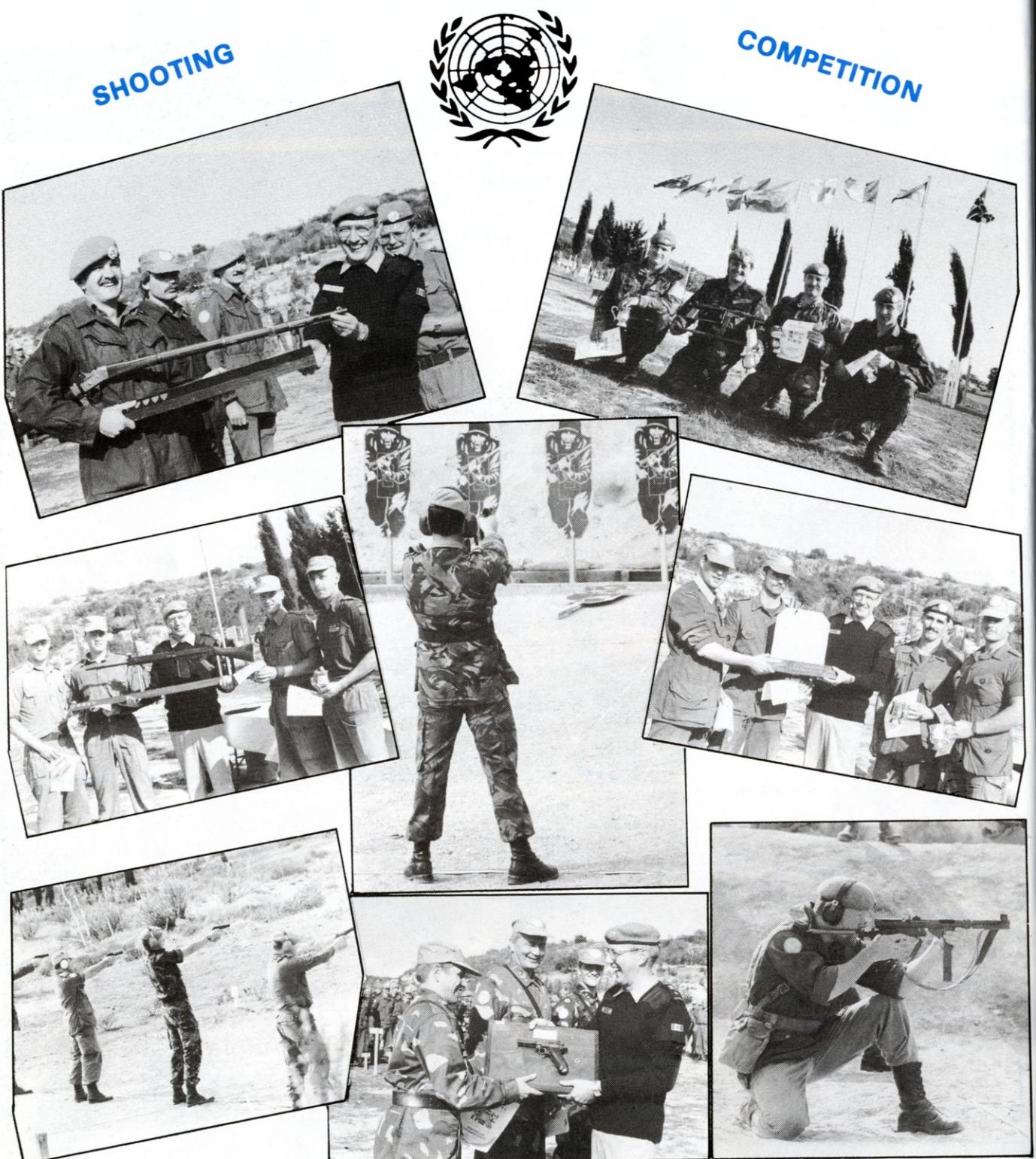


# THE BLUE BERET

FEBRUARY 1987





### RESULTS OF THE SHOOTING COMPETITION

RIFLE TEAM	- SECTOR 5	Sgt Karlsson Sgt Johansson Pte Palmlad Pte Johansson Lt Pomeroy 2/Lt Hardy S/Sgt Buckley L/Cpl Banner Capt Kiiski Capt Juslin Capt Kangasmaki S/Sgt Laaksonen	FALLING PLATE	- SECTOR 4	Capt Thorsowem Sgt St-Pierre Cpl Robinson Tpr Burgis
SMG TEAM	- Sp Regt				
PISTOL TEAM	- FINCON				
<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>					
		RIFLE SMG PISTOL OVERALL WINNERS	- SECTOR 5 - SECTOR 2 - SWEDCIVPOL - SECTOR 1	Sgt Karlsson Sgt Holmes Insp Hansson	

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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. Photographs should be in black and white on glossy paper size 160mm by 210mm. 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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**Front cover**  
**Mine Blowing**  
**in DANCON**  
**By: Sgt A Beaton**



# THE BLUE BERET

## Editorial

You may have noticed that we have departed from our usual lay-out of this magazine whereby we devoted entire pages to each contingent and are printing small, short stories: some humorous some just news worthy. We hope thereby to encourage some of you to contribute your own experiences and stories you have gathered here in Cyprus, or indeed in your own home countries to the Blue Beret. The message is therefore: if you have a story to tell write it down and send it to us, we would like to hear from you.

