday 11 October.

SHUTTLE TALKS RESTART

UNFICYP's Chief of Mission, Dame Ann Hercus, resumed the shuttle talks process, with visits to both Mr Clerides and Mr Denktash on 17 August.

Dame Ann said that the date of her resignation would be effective from 30 September 1999. She had given the Secretary General three months' notice to give a reasonable time for her successor to be selected and appointed. Dame Ann also announced that in her resignation letter, which cited family reasons beyond her control, she had asked the Secretary-General to rescind her recent promotion to Special Representative, as she was leaving Cyprus. Mr Annan, however, declined to do so.

MAIN PERIODS IN THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF CYPRUS

Classified Period

Main Events of the Period

The Early Years:
7000-3900 BC



Stone Age: Neolithic settlements at Khirokitia, Troulli, Erimi, Kantou, Kalavassos, Sotira, Lemba, Petra tou Limniti and Ledra (Nicosia).

The Bronze and Copper Age:
3900-1650 BC



The discovery of rich copper reserves enabled the island to become an important trading centre for the Near East and the Aegean. Large settlements of Phoenicians at Ayia Paraskevi (Nicosia), Kisonerga, Pano Arodes, Episkopi, Sotira, Kalavassos, Palea Paphos and Kitium.

The Late Bronze and Iron
Age: 2500-1050 BC



Arrival of the Mycenaean Greeks and Achaeans. City kingdoms were established throughout Cyprus at Kythrea, Idalio (Dhali), Kourio, Golgi (Athienou), Salamis, Kyrenia, Lapithos, Paphos, etc.

The Cypro-Geometric Period:
1050-750 BC



Phoenician traders settled at Kition and Amathus. Art: geometric shaped pottery. Establishment of Greek Cypriot kingdom of Salamis. Important monuments of this period: royal tombs at Salamis.

The Cypro-Archaic Period:
750-475 BC



The island's strategic position, together with its natural wealth of copper and timber, attracted a number of invaders. Cyprus was conquered successively by the Assyrians (673-669 BC), Egyptians (560-545 BC) and Persians (545-332 BC). Birth of Stasinus, the Cypriot epic poet. The Athenian statesman Solon visited Cyprus and the city of Soli was named after him.

The Classical Period:
475-325 BC



Athenians attempted to liberate Cyprus from Persians. Great Cypriot kings, Evagoras of Salamis and Onesilos, managed to unite the Cypriots. Alexander the Great freed the island from the Persians (332 BC) and Cyprus became part of his Empire.

The Hellenistic Period:
325-30 BC



Antigonos of Asia Minor and Ptolemy of Egypt fought over Cyprus with Ptolemy finally winning. Paphos became the capital of Cyprus. Tombs of the Kings and the Kourio theatre are examples of cultural activities. Philosopher: Zenon of Kitium.

The Roman Period:
30 BC-330 AD



Cyprus became part of the Roman Empire. Anthony presented Cyprus to Cleopatra. Disastrous earthquakes at Kourio. Visit by Apostles Paul and Barnabas. Spread of Christianity. The Jewish revolt resulted in the destruction of Salamis.

The Byzantine Period:
330-1191 AD



When Rome fell, Cyprus became part of the Byzantine Empire with its capital in Constantinople. Empress Helena visited Cyprus. Foundation of Stavrovouni Monastery. Autonomy of Archbishop of Cyprus. Arab invasion of the island. Death of Umm-Haram (Tekke at Salt Lake) in Cyprus. Cyprus was turned into a Byzantine stronghold and the great castles of St Hilarion, Buffavento and Kantara were built.

Richard I of England and The
Crusaders: 1191-1192 AD



Cyprus fell into the hands of Richard the Lionheart during the 3rd Crusade. King Richard married Berengaria of Navarre in Limassol. Cyprus was sold to the Order of the Knights Templar. Transfer of sovereignty to Guy de Lusignan.

The Frankish Period:
1192-1489 AD



Introduction of the feudal system. Many imposing Gothic monuments, eg Ayia Sofia (Nicosia), Ayios Nikolaos (Famagusta) and Bellapais Abbey. Walls of Nicosia and Famagusta were built. Establishment of the Catholic Church. From 1374-1464, Famagusta was ruled by the Genoese Republic. The last Lusignan queen, Catherine Cornaro, was coerced into giving up her throne to the Republic of Venice.

