

THE BLUE BERET



Wednesday, 8th June 1966

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

Volume Four

No. 8



Force Commander presents UN medal to Inspector Georg Kunkl.

U. N. MEDALS PRESENTED TO AUSTRIAN CIVPOL'S

Members of the Austrian element serving with the United Nations Civilian Police attached to the UN Force in Cyprus became the first UNFICYP'ers to be presented U.N. service medals by Maj. Gen. I.A.E. Martola.

At a brief ceremony on Monday morning at UNFICYP Headquarters, seven Austrian police officers received their UN medals after serving three months with the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

Also present at the ceremony, was the Civilian Police Adviser, Supt. J. Hamilton, who introduced the police officers to the Force Commander.

Receiving UN medals were Captain Wilhelm Beier, Inspector Wilhelm Vranka, Inspector Friedrich Mueck, Inspector Erwin Hirschboeck, Inspector Franz Evans, Inspector Franz Gaiswinkler and Inspector George Dunkl.

Austria contributes an element of 34 officers to the U.N. Civilian Police serving with UNFICYP.

Brigadier M. Harbottle to Succeed Brig. 'Jim' Wilson

IT was announced in London and at United Nations Headquarters in New York last week that the British Ministry of Defence had selected Brigadier M.N. Harbottle, OBE to succeed Brig. A.J. Wilson as Commander of the British Contingent serving with the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

Brig. Harbottle also succeeds Brig. Wilson as Chief of Staff of the UN Force in Cyprus.

The new UNFICYP Chief of Staff and Commander of BRITCON will arrive in Cyprus on

S-G TO REPORT ON FORCE NEXT WEEK

A United Nations spokesman said at U.N. Headquarters in New York last week that the Secretary-General, U Thant, was expected to submit early next week a report to the Security Council on the United Nations peace-keeping operation in Cyprus.

Furthermore, the spokesman said, the Security Council was expected to meet later in the week to consider the question of Cyprus, and the possible extension of the mandate of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus.

The stationing of the UN Force in Cyprus was last extended by a resolution adopted on 16 March by the Security Council for a three month period ending 26 June 1966. The resolution stated that the extension was being approved "in the firm hope that by the end of this period substantial progress towards a solution (of the Cyprus problem) will have been achieved."

The U.N. Force in Cyprus, as of last month, consisted of six national contingents contributed by Canada, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and an Austrian Field Hospital unit, with a combined military strength of 4,716 men.

In addition, attached to UNFICYP, is a United Nations Civilian Police force consisting of elements contributed from Australia, Austria, Denmark, New Zealand and Sweden.

Furthermore, approximately, 50 civilians from the United Nations international staff were working with the Force, making a total of 4,937 persons serving with the U.N. Force in Cyprus.

CANADA'S SUPPORT OF PEACE-KEEPING EFFORTS PRAISED

In an address before the University of Windsor, the U.N. Secretary-General, U Thant, praised Canada for its stalwart support — in men and money — for various United Nations peace-keeping operations.

He said such operations were of major importance in dealing with the turbulent changes in the world today.

But chances that the U.N. would be able to meet this need in the future, he warned, were seriously jeopardized by disagreement on how such undertakings should be authorized, financed and administered.

AUSTRIA PLEDGES \$40,000 FOR UNFICYP COSTS

THE Government of Austria has informed the United Nations that it has decided to make a voluntary contribution of 40,000 dollars towards meeting the costs of the UN Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus for the period of 27 December 1965 and 26 March 1966.

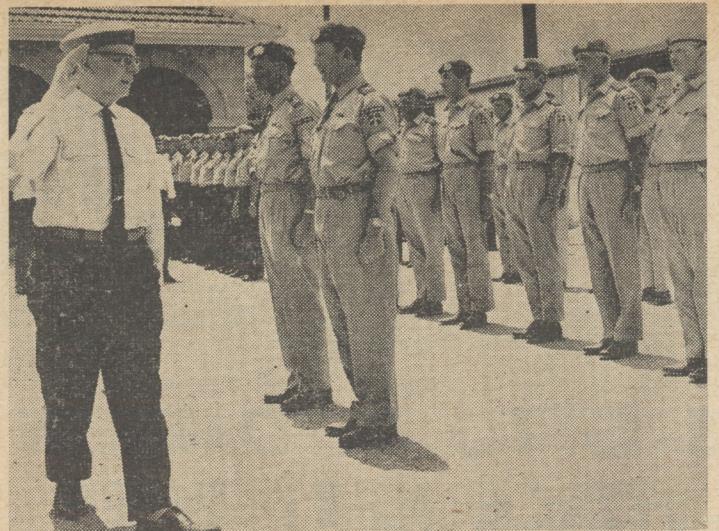
In a letter to UN Secretary-General U Thant, dated 23 May and sent by the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Austria said that in making this contribution it would be grateful if this amount were compensated against the costs incurred by the Austrian Government in providing a medical and a police contingent for the UN Cyprus operation.