Many of you may have been skiing recently. But for those of you who are yet to go I can only say that the snow is holding well and if you can avoid Sundays the lift queues are not to bad. Our Austrian colleagues will run a ski meeting on the 10th March and we hope that as many of you as possible will come and support this, either as competitors or as cheerers-on.

See you on the slopes!

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Hail Glorious St Patrick  
dear Saint of Our Isle  
On us thy poor children  
bestow a sweet smile  
And now thou art high  
in the mansion above  
On Erin's green valleys  
look down in thy love.

So goes a verse of the song "Hail Glorious St Patrick" which was composed in honour of the Patron Saint of IRELAND. St Patrick's Day falls on the 17th March each year. The day is celebrated in Ireland as the principal national holiday, but is also celebrated across the globe in all areas where Irishmen and Irishwomen put down their roots, even for a short time.



Mr John Nolan, Comdt Barny Goulding, Comdt Willie O'Hara



CQMS Willie Lawton, CQMS Alan Aston

## LÁ FHÉILE PÁDRAIG (ST PATRICK'S DAY)

BY: COMDT W. O'HARA

coast. There the ship was waiting and so his captivity ended.

### HE CAME BACK!

On his return to his family Patrick pursued a religious life and became a priest. Very soon his mind turned to the place of his boyhood captivity. God provided him with the missionary inclination so in 432 AD Patrick

which had three leaves - a SHAMROCK. Which apparently only grows in Ireland. Patrick used the Shamrock to illustrate the three persons in God. (The Blessed Trinity). On St Patrick's Day sprigs of Shamrock are worn. It has such prominence throughout the world that many think it to be the national emblem of Ireland. Of course this is NOT



Mr Frank Clancy, CQMS Martin Gaffney, C/S Marty Morrissey



CQMS Mick Soady, Sgt Joe O'Neill

returned to pagan Ireland. His Christian teaching was accepted very quickly by the inhabitants of the little isle.

### THREE-IN-ONE

One of the stories which is considered worthwhile to mention relates to how Shamrock became a symbol of the Irish and particularly of St Patrick's Day. Patrick on his missionary work was talking to a group of people about God. He was trying to explain that God was one, but in God were three others, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Patrick was having difficulties getting the people to understand.

Patrick came from a Christian family so he prayed profoundly to God on the lonely mountainside while he watched the sheep and pigs. After a period of five years he had a vision of a ship by the coastline waiting to take him home. Patrick felt that God was telling him to leave so he escaped and began his journey to the

Then he bent down and pulled a little green plant from the lush green field. It was a single plant

SLÁINTE!



SLÁINTE!

## TROODOS RADIO DETACHMENT

A Report by Lt Jeff Drummond.



battery maintenance, test the auxiliary power supply to the

With the height of winter now upon us, many heads turn longingly towards the snowcapped summits of the Troodos mountains - the centre of the Cypriot ski industry.

What most are not aware of, is that tucked away on the south face, 4 members of 254 Signal Squadron are forced to survive these adverse weather conditions as a matter-of-fact daily routine, living off the land plus twice weekly resupply runs to Blue Beret Camp and living with the thought that in the flash of a storm, they may be totally cut off from the rest of the UN (waiting for the day).

Albeit small, this 4 man detachment provides an essential service to the UN. Perhaps better known as "niner-eight" this radio rebroadcast station provides the means for all-island VHF and Motorola communications. Only second in height to Mt Olympus, Troodos provides an adequate vantage point from which to relay Motorola communications to the west side of the island and VHF communications to Sectors 5 and 6.

At present, the detachment is 3 Canadian and 1 British radio operators selected from Radio Troop, 254 Signal Squadron; the detachment commander MCpl (killar) McKellar (he gets his nickname for his prowess as a cook), and detachment members Cpl Bruce, Tpr Mason and Sig Donoghue. These soldiers will spend 4-6 weeks with the detachment and will then be rotated in order to give other troop members the experience of detachment living.