The Venetian Rule:
1489-1571 AD



Cyprus was mainly used as a military post. Improvement of defences, including the Castle of Kyrenia. The Ottomans conquered Egypt.

The Ottoman Rule:
1571-1878 AD



The Ottoman Empire successfully gained control of the island. A certain amount of autonomy was granted to the Orthodox Church. Conversion of a number of cathedrals into mosques (Ayia Sofia, Ayios Nikolaos). Some fortifications work at Paphos and Larnaca.

The British Administration:
1878-1960 AD



Following the Turkish-Russian war and the Treaty of Berlin which was signed in 1878, Britain assumed the administration of Cyprus. In 1914, the island was declared a British possession, following Turkey's alliance with Germany in World War I. In March 1925, Cyprus was declared a Crown Colony and remained as such until 1960.

Cyprus: 1960 to date



Cyprus gained independence from the British under the London-Zurich agreement between Britain, Greece, Turkey, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. A Treaty of Guarantee was signed by the UK, Greece and Turkey in order to guarantee the independence of the Cyprus Republic.

CLASSIFIED

ITEMS FOR SALE

CARS FOR SALE

Toyota Corona 1.6, white, 1992, low mileage - 44,235 km, excellent shape inside and out, £2,000 d/f. Will consider payment by instalments. Tel: Chief of Mission's office at (02) 864402.

Mitsubishi Lancer, 1994, a/c, £1,400 d/f. Contact SSgt Kovac (02) 864666.

Fiat Ritmo, white, '80 good condition, £250. Call Peter (UNCIVPOL) on (03) 730716.

Mitsubishi Pajero GLS, 2800 Turbo Intercooler, green/silver, SWB, 3-doors, 1995, rhd, 60,000 kms, £7,500 d/f. Call Andrea: (02) 664362.

BMW 5201 Sedan, 1986, 5-speed, a/c, radio-cassette, insurance to Apr 2000, 2 new tyres, new battery and recently serviced. £700 d/f. Tel Sgt Andy Thorp on (02) 676870.

Mercedes 200, 1985, one owner, full service record, lhd, 195,000 km. £1,000. Tel: (02) 492650.

Honda Prelude Sports, EXM 271, 1992, 2.0 litre engine, new tyres, only 37,000 km. £1,960. Tel: (02) 864681.

Mazda 323, blue, 1300 cc, 1990 £1,100 ONO. Phone (02) 314439 (o) or (02) 318162 (p).

Mitsubishi Galant Super Saloon, 1985, 1600 cc, p/s, a/c. £700. Call (02) 592467 or (02) 864555.

Mitsubishi Lancer GLX, d/f, a/c, p/s, r/c, 70,000km. £1,600 and a **Peugeot 309**, 1987. £400. Phone (02) 353290.

Ford Taurus 3.0 LX, lhd, red, aut, 4-door sedan, 1989, a/c, p/s. 60,575 km. £2,000. Phone (02) 592 298 or (09) 428 155.

BMW 523i, reg EMT 634, white, 2.5L 6 cyl, d/f. Tel: (05) 343565 or 09-652643.

MG convertible, reg EMT 411, dark green, 1.8L, 4 cyl, d/f. Tel: (05) 343565 or 09-652643.

Mazda 323, 4-door hatchback, 5 sp, a/c, p/s, 70,000 km. £3,000 ONO. Call Sue: (02) 592103.

Mitsubishi Lancer GLX, 1993, aut, a/c 60,000 km, all maintenance records available. £2,000 d/f. Phone Steve: (02) 352211.

Mitsubishi Galant Super Saloon 1800, aut, 09/93, 64,500 km, d/f, a/c. £1,700, Tel: (02) 864518.

OTHER ITEMS FOR SALE
Large, natural pine double bed + mattress. £100. Tel: (02) 492650.