Austria is providing a Field Hospital unit to the Forces, composed of eight officers and 46 other ranks, as well as a civilian police element formed by 34 men.

9 June and will assume command on 22 June 1966.

Brigadier Wilson will have completed an extended tour of duty of 18 months and since the death of General K.S. Thimayya last December was Acting Force Commander until the recent appointment of Maj. Gen. I.A.S. Martola as UNFICYP Commander.

On his return to the United Kingdom, Brigadier Wilson will take up command of 147 Infantry Brigade (TA), for which he was originally selected in August 1965.



The Force Commander inspecting elements of the Australian, Danish and Austrian civilian police during his recent visit to UNCIVPOL.

AT AUSTRIAN FIELD HOSPITAL



On Friday, the Force Commander, General I.A.E. Martola, visited the Austrian Field Hospital.

General Martola arrived shortly after twelve noon and was met at the Hospital entrance by Colonel R. Wech, MD, commander of the Hospital, and by Lt. W. Brauner, and was conducted on a tour of the different wards and installations at the Austrian medical unit. He complimented all ranks on the efficient functioning of all hospital sections. After visiting the hospital, General Martola had lunch at the Hospital officers' mess and, we are told, spent a very enjoyable afternoon: table conversation was conducted in an amiable manner — the Commander speaks fluent German!

In the photograph ABOVE, General Martola and Colonel Wech are seen at the Hospital with the Austrian and Red Cross flags in the background. BELOW, the Commander, the Hospital CO, and Lt. Brauner are seen walking through the Hospital gardens.



FORCE COMMANDER:

REVIEWS UNCIVPOL AT WOLSELEY BARRACKS

ON 3rd June the Force Commander, General I.A.E. Martola, visited the Headquarters and Report Centre of the United Nations Civilian Police at Wolseley Barracks.

Elements of the Australian, Danish and Austrian civilian police, totalling twelve officers and forty-seven men, were on parade under the command of Superintendent Jim Hamilton,

who met the General on his arrival and escorted him during the inspection. General Martola met Superintendent Errol Canney who is to relieve Superintendent Hamilton later this month.

After the inspection the General visited the offices of the Headquarters where he was given a short briefing on the civilian police role in UNFICYP.



General Martola with, right, Superintendent Jim Hamilton and his relief, left, Superintendent Errol Canney, during his visit to UNCIVPOL HQ on 3 June.

— ER SPRICHT JA DEUTSCH

DER GENERAL BEI DEN ÖSTERREICHERN

Am. 3 Juni besuchte der Force Commander, General-Major I.A.E. Martola das Österreichische Feldhospital außerhalb von Nicosia.

Der General, der von seinem Adjutanten, Capt Lagus, begleitet war, wurde von dem Kommandanten des Spitals, Oberst-Arzt Dr. R. Wech, empfangen. Der General begab sich anschliessend mit seiner Begleitung auf einen Rundgang durch den verschiedenen Abteilungen des Spitals.

In der Chirurgie, in der Internen Abteilung sowie in der Zahnstation unterhielt sich der General mit den Patienten und ihren Betreuern. Dabei überraschte der General alle — er sprach zu allen in ihrer jeweiligen Sprache und zwar flüssig. Sein einwandfreies Deutsch machte ihn äusserst populär bei den Österreichern, die überhaupt sehr vom General begeistert waren.

Besonders bewunderte der General auf seinem Rundgang die

beiden Operationsräume, die moderne Röntgen-Anlage sowie die EKG-Anlage (Elektrokareogramm). Ebenso sehr bewunderte der General aber das anschliessende Essen, denn hier hatte der bekannte Wiener Koch, Drechsler, ein wunderbares Gulasch zubereitet. Auch das Münchener Bier war sehr willkommen, denn es war ein heißer Nachmittag. Eine echte österreichische Eiscreme bildete den Abschluss der Mahlzeit in der Offiziers-Kasino.

Nach dem Besuch dankte der General allen im Spital für die echte und unmittelbare Gastfreundschaft und drückte sich sehr lobend über die Anlagen aus, die — im Zusammenhang mit den im Spital beschäftigten Österreichern — einen ausgezeichneten Eindruck hinterliessen.