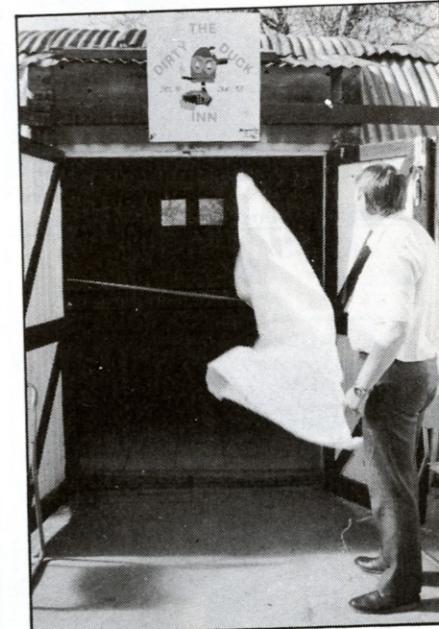
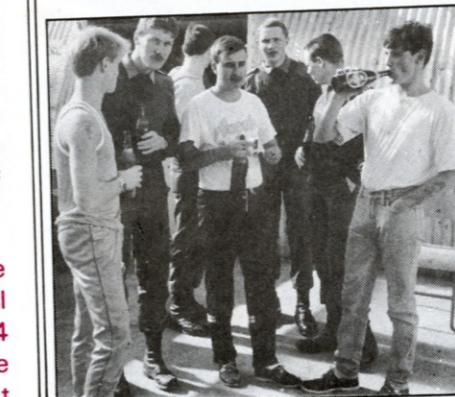
Since the net must be monitored at all times, all detachment members do a 24 hour duty during which they are also responsible to: carry out

detachment, maintain the log book and last but not least, do all the cooking and washing up. When not on duty the others manage to keep busy by improving the accommodation, doing resupply runs to BBC (Tuesday and Thursdays) skiing, running, weight training, watching videos... suffice it to say that no one has yet complained of boredom.

Manning the rebroadcast detachment is a unique opportunity for both Canadian and British soldiers serving with 254 Signal Squadron. Those who have spent some of their leave in Troodos making good use of the spare beds in the back will attest to this fact. For those who have not and wish to hear more - flick to channel 1.

## THE DIRTY DUCK INN ST DAVIDS CAMP

The Junior Ranks Canteen at St David's Camp, Sector 2, was officially opened and named "The Dirty Duck Inn" on Saturday 17 January 1987. This name was received with disapproval by the Camp Commandant who felt that a more suitable name should be found with perhaps geographical or regimental associations. To this end a competition was arranged to find a name. The OC was most



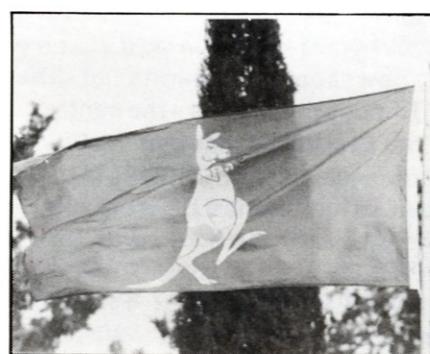
surprised to receive numerous nominations for the "Dirty Duck Inn" and accepted the inevitable. Another blow for democracy do I hear.



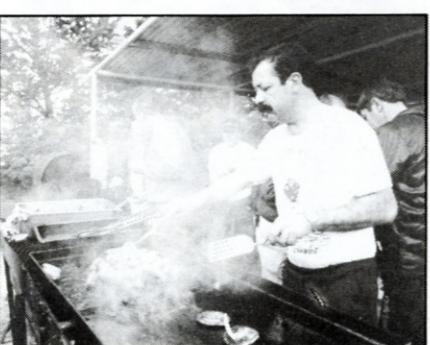
## AUSTRALIA DAY

**A**ustralia Day is a day set aside to commemorate the arrival of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove on 26 January, 1788. The major reason for establishing a colony in Australia was the placement of convicts, as when the American colonies ceased to take convicts, the British prisons became very overcrowded. Harsh laws ensured that there were many prisoners, and transportation was the only solution.

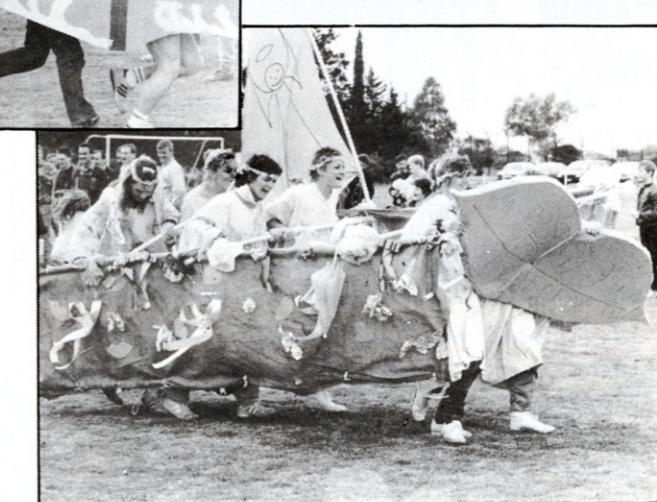
Many books portray the convicts as mostly victims of unjust criminal laws. In fact, many were; but there were also many hardened criminals, thieves and pickpockets. England supplied the largest national group of convicts,



followed by Ireland. Not all convicts were from Britain, as a few had come from the Indian colonies and other British settlements. This system of deportation, now called emmigration, is known in Australia as the "Brain Drain".