Goldstar TV/VCR combination, 1997, incl external powered antenna. £200. McAfee Office software package. Includes many programs. Minimal system requirements: Pentium 166, 32 MB RAM, German Windows 98 OS. £50. For both items contact Klaus during office hours on (02) 864527.

Game Boy Colour, 6 different games £69. Contact MCpl Szanto, block 302 Blue Beret Camp or via MFR QRF-room (02) 864470.

3 Sofas, 1994 (2x2, 1x3 seater) £250. AC/heater £250. AC £200. Available end of July. Phone (02) 353290.

Beautiful wooden octagonal play-pen (Swiss) with fitted, padded, wipe-clean mat. £40. Tel Shona on (02) 670600 (o) or 351349 (h).

LTV Decoder (new). £25. Tel: (02) 777772.

Suzuki Intruder VS1400 GL, 1997, 3,700 km, all original plus leather saddlebags. £3,500 d/f or approx 4,400 dp. Phone Steve:

(02) 352211.

Sony TV with super trinitron 72 cm picture tube, dolby surround and video recorder PAL/SECAM/NTSC. £950. Phone Francine Petit, (02) 769202 (O), (02) 355475 (H) or (09) 644002

Intel Pentium 200 MMX computer, 32 MB RAM, 3.2 GB hard drive, 24 sp CD ROM, speakers, monitor, colour printer, Windows 95. £350 OVNO. Computer Table £15. Contact WO2 Barry Green on ext 4510 or (02) 359001.

Black dining table with 8 chairs, new cloth upholstery, £220. Tel: (02) 774325 or (09) 614068.

OPEN HOUSE - MEGA SALE!

Imported cane suite, 2 seater couch, 2 chairs, matching coffee table and side table: £300

Korean chest/sideboard (long and narrow and multi-drawer): £200

1 table lamp, white ceramic base, forest green shade: £12

Small chair, soft sea green cover: £20

General Electric washing machine (large bowl): £150

Dryer: £80

6 wrought iron terrace or dining chairs (no arms), blue/white striped seats: £5 each

Single bed (inner-spring mattress & base) plus bedhead: £15

Designer cushions, red and navy: £7 each.

Prints, pictures, pottery, china, glasses, bowls, paperbacks, pot plants, sheepskin rugs, wool blankets - from 20 cents to £10.

All items must be sold by next Sunday. Come and see the bargains! Sunday 22 August, 12 noon to 3.00 pm (or by earlier arrangement) at the Chief of Mission's residence.

ITEMS FOR HIRE

HIVE ITEMS FOR HIRE

The NICOSIA HIVE operates a comprehensive loan store. Items available are: VAX machine, child's car seats, pushchairs, backpacks, high chair, travel cots, children's toys and bikes, cool boxes, sun loungers, golf clubs, radio/cassette players, BBQ, etc. Call the HIVE to check availability.

PROPERTY TO LET

3-bedroom ground floor house, fully furnished, in Ayios Pavlos (close to UNPA). Solar water heater and c/h. Tel: (02) 774783.

Two minutes walk to the beach. Amathus (Limassol) area, one-bedroom flat, fully furnished with TV, covered parking, common gardens, tennis court and swimming pool. £15 per day. Only serious enquiries. Call between 15:00-19:00 hrs. No agents please. Tel: (02) 486423.

2-bedroom fully furnished a/c apartment near UNPA. £300. Phone Klaus (02) 864520 or Evroula (09) 605992.

3-bedroom flat in Makedonitissa. Large kitchen and sitting-dining room. Call Stelios: (09) 623769.

3-bedroom fully furnished house, c/h and a/c in Makedonitissa, 5 Karaiskakis Street. For more info contact Maria Eleftheriou at (02) 396129 (o) or (02) 352367 (p).

3-bedroom house in Makedonitissa, 10A Florinis. Study, attic, large kitchen, sitting-dining room. A/C. £600. Phone (02) 592298 or (09) 428155.

Two large apartments (first and

second floor, same building) for rent in Strovolos, near Dhimos supermarket. 4 bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, living room, dining room, large verandas and independent c/h with a/c in room of choice. £280 per month each. Tel Andri on (02) 422352.