BRITISH CONTINGENT:

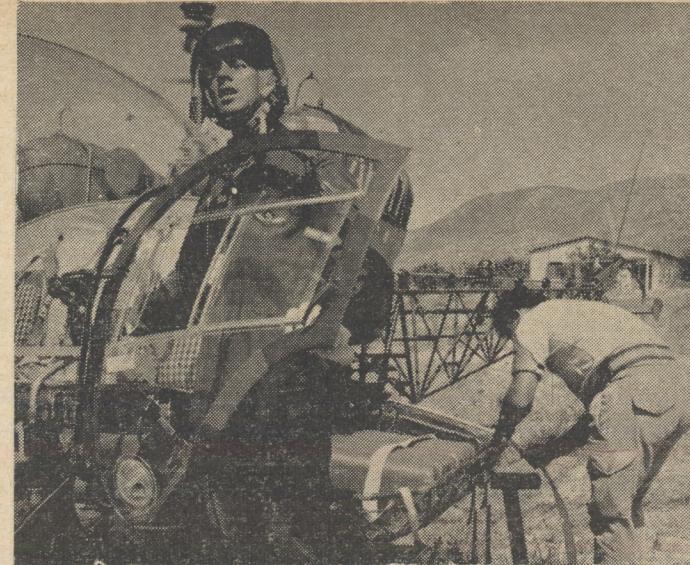
‘SIOUXS’ FARE WELL IN OPERATION ‘WESSEX’

Early last week two helicopters of 4 Air OP Troop Royal Artillery piloted by the OC, Major John Heath, and Captain Rod Canning carried out the routine resupply of the Karmi Forest and Hilltop OP's in the Kyrenia District for the first time. This is usually the task of the much larger Wessex helicopters of 18 Squadron Detachment RAF; however the aim of the exercise was to see if resupply by the Sioux was a feasible operation.

Stores were lifted from the Oneisha Farm pad in panniers mounted on each side of the helicopters. Each "chopper" carried two panniers which could take three hundred and fifty pounds of freight. Loading and lashing was done with surprising speed by lads of the Troop under the watchful eye of Bombardier Chris Wilson of Llanddindrod Wells, Wales.

The operation was going extremely smoothly when Major John Heath was called back to Nicosia for more urgent business with the Force Commander. In spite of this the lifting continued and the resupply was completed in a flying time of some 2½ hours.

The satisfactory execution of this task emphasised yet again the versatility and consequent value of the helicopter, be it large or small, in modern military operations.



RIGHT—Captain Rod Canning and L/Bdr Gordon Wright of 4 Air OP Tp R.A. seen at Oneisha Farm preparing a load for resupplying Hilltop OP during the successful resupply exercise carried out last week. BELOW—Gunners Joe Smith and David Smy checking the pannier lashings on a Sioux helicopter prior to take-off.



NEW AIR OPERATIONS OFFICER



FLT. LT. GOODMAN
Flt. Lt Colin Goodman is now in the chair as UNFICYP Air Ops Officer having spent a busy week taking over from Flt Lt Peter Keates.

Prior to this appointment Co. in was serving with 22 Sqn Det MANSTON, Kent and will be with UNFICYP for three months.

He is married and has two children; the family are living in quarters at Sandwich.



18 SQUADRON DETACHMENT RAF, CHANGES OVER

ON 4th June a new detachment of 18 Sqn RAF stationed at RAF Gutterslöh arrived at Nicosia by Argosy aircraft to relieve the present detachment who have completed their three months tour.

The incoming detachment is commanded by Flt Lt Clive Sillitoe (see above, right) and is nineteen all ranks strong.

Flt Lt Harry Marment is to stay for a further ten days to see the handover through, then he too will return to Germany.

The Blue Beret takes this opportunity to welcome the new detachment and to say au revoir to Jock Young (see above, left) and his team who have served UNFICYP so well.

DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE BACKS FORCE IN RHODESIA

The U.N. Committee on Decolonization last week approved a resolution calling upon Great Britain to use force if necessary to abolish the racist minority regime in Rhodesia.

The resolution also recommended that the Security Council request the United Kingdom to impose an armed blockade against Rhodesia to prevent any supplies, including oil, from reaching her.

Similar provisions were contained in a resolution turned down by the UN Security Council last month.