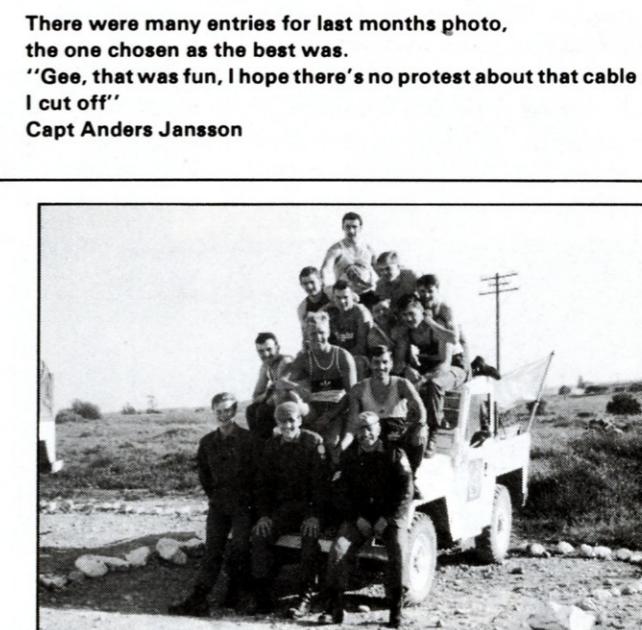
Here in Cyprus the Australian Civil Police celebrated their National Day with the help of the other contingents which comprise UNFICYP. An annual event known as the Henley-on-Pedhieos Boat Race attracted a most unusual assortment of boat designs, not to mention a most unusual assortment of crew members and spectators, all gathered at the UNPA Sports Field. Novelty events such as boomerang throwing, tug-of-war etc. revealed incredibly graceful and stylish performances - the pictures tell the story!



### CAPTION COMPETITION

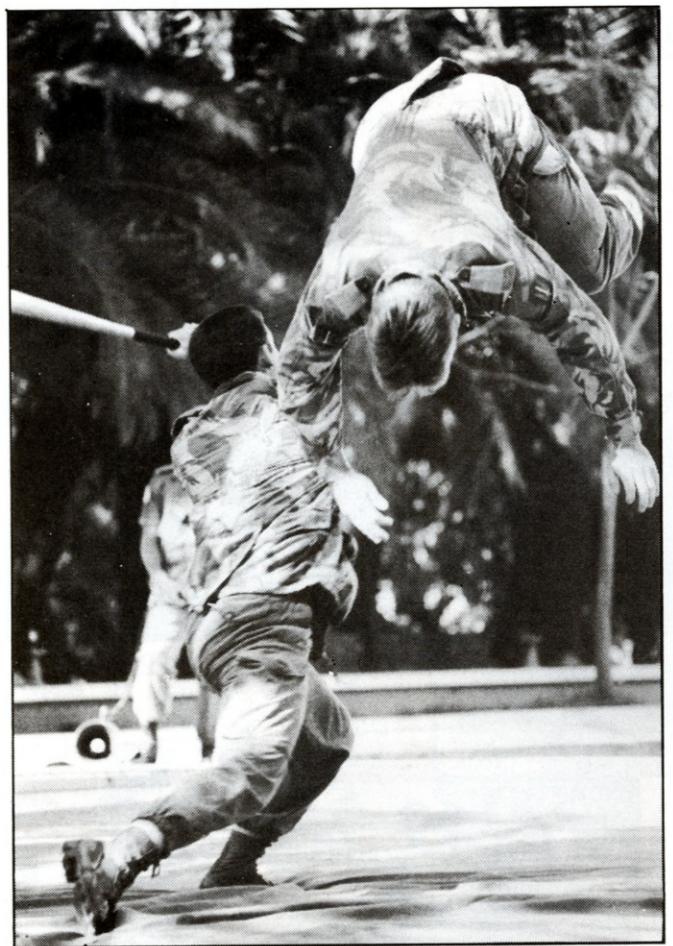


other entries were:  
 "I told them my name was MacInnis, not McAlpine"  
 - Sgt John Self  
 "Go On, give me just one more go"  
 - Sgt Mick Hughes  
 "I'm determined to pass this resettlement course"  
 Fus Robert Hewer

