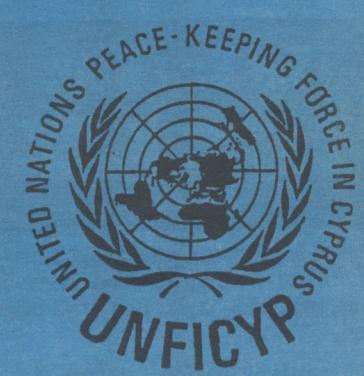


THE BLUE BERET

THE NEWSPAPER FOR CIVILIAN, MILITARY
AND POLICE PERSONNEL WITHIN UNFICYP



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CAMP MARIE THERESE RENAMED TRIGLAV

By Captain Gregorij Hvastja

Slovenian National Day (25 June) is probably the most important day in the year for Slovenian people. This is the day when, in 1991, the former Yugoslavian republic declared its independent status as the Republic of Slovenia.

For Slovenians serving in Cyprus, the 1999 National Day was even more solemn than usual. We have been accorded a great honour: UN OP 139 - previously called after a famous Austrian empress, Marie Therese, has been become a camp with a Slovenian name, Camp Triglav.

SICON has been deployed in UN OP 135 and UN OP 139 since September 1998. As it seems that SICON is likely to continue to look after OP 139, UNFICYP decided to give the camp a Slovenian name. Former SICON commander Major Marjan Videtic set the process in motion, and a month ago the Force Commander, Major General E. A. De Vergara handed over the signature of agreement to the SICON commander.

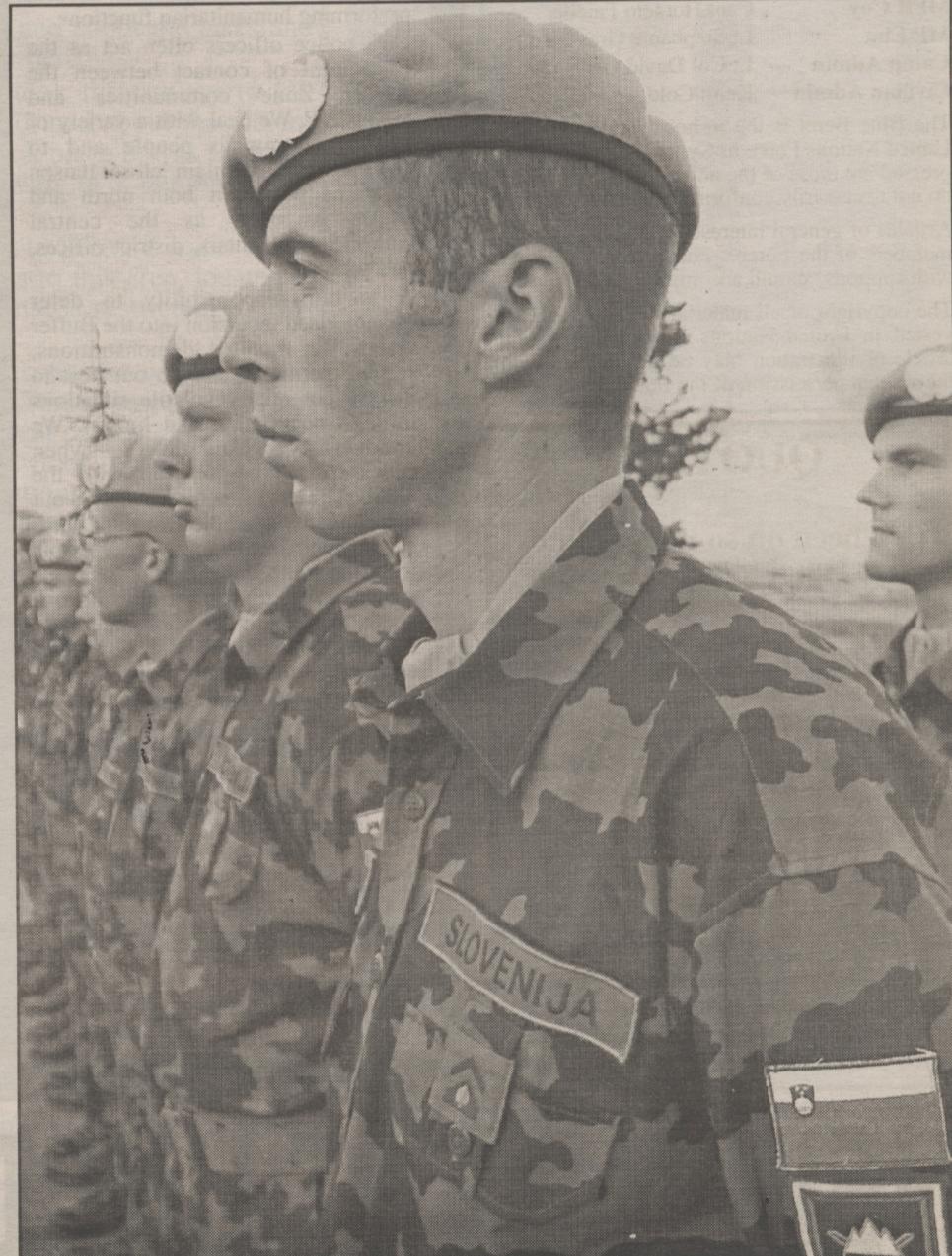
Then preparations for the renaming began. The contingent wanted to hold the celebration on Slovenian National Day and time was short. The week before the great day was especially busy for SICON and every soldier took part in getting