Action of the Decolonization Committee, taken at a meeting in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, was approved by a vote of 18

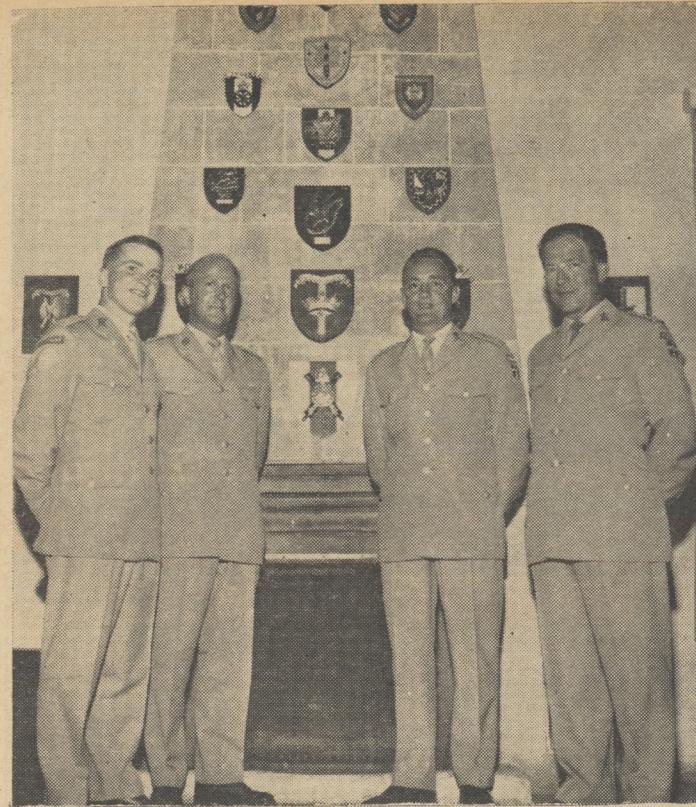
in favor to one against — Australia — with Denmark, Italy and the United States abstaining. The United Kingdom is not represented at the current series of meetings in Africa.

UNICEF APPROVES AID TO NEEDY CHILDREN

In Addis Ababa, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) approved allocations of 28.3 million dollars for child-aid projects in 84 countries and territories.

About 60 per cent of the new aid is for health services and disease control campaigns.

Other important fields of assistance include education and vocational training, nutrition, and family and child welfare.



TRAGISK TRAFIKULYKKE

Lørdag lige før middag indtraf en trafikulykke ca. 8 kilometer vest for Kyrenia, hvorved en cyprisk orlogsgast mistede livet. Orlogsgasten kom kørende paa en civil motorcycle, der tørnede ind i siden paa en Bedford fra DANCON, som var paa vej til badestanden med danske soldater. Orlogsgasten døde i en UNFICYP ambulance paa vej til hospitalet i Nicosia. paa motorcyklen var også en civil cyprisk, der blev alvorligt kvæstet. Ingen af de danske soldater kom noget til.

Nyt journalistbesøg

Med SCACYP'en søndag eftermiddag ankom journalist Erik Berth Jørgensen fra Lolland Falsers Folketidende. Besøget er kommet i stand med Hærmannoens bemyndigelse. Journalisten bliver her i 17 dage. SCACYP'en returnerede til Danmark mandag formiddag, og blandt passagererne var journalisterne S. Aa. Mattson og Orla Frederiksen, der havde afsluttet deres ophold ved DANCON.

Det var med nogen skepsis, meratlige tone, som et saadant jeg kravlede ombord i den svenske Cypernophold naturligt skaber, saa er disciplinen misundelsesværdig god.

Hvad skal man saa fremhæve fra de utallige oplevelser, som disse



Det er vist første gang i DANCON's historie, at der blandt personellet har været folk fra Danmark noglestige amt, Gronland. Konstabler Gabriel Schmidt er fra Frederikshavn. Han har dog boet i fire aar i Sørgenfri på Sjælland inden turen gik til Cypern. Han er fra Sjællandske Telegrafregiment og indgår nu i signaldelingen hvor han for tiden, som det ses på billedet, er aftvinger respekt, at en 21-aarig løjtmand trods truende geværpiber fastsætter, at FN-ejendom er ukrenkning og at provokatorerne maa forsvinde, og det er aftvinger respekt, at trods den kam-

Over kaminen i HQ DANCON's officersmesse hænger en ret enestaaende samling danske regimentskjolde. I søndags blev samlingen forøget med endnu et skjold, idet overfenrik E.L.W. Møller fra stabskompaniet overrakte chefen for DANCON, oberstløjtnant M. Vesterdal Nørrejyske Artilleriregiments våben. Regimentet har for tiden fire officerer ved DANCON, og de blev, efter at skjoldet var ophængt, fotografet foran kaminen. Fra venstre ses: Løjtnant J. Oddershede, der gør tjeneste ved B-kompaniet; major J. B. Andersen som indgår i UNFICYP's stab; overfenrik E.L.W. Møller fra stabskompaniet og overfenrik J.P. Norgaard ved B-kompaniet.