Fully furnished flat, 3 bedrooms, large sitting/dining room, large kitchen, 2 bathrooms, parking, verandahs, c/h. Tel: (02) 779429 or (02) 777772 after 6:00 pm.

4-bedroom second floor apartment. 275 sq.m. c/h, solarium, office, large kitchen, sitting-dining room, hall. £350. Call (02) 422357.

250 sq.m. house at 11 Papaflessas Street, Makedonitissa. Tel: (02) 350896 or (09) 673293.

4-bedroom unfurnished house in Makedonitissa. Fully equipped kitchen, 2 bathrooms, laundry room, 2 telephone lines, c/h and a/c. Big garden. Call Antonis (09) 644511.

3-bedroom ground floor house in Makedonitissa. Large kitchen, 2 WCs, parking and large garden. £260. Phone: (02) 351348.

3-bedroom ground floor house in Makedonitissa. Large kitchen, spacious reception area, a/c, c/h, parking, large garden. Phone (02) 351498 or (09) 610646.

4-bedroom upper 2-storey house in Makedonitissa. Large master bedroom, guest room with bathroom, large kitchen and sitting-dining room, a/c, c/h, many appliances. Tel (02) 350451.

Double-storey house in Anthoupolis area, 10 min from UNPA. Large living room, large solid wooden kitchen, 4 bedrooms, split unit and spare shower in master bedroom, big yard, c/h and solar water heater. £400. Contact Stelios: (09) 621143

Luxury house at 33 Ioannis Psycharis Street, Ayios Andreas. 3 bedrooms + master bedroom, sitting room with bar, modern kitchen with all amenities, c/h, a/c, flower and fruit tree garden. Tel: (02) 771039 or call opposite the premises for Mrs Alexia Hadjigeorgiou.

Flat in Lycavitos. Third-floor, 3 bedrooms, storeroom, covered parking, c/h, provision for a/c. Let furnished or unfurnished. Rent £400 (negotiable). Tel: Yannis (02) 344461/09-693993 or Yanna (02) 864524.

Second-floor apartment in Romanos Street (Hilton area). Living room, 3 bedrooms, 2 WCs, bathroom, CH, car park. Rent: £210. Phone Mrs Leto, (02) 374820 or 591153.

First floor house in Strovolos (11 Herodou Attikou St). 220 sq.m. with 3 bedrooms, hall, living room, office, kitchen, 2 WCs, laundry room, garage and c/h. Solar water heater. Rent: £400. Tel: (02) 422516.

FACILITIES

NICOSIA LIBRARY

The Nicosia Library, 23 Sycamore Road, UNPA. Tel (02) 359317. Many new books now in stock. For the new entrance, please follow the arrows round the side.

Huge selection of fiction & non-fiction books for adults and children

Book search and reservation service.

Language cassettes and books available on long-term loans.

Many music cassettes and books on tape.

Videos now available on loan.

Photocopying at 5c per copy.

Computer & CD-ROM for use with military studies. "COIC Career Builder" programme.

Change of Library Hours:

1000-1300 hrs: Mon to Fri

1700-1900 hrs: Mon-Wed-Fri

It's closed Tues/Thurs afternoons

YMCA NEWSFLASH!!

The YMCA now stocks a range of aromatherapy products from Applewoods of England for men and women. For Sep and Oct, everyone purchasing Applewoods products goes into a draw for a free reflexology treatment.

We also have a wider range of photo albums and frames.

Lots of stock and cards have been reduced **by 25% and more**. Come and have a browse and bag a bargain!!!

NB: We are still looking for relief staff for the YMCA. If you fancy working a few hours now and then with a friendly team, contact Rose at the YMCA or ring (02) 359308.

SERVICES

WHY DON'T U.NETWORK@THE UNPA?

The next meeting after the summer break takes place on Wednesday 15 September at 10.00 am in the HIVE.

Come along and exchange information with a friendly group of spouses from UNFICYP and diplomatic missions. More info from Helgard Adams on (02) 591933.

NICOSIA HIVE NEWS

The NICOSIA HIVE is open for information and advice and is located at 21 Sycamore Road, UNPA (within the Married Quarters area). Tel (02) 359316.

The Nicosia HIVE Coordinator is Karen McCormack.