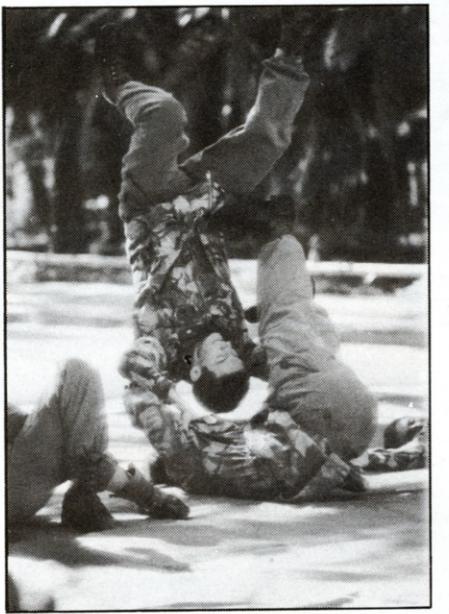


6 Plt B Coy 3RRF at B28

There were many entries for last months photo, the one chosen as the best was.  
 "Gee, that was fun, I hope there's no protest about that cable I cut off"  
 Capt Anders Jansson



## "UNARMED COMBAT TEAM DOUBLE MARCH!"



**"Unarmed Combat Team Double March!"** Fourteen soldiers dressed in the distinct camouflaged jump smocks of Canada's Special Forces Service Force shuffles in unison onto a centre stage of spectators. The introduction of the team continues: "The Canadian Airborne Regiment is Canada's elite paratroop force, ready to go anywhere, anytime, for any mission. An inherent limitation of an airborne force is the restricted number of the integral heavy support weapons. As such, the

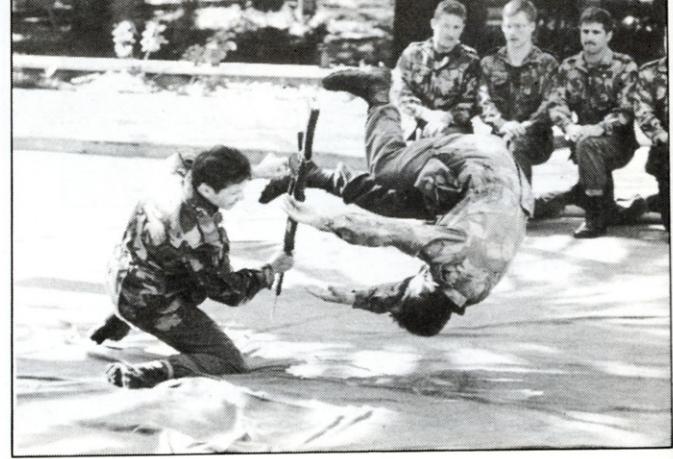
Canadian Airborne Regiment, perhaps more than any other conventional or light infantry unit, realizes the vital importance of basic field soldiering and, as being demonstrated here, the hand-to-hand unarmed combat".

"Attack!" The spectators are caught surprised in a battle scene - machine guns rattling, whirring noise of helicopters, pyrotechniques blasting off, the stench of gun powder, the eerie smouldering of smoke grenades. The team suddenly breaks all semblance of orderliness and

engage in a mass assault of closequarter hand-to-hand combat. Bodies being thrown crashing onto the floor, kicks being delivered, blocks fending punches, arms twisted and necks choked. Screaming and shouting with facial expressions of aggression and pain.

Being deployed to UNFICYP presents an unequalled opportunity for the Regiment's Unarmed Combat Team to assemble and sustain an intensive training in a variety of combative skills. The team trained

under the direction of Lt Yung Jin Hou for two months prior to the Canadian Contingent Medal Parade Mini Tatoo where many members of UNFICYP had the opportunity to be entertained. In addition, the team made several command performances for the visiting CF army generals and the UNPA's KIDCON. The team's most memorable show had to be the one for the delighted CANCON Show Troupe. One particular Argonaut Sunshine Girl went out of her way to convey her appreciation to our Sean "Rambo". AIRBORNE!



## "UNARMED COMBAT TEAM DOUBLE MARCH!"





## UNIFIL V UNFICYP RUGBY

The result of the match was 29-15 to UNIFIL



UNFICYP's David Kerr breaking out of defence



UNIFIL's Pat Carey jumps highest in the line out.



UNIFIL's injured hooker Benny Ludlow with unfamiliar "props"!



UNFICYP's Stewart Moore spearheading a Unicorns attack against Irish Batt.



Unifil's scrum half Brendan Woods passes to his fly half Michael Brennan (No 10).



The results of the competition were as follows:-

Team: First - AUSCON 10½pts  
Second - DANCON 9 pts  
Third - CANCON 7½pts

Individual: - L/Cpl Kochlendorfer - AUSCON



UN soldiers are always men.  
Except in the Swedish  
Contingent  
At SWEDCON HQ in Larnaca  
there are 10 female UN soldiers.

Since 1980 women have been accepted to serve with the Swedish UN Battalion. Every year hundreds of girls in Sweden apply for UN service, but only a few of them are suitable for this kind of



Sgt Eva Eriksson,  
duty free shop assistant.



Pte Marianne Loweroth,  
Comcen Operator.

work. The Swedish Contingent have nearly 400 soldiers here on Cyprus. The girls work in various posts, some have secretarial duties, one is a telegrapher, two are nurses and another can normally be found repairing the broken telephone lines.