ready for the event. Soldiers were drilling every detail for the ceremony, painting everything they could find to paint at the OP, cleaning the surroundings, and preparing the final programme.

So what does Triglav mean? Triglav is the highest mountain in Slovenia (it's 2864m) and is a very famous national symbol. It's hard to find a Slovenian who hasn't climbed it. The name, which means three peaks (three heads) comes from its shape. We chose it for the camp because it symbolises the union of three contingents, Slovenian, Austrian and Hungarian, serving in the Sector 4 battalion.

For this unique event, the Slovenian Contingent and UNFICYP were visited by a high-ranking Slovenian delegation. This included State Secretary at the MOD, Bogdan Koprivnikar; G7 at Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF) General Staff Colonel Primoz Savc; 1st Brigade 2i/c. Lieutenant Colonel Vojteh Mihevc, and former Slovenian Contingent Commander in Cyprus, Major Marjan Videtic.

Everyone met up on the evening of 24 June to celebrate Slovenian National Day and renaming of the camp. After the arrival of the Slovenian honour guard and a salute to the national anthem and flag, the most important guests made



Proud Slovenian soldiers on their national day parade

speeches. Everyone stressed the importance of multinational cooperation in the mission and the excellent contribution of SICON to UNFICYP.

After the celebration of Slovenian National Day, the guests moved to the entrance of the camp for the renaming. This was a very dignified and dramatic occasion, especially at the key moment, when the sign Camp Triglav was uncovered and the battalion padre Pytlik blessed the camp.

All good hosts prepare refreshments for their guests and we

Slovenians are no different from anyone else. Guests who were able to wait till it got dark were treated to a show about Slovenia's natural and cultural treasures.

So the camp has been renamed and the Slovenians are well and truly in residence. Now, we have to make sure we maintain the same quality level of service to UNFICYP, and to thank all the guests, who honoured this event by their presence. We have also particularly to thank Lieutenant Colonel Helmut Plieschnegger for his and Sector 4's help in the organisation of the event.



Camp Triglav: a blessed base

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THE BLUE BERET

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QUOTES

I've been on so many blind dates, I should get a free dog.

Wendy Liebman

I am a marvellous housekeeper; every time I leave a man, I keep his house.

Zsa Zsa Gabor

I'm not going to vacuum till they make one you can ride on.

Roseanne Barr

Since January this year, UNCIVPOL has been a fully integrated UN civilian police component within UNFICYP. It comprises 35 members (20 Australian Federal Police and 15 Irish National Police). These officers are posted in police stations strategically situated along the UN Buffer Zone, and at UNFICYP Headquarters. Australian and Irish police officers work side by side, performing all the tasks required of a traditional police force.

It is important that all these officers maintain their integrity and that they are impartial. They need to be in good physical condition as they are often asked to work long and irregular hours in extreme weather conditions.

Within UNFICYP, we work closely with the military and civil affairs, doing our best to support them in their work. They, in turn, support us. We have one police officer attached to the Operations Branch and two who report to the Chief Civil Affairs Officer. One other person with joint responsibility works at Ledra, performing humanitarian functions.

We police officers often act as the first point of contact between the Buffer Zone communities and UNFICYP. We deal with a variety of issues relating to people and to property and maintain close liaison with the police in both north and south, as well as the central authorities, mukhtars, district offices, and schools.

It is our responsibility to deter unauthorised incursion into the Buffer Zone. We monitor demonstrations, receive petitions, and do our best to diffuse potentially volatile situations through negotiation and liaison. We conduct investigations when necessary. In conjunction with the Civil Affairs Branch, we carry out prison visits if people from the north get arrested in the south, and people from the south in the north. Together, we escort pilgrimages from north to south and south to north, facilitate hospital visits, and assist in mail exchanges and money transfers. We also carry out some police patrols along the tracks in the Buffer Zone and in the villages, to provide an atmosphere of security.