IKKE FERIESOLDATER

For de fleste danske er Cypern bare en lille ø et eller andet sted i Middelhavet. Forst når man personligt bliver engageret i øens problemer finder man landkortet frem og opdager forbavset, at øen slet ikke er saa, lille endda, og at den ligger godt 3000 kilometer fra Danmark.

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Hvad skal man saa fremhæve fra de utallige oplevelser, som disse

er ved at afprøve radiostationerne, dejlige dage har bragt. Skal det være de makabre billeder fra den ene eller anden side af "den grønne linie"? Skal det være den hjertelige modtagelse i alle kompanierne? Skal det være den hyggelige aften i haven, hvor de flakkende fakler og den buldrende ild i pejsen fakt til at aande fredelig idyl? Skal det være beskrivelsen af følelserne ved bombebragene, som saa brat afbrød idyllen? Eller den hyggelige stemning ved messemændenes dobbeltdagsfest? Var det stenkastene mod vore patruljevogne? Eller den fine middag med udenrigsministeren. Ingen af delene. Den største oplevelse var mødet med virkeligheden på Cypern, den diametrale modsetning mellem naturskønhed og menneskers had, og i forbindelse hermed, den danske soldats beslutsomme optræden.

Maa jeg paa min kollega Orla Frederiksens og egne vegne sige alle lige fra chef til mindste og yngste konstabel tak for det gode indtryk I har givet os. Vi vil aldrig glemme jer. I er ikke feriesoldater, men værdige repræsentanter for Danmark i de Forenede Nationers betydningsfulde mission på Cypern.

S. Aa. Mattson.



Kyprosella käydessään maj Koho tutustui joukko-osastoon. Kuva ev. Uolevi Koskenpalo, kapt. Kimmo Jokinen ja maj. Hannu Jokinen kanssaan Omorphitassa.

SUOMALAINEN SOULIISI VALOKEILASSA

Poliisin vastainen mieliala nousussa, tuttu lausessä. Tämä lause on sanottu leikkimielellä, ainakin useimmin, sillä uskomme meidän kaikkien sotilaspoliisin raskaan ja hyvinusein sangeni kävän työn. Kenestäpä olisi hauskaa mennä ajamassa mieleihä, joilla on juuri alkanut olla oikein mukavaa

Ja siittä RTT!

Määriä on vapaan kyydin sylle, jossa kuulustetaan. Tämä jälkeen on omankomppanian tai PAU:lle. Ilmoitetaan päävän kulutusvaroa.

Poliisi

Suomiluksa on kunnostava, mutta myös Wolseleyllä sopii erinomaisesti ja se onkin saanut, samoin paloiluun.

Eivät hankitetaan henkilöitä, ja erittäin vähän opiskelua laittaa laina-

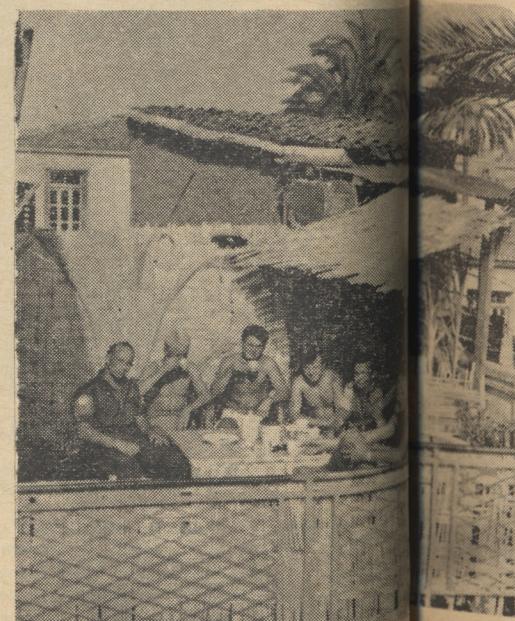
kirjoja. Lähiaikoina on ollut tarkoitus aloittaa Suomessa voimaantuloiden uusien lakienvaikuttamisen opiskelu, jotta pystytäisiin ajan tasalla.

Saunaakaan ei sovi unohtaa

Sitä käyttävät kaikki kansallisuudet ja useimmat heistä käyttävät sitä melkein päätyä. Eräs irlantilainen pelästyti löylyä niin, että hyppäsi saunaan ikkunasta ulos, lienee ainoa, josta koskaan ei tullut suomalaisen kylvyn ystävä.