Back home in Sweden we have compulsory military service, which means the army can call on every man between the ages of

## THE GENTLE TOUCH IN SECTOR 5



2/Lt Sigbritt Snare, one of Swedcon's radio officers.

the OP's, so every girl must visit one during her tour.

Eva Eklof the payclerk says "It is really difficult for us girls to get a job like this. I am very pleased that I was chosen".

Mariann Loweroth, one of the operators at the communication centre says "For me this is such a marvellous experience, although it seems very strange at first living so close to people you have never met before.



Sgt Eva Boden, Staff Clerk.



## CANADIAN CONTINGENT MEDAL PARADE



The Canadian Airborne Regiment celebrated the SNOWGOOSE XLVI UN Medal presentation with a combined Mini Tattoo and Medals Parade on 12 Jan 87 at the Ledra Palace Complex, Nicosia.

The festivities began at 1830 with a Band Interlude from the St George's Band, 1st Battalion the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, under the direction of WO1 C.C. Attrill. The Mini Tattoo began by a "sentry take out" performed by



Maj Gen Greindl presents Cpl W Nyenhuis with his UN Medal

members of the Canadian Airborne Regt Unarmed Combat Display Team and a rappelling demonstration. These set the tone for the unarmed combat demonstration under the direction of Lt Yung Jim Hou, and consisted of demonstrations of fighting skills and comical sketches to entertain the audience. This was followed by a display from the Precision Drill Team, composed exclusively from members of Airborne Service Commando, under the direction of Sgt Mark Charlebois and PO Frank Leslie. The team performed 158 synchronized drill movements with the rifle from a single word of command. The Mini Tattoo, directed by MWO John MacNeil, wrapped up with a display from

Force Commander who then closed the Medal presentation Ceremony with an address.

The parade was dismissed and replaced with a guard who fired a Feu de Joie.

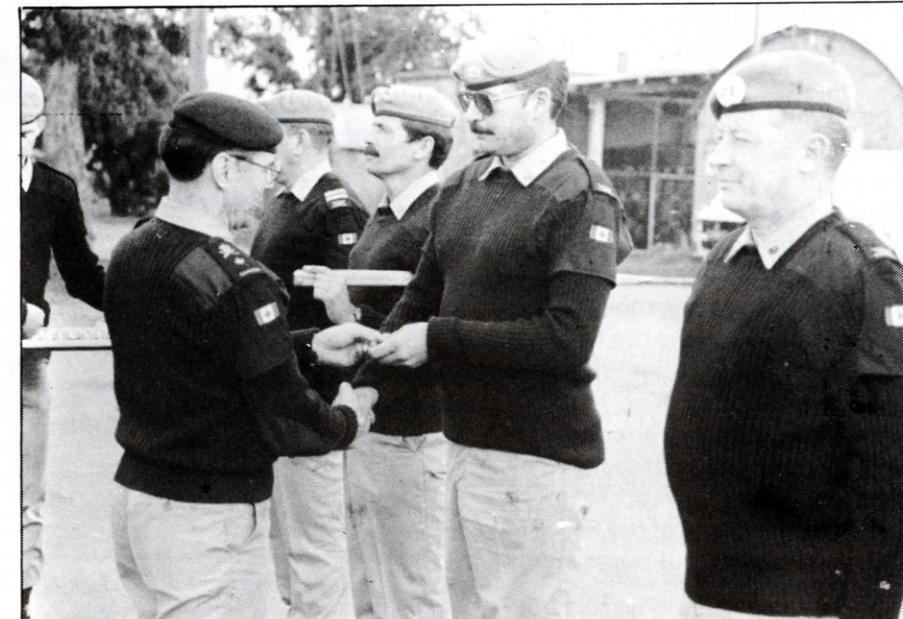
### COMMANDER FINCON

Major Carl-Bertel Eriksson took over from Major Raimo Koskela on the 6 December the Finnish Contingent. The new commander has served among others in Kashmir. We thank the old commander for his good work for UNFICYP and wish all the best to the new commander, who will work as the SO Personnel in HQ/UNFICYP.

Maj Carl-Bertel Eriksson



## NUMBERS PARADE... INDEED!



Brigadier General Foster presents Capt Kemp, MWO Miles, WO True and Sgt Barnard with their silver insignia denoting their third tour of UN duty in Cyprus.

presented with the coveted silver "5", and so proudly stands Col Bob Gaudreau our Regt Commander, watching as his "Old Guard" are presented their "Fives" by the Commander of the SSF, BGen Foster, a past Regt

Commander of the Canadian Airborne Regt and proud comrade of the "Vetrans" on this 9th of January 1987.

In the background the 8 foot "Old Ranger" mutters "Numbers Parade.... indeed ...."