All nationalities are welcome!

Opening Times: Mon-Wed-Fri, 0930-1230 and 1500-1700 hrs.

Notice: The Nicosia HIVE will be closed from Fri 6 Aug to Wed 25 Aug inclusive.

SANDRA'S HAIR FASHIONS

Sandra's Hair Fashions is situated at 21 Sycamore Road on the Married Quarters Patch. Open Mon-Fri between 0900-1800 hrs. Tel: (02) 776454.

ENGLISH LESSONS

Qualified and experienced teacher available to teach English to small groups or on a one-to-one basis. Tel: (02) 772991.

EVENING BABYSITTING AND ASSISTING AT PARTIES

Lady available for evening babysitting and assisting at drinks/dinner parties. Tel Maroulla: (02) 330296 after 1600 hrs.

MATURE BABYSITTER Reliable, mature lady available for babysitting. Tel: (02) 623850 after 1600 hrs.

UK-TRAINED SEAMSTRESS available for alterations, zip replacements, costume making, etc. Also specialises in beautiful creative home fabric decorations. Contact Stella on (02) 491840.

JOB WANTED: Woman is looking for houses, offices and staircases in Nicosia + area to clean. Own transport available. 12 years experience. Call (02) 433811.

BRITISH TRAINED SEAMSTRESS

Specialises in dressmaking for formal occasions, ball gowns, wedding dresses and outfits, etc,

also alterations and repairs. Mrs Chris Broad. 28 Vyzantiou Street, Ayios Dhometios, Nicosia (close to UNPA, near Astra garage). Tel: (02) 773206.

MISCELLANEOUS

"BRATCON" YOUTH CLUB.

If you are aged between 8-16, and want to have some fun, "BRATCON" is the place to be seen. We are open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 6-8.30 pm at St Michael's School in the UNPA. Our club is run by volunteers. We do everything from sporting activities to staging our own pantomime.

Come along and make some new friends. For further information, contact Pam Kingston on (02) 359112, or pop in on one of the nights that we are open and find out for yourself. Membership is £1.50 per term or £4 annually. Nightly subs - 50c for members and 75c for visitors.

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED.

The "BRATCON" Youth Club urgently requires new volunteers to help out at their twice-weekly sessions. If you have some free time and would like to work with a bunch of happy kids, please contact Pam on (02) 359112 for more information. Don't delay - pick up the phone NOW.

CHURCH SERVICES

SERVICES AT ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH, UNPA: ANGLICAN EUCHARIST:

Roman Catholic Mass, Saturdays: 18:00 hrs.

Sunday worship: 09:00 hrs.

All welcome.

Sector 2 Padre's Office (LPH) tel: 864760/1, Ext 301.

Britcon Chaplain: Padre Philip McCormack.

Dutch Chaplain, Padre Frank Duyvenvoorde.

THE BEST FILMS CAN NOW BE SEEN AT THE UNPA

Every Sunday evening at 20.00 hrs in St. Michael's School. You're too late for "Blade" and "Enemy of the State", but there will be more high quality digital films.

Read the notices in the International Restaurant for an evening of good entertainment. Also shown in LPH.