Erikoisharrastuksiakin on. Erään alikersantin kerrotaan nauttivan hyvin harvinainen ateria, käyttäen ohessa voimallisia maustetta kuten esim. sinappia.

Poliisikin on vain ihminen



Konstablerne i støttedelingens delingstrop har indrettet sig komfortabelt paa den grønne linie og sammen med delingsføreren, løjtnant O. J.



Svenskparty i Famagusta

Bataljon 34 C med øverste Lars Laven i spetsen hade i onsdags förra veckan välkomstparty på Grecian Hotel i Famagusta. Representanter från samtliga kontingenter samt HQ UNFICYP i Nicosia var inbjudna. För musikunderhållningen svarade Sakaria Stress Band en kvartett f.d. FN-soldater från bat 32 C, som nu återkommit till Cypern engagerade på hotellet.

Tre svenskar hittade 400 år gammal kanon

Tre sportdykare på bataljomen, Ragnar Johansson, Västerås, Kent Forsen, Göteborg, och Robert Stenlund, Stockholm, har under utövande av sin hobby gjort ett fint fynd.

På närmare 20 meters djup hittade man en kanon, uppskattningsvis ca: 400 år gammal samt ett 2.5 meter långt ankare. Fyndet har meddelats till myndigheterna som visat stort intresse för saken.

I fredags var representanter för Cyperns arkeologiska departement på besök i Carl Gustaf Camp, Famagusta, och sammträffade med de tre amatördykarna. Bärgningen av fynden kommer att göras denna vecka och de kommer att placeras på Famagusta museum och förses med upptäckarnas namn.



Force Commander, general Ilmari Martola välkomnas av den svenska bataljonschefen överste Lars Laven.

Idrottsnytt... Fotboll...

På grund av värmen som just nu råder är aktiviteten mindre livlig. I höst kommer emellertid bl.a. att tas upp zonmästerskap i fotboll. Bollen har dock varit litet i rörelse då bl.a. STR-komp spelat mot ett turkcypriskt lag och vunnit med 3-1. 2. komp har prövat sina krafter mot ett div. 2-lag från Paralimni och fick se sig slaget med 2-5. Man tog emellertid igen skadan och besegrade turkscouterna i Famagusta med 9-1.

Svenska flaggans dag i Famagusta

Svenska flaggans dag firades på Småndagen i Carl Gustaf Camp. Det var stor anslutning av dels FN-soldater dels civila svenskar som kommit för att fira den svenska nationaldagen. Efter avslutning på tennisplanen hölls parad för fanan. Korum hölls av bataljonschefen Bengt Persson från Stockholm. Efter bataljonschefens, överste Lars Lavens tal, avslutades högtiden med fanmarsch. Efteråt bjöds på förplägnad i respektive mässar och senare hölls en mottagning på officersmässen.



På bilden samtalar Michael Louloupis Cypern's arkeologiska departement med trv. str. bataljonschefen major Bertil Olsson samt med två av dykargänget Robert Stenlund och Kent Forsen. Längst t.h. dr. Acis, Hadjipaschalis, Famagusta.

COMMANDER WITH CANCON



WITH CANCON—The Force Commander is pictured above at an outpost he visited recently in the Kyrenia mountains. From left to right are Lieutenant Colonel Duncan A. McAlpine, Major JWB Hamilton, General Martola and Corporal J. MacNeil, the commander of the outpost.

BRIG. WILSON VISITS FORT WORTHINGTON

ON Wednesday, 1 June 66, Brigadier A.J. Wilson, CBE, MC, Chief of staff and Commander of the British Contingent, of UNFICYP, visited B Squadron, 8th Canadian Hus-sars (Princess Louises).

He arrived at 1200 hrs and was given a general salute by the 'Quarter Guard' commanded by A/Sgt. Insley. After the inspection Major JA St Aubin, CD, Commanding Officer of B Squadron escorted Brigadier Wilson on a tour of the Camp.

At the completion of the tour our honored guest spoke to the members of the squadron at the "Green Line Club"



ABOVE—Tpr Tom Crawford presents the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) regimental plaque to Brigadier Wilson.



ABOVE—"Don't Panic", says the sign on the switchboard at the Kyrenia District Exchange. This advice is sometimes difficult to heed when the going gets heavy. Private Earl Kennedy takes a call as Lieutenant Don Bohun looks on.

KEEPING THE WIRES BUZZING IN THE KYRENIA MOUNTAINS

THE complex problem of maintaining communications in Kyrenia District is handled by the Signals Platoon of the 2nd Battalion The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada. A complete radio net is maintained throughout the District. The end result is that every outpost and every commander is in contact with the next highest headquarters through the two means for 24 hours a day.