### FORCE COMMANDER'S COMMENDATION



On August 1986, Sgt Vince Mylett and Sgt Greg Slater were involved in rescuing a civilian from an area in which there was a confrontation between Canadian UN Forces and Turkish Cypriot

soldiers. For this action they received the Force Commander's Commendation in appreciation of distinguished service rendered to the force in Cyprus.

### 'HE WHO KNOWS

He who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is a fool. Shun him.

He who knows not, and knows that he knows not, is a child. Teach him.

He who knows, and knows not that he knows, is asleep. Wake him.

He who knows, and knows that he knows is wise. Follow him.

From the Persian



The inaugural meeting of the Fusiliers SDC Wives Club took place in the "Dirty Duck Inn" at St David's Camp on Wednesday 21 January, but got off to a rather inauspicious start as none of the wives turned up! It is thought this may have been due to the fact that none of the 3rd Fusilier wives are on the Island. However, this had been thought of beforehand, and a low key advertising campaign took place to encourage other more fortunate members of the Force to loan their wives, but surprisingly to no avail.

The proprietor and members of the "Dirty Duck Inn" consulted LCpl Blore, Cpl Kelsall and Cpl Woolley (who do not wish to be named) who said they were disappointed with the turnout but hoped future meetings may be better attended.

The next meeting will be on 18 February when the Battalion polo team will be giving a display in the UN pool if they can get the horses.

## 3RD FUSILIERS WIVES CLUB



EMPTY

We waited in vain!

### "DON'T TACKLE WITH THE HACKLE"

This month has seen considerable activity in Sector 2 as the Fusilier's tackle the tasks allotted to them with great gusto. We have taken part in all the various activities particularly rugby and hockey, where the Battalion is well represented in both UN teams.

As we get into the swing of things, R and R and adventurous training began to bite into our

### SECTOR TWO

available manpower. Nevertheless all manner of sports, canoeing, windsurfing, diving and now skiing are being enjoyed by as many Fusiliers as possible.

On the military front our shooting team were narrowly beaten into second place by the Danish Contingent and we look forward to the Military Skills competition with enthusiasm.

## UNPA CAROL SINGERS

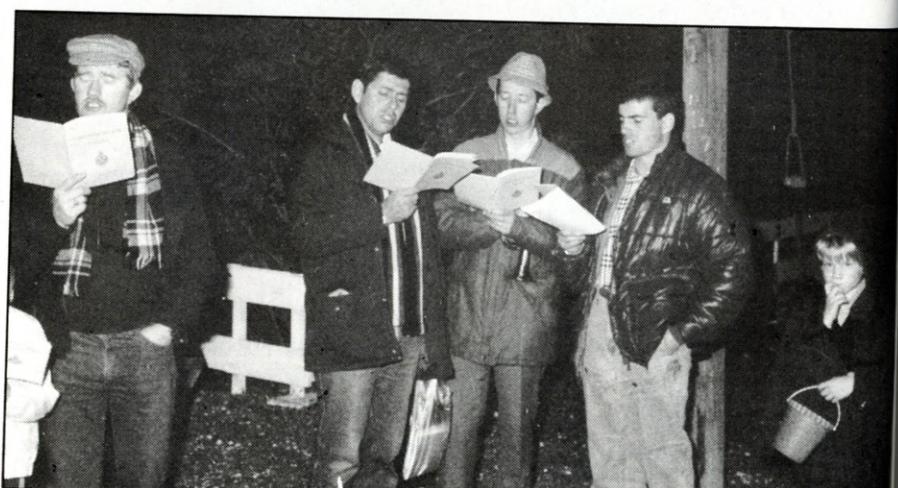
Carol singing in Cyprus is sometimes considered a non-event because many of the things associated with carol singing; cold biting winds, snow and thermal underwear, are missing. Not to be deterred the carol singers of the United Nations Protected Area assembled at St Michael's School on the evening of Tuesday 23 December 1986, under the guidance of members of the UNFICYP Support Regiment Workshop. Some were slightly overdressed with scarfs, gloves and woolen hats - nostalgic memories of cold December evenings in England!

The singing was conducted by Padre Brooke who brought along his trio of sons to boost the vocal onslaught. The singers went through their repertoire from one

lamppost to the next, while the younger element of the group knocked on doors collecting the rewards, or payment to move on as the case may be!

After a final encore at Lieutenant Colonel Pyman's

house the evening finished having collected £78.49 for the BFBS Wireless for the Blind appeal. The carol singers would like to thank the occupants of the Nicosia married quarters for their generosity.



## Out & About in Cyprus

By Dr. K Miklautsch, Capt

Photos by LCpl Joksch



Monastery Apostolos Andreas.



Philon north Rizokarpaso.

stronghold of the Byzantines and the Lusignans.