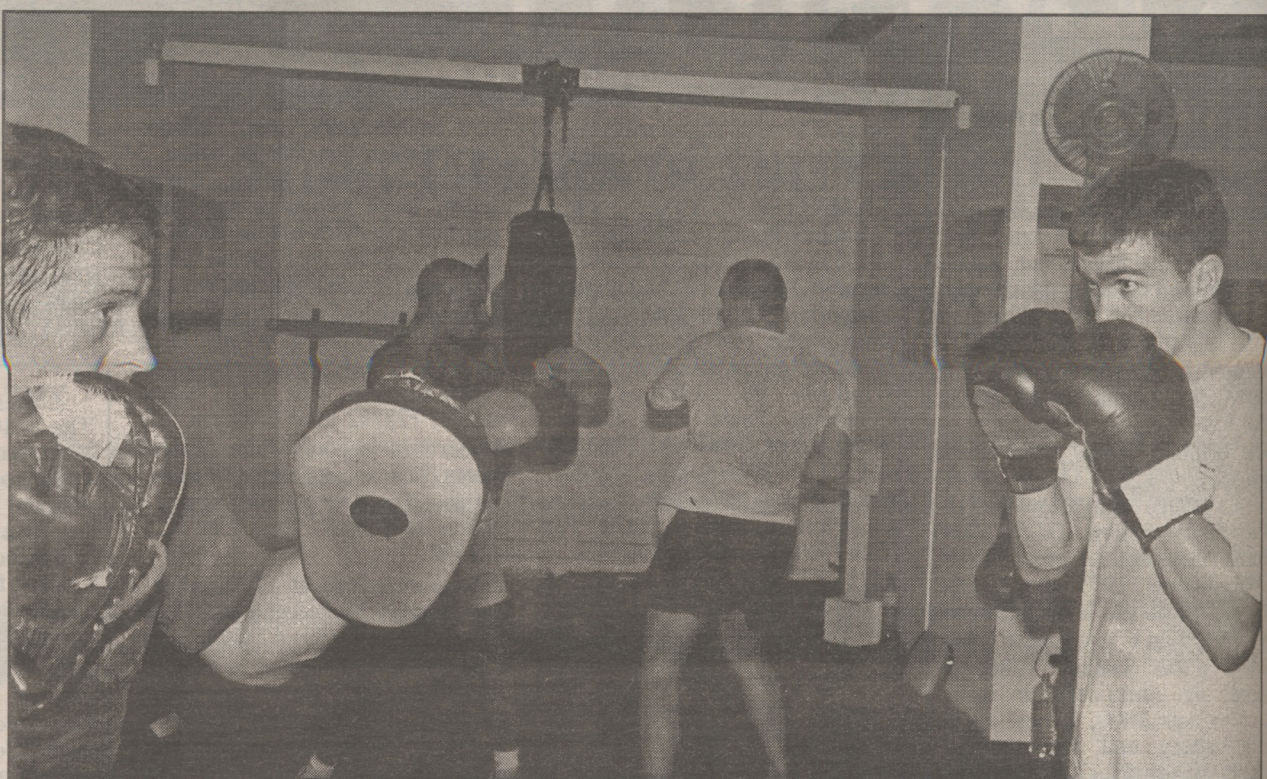
THE NICOSIA DOG SHELTER

Volunteers needed to help in our charity shop. Can you spare a couple of hours at any time on any day? All money raised is for the Nicosia dog shelter. *Please help. Call the shop on (02) 669568 and help to support a good cause.*

To advertise in the Blue Beret, send your ads to the Public Information Office at HQ UNFICYP or e-mail to blueberetcyprus@hotmail.com.

BLUE BERET SPORTS SECTION

EVERY MONDAY'S BOXING DAY



Practising techniques and increasing stamina

Boxing at the Olympic Games in Sydney - that's what Dutch Corporal Noah Amine aims for. But first he'll have to become the Dutch boxing champion in the welterweight class (up to 67 kg).

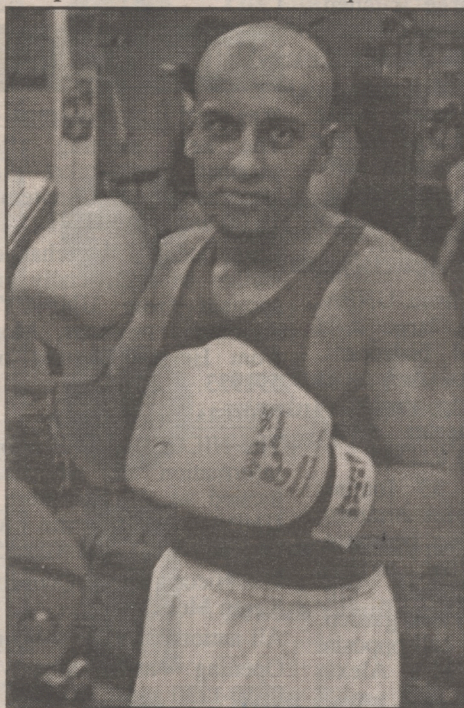
Does he think he can prepare properly for these championships while serving in a peacekeeping mission?