Divided between Kyrenia and Camp Maple Leaf, near Nicosia, the platoon uses a variety of equipment to perform their task.

The telephone communications of the district link civilian switchboards with army field telephones through some hundreds of miles of temporary line and radio relay apparatus. As a back up to the telephone communications a com-

Below—2 RHC Signals Platoon line crew at work in the foothills of the Kyrenia Mountain range. Left to right are Privates Larry Tobin and George Savov and Lance Corporal Leroy Fife.



IRCON WILL MARK DE VALERA RE-ELECTION

Mr. Eamon de Valera (below) has been re-elected for his second seven-year term as President of Ireland. The inauguration will take place on



Eamon de Valera
Uachtaran na hEireann

25th June and special ceremonies will be arranged at Xeros by the Irish Contingent to mark the occasion.

Children's Party

A party for 160 local children was held on Sunday last, at Camp Knockanure, by the Armoured Car Group. The children who enjoyed themselves enormously, saw a film after which they were given refreshments. Thanks for the successful occasion are due to the organizer, Captain Tony Wall who was assisted by Lt. A. Whelan, Company Sergeant J. O'Shaughnessy and Sgts. P. Maher and D. Tennyson.

Soccer

At last the match between the Armoured Car Group and

The portion of B Company which is not on observation post duty pursues a vigorous keep fit programme which includes morning PT and swimming. Here we see Lieut J. Cummins taking a PT class on the beach near Cato Pyrgos Camp.



the local Cypriot team took place on Sunday, 29 May, and, once again, the result was a one all draw. Among the best players on this occasion were Lieuts. Tony Whelan and C.J. Leany, also Sgt. Pat Gleeson and Cpl. B. Barry and T. Nolan.

Volleyball

A-Coy held a number of matches within the Unit during the week with the object of improving the standard of this game. However, in a game with a local Cypriot team they were unsuccessful.



The Engineering section of 6th Inf. Gp. have done much to improve the amenities at Group Hqrs., Xeros. Here Captain Michael Hughes (left) checks progress on the new drainage scheme for the cook house. Cpl Patrick Brereton (centre) comes from Cork, where he serves with 1st Fd Engrs, and Coy Sgt Henry Wolversen, 2nd Fd Engrs, Dublin. We take this opportunity to congratulate Capt Hughes on his recent promotion.

under-water swim.

To be congratulated also is the team captain and coach, Sergeant P. Madden.

An observation post section from A Company, on duty in the mountains near Lefka, have constructed a rough shower. The tank consists of an oil drum in which the water is heated by the sun during the day and here we see Pte Thos. Kelly passing up cans of water to Pte Danny McCracken.



THE BLUE BERET is published by the Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, (UNFICYP). Communications, articles or enquires should be addressed to:—The Editor

THE BLUE BERET
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U THANT NAMES GEN. TASSARA TO HEAD UNMOGIP

UN Secretary-General, U Thant, last week announced the appointment of General Luis Tassara Gonzalez of Chile as Chief Military Observer of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan.

General Tassara succeeds the late Lt. General Robert Nimmo of Australia who died in Rawalpindi in January of this year.

Since that time, Canada's Col. J.H.J. Gauthier has served as Acting Chief Military Observer.

SECRETARY GENERAL CONGRATULATES U.S. ON SURVEYOR 1

UN Secretary General, U Thant, sent a message of congratulations to President Johnson of the United States on last Thursday's moon landing of "Surveyor 1".

Noting the Soviet and U.S. statements on the need for an international agreement on the peaceful exploration of outer space, U Thant said these developments should give "renewed faith in our ability to work together towards the establishment of a meaningful peace in our planet."

USSR Bids UN Draft Space Exploration Treaty

The Soviet Union requested last week that the next U.N. General Assembly take up the question of concluding an international agreement to cover the exploration and the use of the moon and other celestial bodies.

The request is contained in a letter from the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, which was handed to the Secretary-General, U Thant, by Ambassador Nikolai Federenko last week.

The letter put forward four principles as a basis for the agreement:

- 1. The moon and other celestial bodies should be free for exploration and use by all States without any discrimination and in accordance with basic principles of international law.

- 2. They should be used for peaceful purposes only and kept free from any military bases or installations, including installations of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

- 3. Exploration and use of the moon and other celestial bodies should be carried out in the interests of all mankind; and these bodies should not be subject to appropriation or any other territorial claims.

- 4. Exploration should be based on the principles of cooperation and mutual assistance, taking into account the respective interests of other States for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security.