Afterwards we head for Dhavlos to see the bizarre and animal-like formations of sandstone, "sculptured" by the waves. Then we cross the mountains again for Trikomo, Boghaz with its picturesque fishing port, to Ayios Theodoros and Leonariso, from where we make a short trip to the ruins of

Lythrakomi and to Yialousa. At Ayios Thyrso the road leads close to the sea again. One cannot help but be impressed by the yellow, green and blue contrasts; this is from the flowers, the meadows and the sea. Passing many inviting bays, we eventually reach Rizokarpaso where still quite a few Greek Cypriots live. From there a single-file road with many bends and bumps, is winding its way towards the "end of the

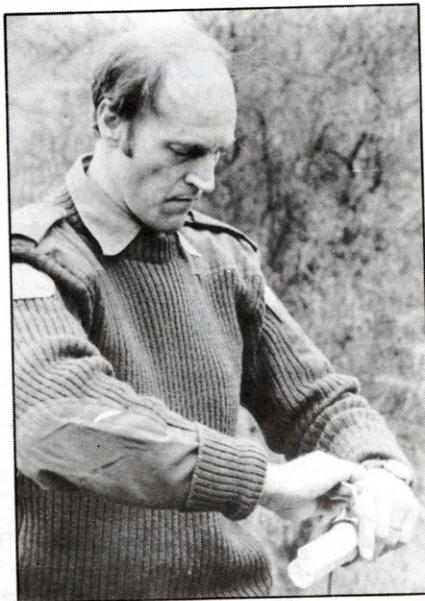
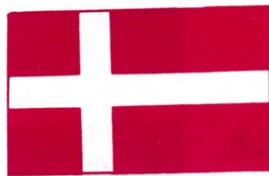
world". The few houses along the coast were deserted a long time ago.

All one can see are flocks of sheep and friendly shepherds. The island itself gets more and more barren and civilization disappears altogether. Now and then one can see wild olive and carob trees. But what a sight before Galounopetra Point! Hardly anywhere on the island can you find a finer beach and clearer water. Here we would like to take a long rest, but we must press on to the Monastery of Apostolos Andreas. Getting closer to this place, we realize that it is almost empty, except for three sows keeping siesta in front of the former pilgrims' cells, then policemen and Greek Cypriots appear and show us around.

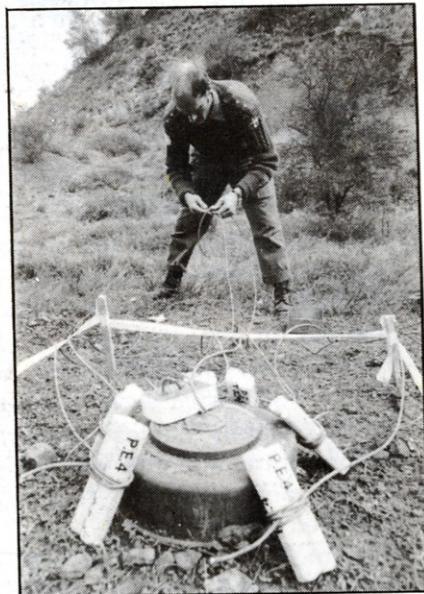
After the tour of the fine iconostasis and a delicious cup of Karpas tea, we continue our excursion. On foot we reach Cape Apostolos Andreas, a place that is rich in legends and history. From the top of the rock that once crowned an Aphrodite temple, we get an impressive view over the Klidhes Islands that look like grey specks in the aquamarine water. In the meantime the wind has gathered strength and turned into a storm. A whirlwind is playing its game off the island. When one is up there, one has to think of all that have set foot on this island, via the Karpas Peninsula: Greeks, Assyrians, Egyptians, Romans, Venetians, Turks etc. One also has to think of Isaak Komnenos, who was captured by Richard the Lionheart up here.

On our way back we visit the magnificent places of Ayios Philon and Aphendrika, centres of early Christianity in the Byzantine Era.

Who could think of a better way of starting another week!



The detonating cord must be wrapped tightly around the sticks of plastic explosive.



Working alone the Eng Off prepares the detonator and safety fuse.



After his final checks he will ignite the safety fuse.

## BIG BANGS IN DANCON



Clusters of the explosive are placed around the mine.

"Minel" A cry sure to strike fear into any soldier's heart.

Mines are an indiscriminate weapon posing a deadly threat long after their initial deployment and intended period of use. The UNBZ has many marked minefields remaining, with mine explosions having claimed several UN lives.

So when the decision was



BANG!!!

made to open the Kambos road in Sector 1, thus improving access to DANCON C Coy Ops, a mine clearance operation was mounted. (This area yielded 19 Anti-Tank mines in searches during Nov 1986).

The search operation was carried out by a party from Sector 4, as Sector 1 has insufficient Combat engineers (the Sector 1 engineers are mainly conscript "Artisans") and one more Anti-Tank mine was unearthed.

Destruction of this mine was the responsibility of Sector One Engineer Officer, assisted by his Pioneer Sergeant and one sunny January morning work began.....



Has anybody seen the Engineer Officer??