"Oh yes," says Noah, "I manage to train pretty often. What I do lack though, is a good boxing club to find sparring partners. That's the only way to gain the rhythm you need in a fight."

In the corridor leading to the Ledra Palace Hotel gymnasium, a leaflet invites soldiers, both British and Dutch, to join the classes given by the Dutch Corporal. "Some of them asked me to give lessons," he says. "And why not? I like sharing my knowledge. It's fun."

While treadmill runners and

grunting weightlifters share the gym with rowers, half a dozen soldiers gathered in the far corner to practise their techniques and



Olympic medal candidate?

increase their stamina under Noah's leadership.

One of them jumps rope to warm up. Others punch holes in the air, following the example of the master. A left swing, an uppercut and combinations, each punch accompanied by loudly breathing out through the nose. Drops of sweat fly around and sometimes sprinkle on other sportsmen. It gives an extra dimension to dry-rowing.

After about ten minutes most of them are sweating profusely and are ready to enter a Mr Wet T-shirt competition. The trainees need to take frequent short breaks, while Noah keeps up the flow of instructions.

"Don't lower your defence, avoid that swing, keep moving." After every well-performed combination he compliments his pupils. "Well done, good defence."

"My hero is Mohammed Ali, although he had a completely

different style. Heavyweights are far slower than welterweights, but within the heavyweight class Mohammed Ali was the fastest. Boxing means a lot to me. I've wanted to do it ever since I was a child but my parents wouldn't let me. They were afraid I would break my nose and sustain other injuries. But take a look," grins Noah, "I still look quite all right, don't I?"

One of the trainees, Lance Bombardier Mark Mowvley, proves he is interested doing more than just drawing cartoons for the Blue Beret. "I started boxing last Monday, and I must say it's good fun."

Bombardier Jeff Jeffrey is an experienced martial artist. "I used to do kick-boxing at a civilian gymnasium. I serve in 20 Commando Battery. It's difficult to keep up kick boxing because we're always away on missions or on exercise. So these classes are perfect to sharpen my techniques."

S 2 vs OLYMPIAKOS



Under pressure

Sector 2 branched out on 11 August when they met the Olympiakos Under 21s on the football pitch.

Sector 2 started out well their first attack. LBdr Neil Wojtas laid the foundations early on in the game with an astounding goal. Olympiakos came back with a penalty, well saved by Cpl Sebastiaan Bokkinga, and managed to score minutes later to level the score. Pressure on, Cpl Nathan Wallace gave an excellent throw in from the sideline to enable LBdr Kerry Roberts to make the score 2-1.

LCpl Billy Butler said: "Olympiakos were a good team and brought out the best in us. It was an excellent game."

TRIATHLON RESULTS

By Major Phil Curtis

Earlier this month, five members of Sector 2 took part in the annual triathlon at Dhekelia, along with 59 other competitors from the British Forces and local clubs.

The event started on a warm Sunday morning at 7am with a 1,000m swim in calm conditions. It was then straight on to the bikes as the weather and race started to heat up. The 33km course was mainly flat once the initial climb out of Dhekelia garrison area was cleared.

At the end of the cycle ride the competitors then had to run two laps of the 4km beach-front circuit to finish. Despite some very strong competition from the local Greek Cypriot Triathlon club, Sector 2 was able to gain some very credible results overall with SSgt Pete Barnes romping home in third place and 2Lt Ollie Barnett winning the U18 race. The final race positions were:

- 3rd SSgt Pete Barnes 1:46:47
- 10th Maj Phil Curtis 2:01:52
- 15th Sgt Dave Redmar 2:09:44
- 19th Gnr Shane Clash 2:13:19
- 20th 2Lt Ollie Barnett 2:23:19

FOR THE RECORD



Winning the UNFICYP Military Skills Competition is a good enough reason to come together and take a picture for the unit history records.

1st Lt Hitz, WO1 Schied, MSgt Holzknicht, Cpl Reichel, Cpl Auernig and Cpl Haberl brought glory to their sector. And Lt Col Plieschnegger? As Sector Commander, he is part of everything his personnel does. That includes winning the competitions.