Several weeks ago the United States also urged early U.N. discussions on a treaty which would include a provision for bringing any claim of sovereignty over celestial bodies and keeping them free from weapons of mass destruction and military maneuvers. The U.S. asked that such a treaty be worked out in the U.N. Committee on Outer Space, with a view to action by the General Assembly next fall.

Following publication of the Soviet letter, U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg said in a press statement that his Government welcomed what ap-

peared to be "an affirmative interest" by the USSR in the U.S. proposal.

Ambassador Fedorenko emphasized that the Soviet Union had been the first to take an initiative in this field and had come forward with a series of constructive moves in recent years. He added that the position taken by the U.S. had not always been conducive to a positive solution.

PHILATELIC CORNER

— HOW MUCH ARE YOUR UN POSTAGE STAMPS WORTH?

ON 10 June this year the UN Postal Administration celebrates its fifteenth anniversary. The value of UN stamps has increased steadily over the years; especially during the past few months market prices have rocketed. For instance, one sheet each of the eleven regular stamps issued in 1951, with a face value of \$116.25, now cost \$995.00 from a stamp dealer.

One each of all the UN stamps issued to date, with a face value of \$15.08, sells for \$175.00 and can be purchased for \$210.00.

Two weeks ago, a philatelic journal said: "UN prices have increased 60 per cent in the past three months with no let-up in sight. Quite interestingly, it is the UN itself that has been responsible for this feverish activity..."

Why so much?

There are several reasons, according to David S. J. Alexander, President of the UN Philatelic Society.

In the first place, by and large the UN Postal Administration enjoys the confidence of the philatelic public. UN stamps are attractive and well publicized. There are many more UN collectors in the U.S. and overseas now than there were five or ten years ago. Any serious collector naturally wants to have his collection complete.

But some of the early issues were of limited printing — one or one and a half million stamps at most — so there aren't many around.

Though most stocks of UN

UN ASKED TO WITNESS VIET-NAM FALL ELECTIONS

The Republic of Viet-Nam last week asked the United Nations to send observers to witness the elections for a Constituent Assembly it is holding in September.

The request was made orally last Thursday morning to the Secretary-General, U Thant, by Ambassador Nguyen-Duy-Lein, the Republic of Viet-Nam's Permanent Observer at the U.N., and a formal letter followed in the afternoon. It was not immediately made public.

In a press statement issued by the Ambassador, he said his Government was determined to ensure that the people would be free to express their will and therefore wished the elections to be witnessed by "competent and impartial international observers." He added that he had assured the Secretary-General that they would receive a warm welcome and all necessary facilities. In his statement he said that he had asked U Thant to "make arrangements" for the dispatch of observers.

Late Thursday evening, the Secretary-General saw the current President of the Security Council, Ambassador Corner of New Zealand, and gave him a copy of the South Viet-Nam's letter. Mr. Corner told reporters later that evening that he would be in consultation with

Council Members on the matter.

In a press briefing on Friday morning at UN Headquarters in New York, a United Nations spokesman said that the Secretary-General felt he could not send observers to witness the September elections in the Republic of Viet-Nam without authorization of the Security Council or some other appropriate UN body.

The spokesman noted that the Viet-Nam issue had been formally on the Council's agenda since early in February when it was inscribed at the request of the United States. This led at the time to private consultations between the Members but no Council action.

The UN spokesman also said there was no exact precedent for the requested observation mission, although the UN had watched elections in Korea after World War II and had supervised them in various Trust Territories.

In Washington, Ambassador Arthur Goldberg, U.S. representative to the United Nations announced President Johnson's "wholehearted" support of the Republic of Viet-Nam's request.

ASIA EDITORS URGE MORE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL NEWS

THE second Asian Editor's Round-Table, convened by the U.N. Office of Public Information in cooperation with the U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) came to an end in Bangkok, Thailand last week.

The meeting brought together 21 representatives of leading newspapers, news agencies and broadcasting organisations, as well as senior officials of the United Nations and related agencies.

In a set of recommendations adopted at the end of the conference, the editors stressed the importance of public information for national development and the essential contribution it had to make towards narrowing the gap between the developing and the developed countries. They urged that information activities on economic and social matters should be "widespread, lucid and sustained" and should be recognized as an essential part of the nation's development efforts.

Singling out ECAFE's Asian highway project as an important rallying point for Asian development and promotion of regional interdependence, the Conference recommended that extensive regional publicity be given to the project.



stamps that may remain are probably in New York, dealers are finding that their drawers are becoming emptier every day; in Europe, says Mr Alexander, dealers have no stocks at all and it is extremely difficult to find any of the old issues, hence the rise in prices.