One of the most rewarding aspects of our job is speaking to people and police officers in both north and south, and to feel that we are contributing towards a restoration of normal conditions inside the Buffer Zone.

Graham Taylor
Commander UNCIVPOL

EDITORIAL

Seit Januar diesen Jahres ist die UNCIVPOL eine integrierte zivile UN Polizeikomponente innerhalb von UNFICYP. Diese besteht aus 35 Mitarbeitern (20 Australian Federal Police und 15 Irish National Police). Die Polizei ist entlang der gesamten UN Pufferzone und im UNFICYP Hauptquartier an taktisch wichtigen Orten disloziert. Australische und irische Polizisten arbeiten miteinander und erfüllen alle geforderten traditionellen Polizeiaufträge.

Es ist wichtig, daß gerade die Polizei ihre Integrität und Unparteilichkeit bewahrt. Da sie oft viele Stunden unter extremen Wetterbedingungen arbeiten, müssen sie in guter körperlicher Verfassung sein.

Wir arbeiten innerhalb von UNFICYP sehr eng mit der Militär- und Zivilkomponente zusammen und versuchen stets, ihnen die bestmögliche Unterstützung in deren Arbeit zu geben. Umgekehrt, werden wir auch wiederum von diesen unterstützt. Wir haben einen Polizeioffizier, welcher der Operations Branch und zwei Offiziere, die dem Chief Civil Affairs Officer unterstehen. Eine weitere Person mit ausschließlicher Verantwortung arbeitet am Stützpunkt Ledra; diese erfüllt alle humanitären Angelegenheiten. Die Polizei ist der erste Vermittlungsstelle zwischen Bewohnern der Pufferzone und UNFICYP. Unser Aufgabenbereich erstreckt sich von Verhandlungen mit Zivilpersonen und deren Eigentum, enge Zusammenarbeit mit der Polizei sowohl im Norden als auch im Süden, sowie mit den lokalen Behörden, den Bürgermeistern und den Schulen.

Es liegt in unserer Verantwortung, unerlaubtes Eindringen in die Pufferzone zu verhindern. Wir beobachten Demonstrationen, übernehmen Petitionen und versuchen, durch Gespräche und Verhandlungen Ausschreitungen zu vermeiden. Weiters führen wir, wenn notwendig, Untersuchungen durch. In Zusammenarbeit mit der Civil Affairs Branch führen wir Besuche im Gefängnis durch, falls Personen aus dem Norden im Süden inhaftiert wurden oder umgekehrt. Zusammen begleiten wir Pilgerfahrten von Nord nach Süd und von Süd nach Nord, organisieren Spitalbesuche und unterstützen beim Briefverkehr sowie beim Überbringen von Geld. Um ein Gefühl der Sicherheit zu erzeugen, führen wir auch Polizeipatrouillen in der Pufferzone und den innerhalb liegenden Orten durch.

Das Gespräch mit den Menschen und der Polizei im Norden und Süden ist die wichtigste Aufgabe für uns. Wir versuchen unseren Beitrag zur Herstellung normaler Verhältnisse innerhalb der Pufferzone zu leisten.

Graham Taylor
Kommandant UNCIVPOL

Sinds Januari dit jaar is UNCIVPOL een volledig geïntegreerde civiele politiecomponent binnen UNFICYP. De eenheid telt 35 leden (20 van de Australische Federale Politie en 15 van de Ierse Nationale Politie). Deze agenten zijn op strategische punten langs de Buffer Zone en op het UNFICYP hoofdkwartier gestationeerd. Australische en Ierse politie werken zij aan zij, terwijl zij ale taken, die van een traditionele politiefunctionaris verwacht worden, uitvoeren.

Het is belangrijk dat de agenten hun integriteit behouden en dat zij onpartijdig zijn. Ze moeten in goede conditie zijn omdat ze vaak lange dagen onder extreme weersomstandigheden moeten werken.

Binnen UNFICYP werken we nauw samen met militairen en met de afdeling civil affairs. We doen ons best om hen te steunen in hun werk. Op hun beurt steunen zij ons. Een van ons werkt als liaison binnen de afdeling operaties, terwijl twee agenten binnen civil affairs werken. Tenslotte hebben we nog iemand die bij Ledra humanitaire zaken behartigt.

Als politie-agent treden we vaak op als eerste aanspreekpunt tussen de groepen mensen die in de Buffer Zone leven enerzijds en UNFICYP anderzijds. We behandelen allerlei zaken, soms materieel, soms immaterieel. Altijd houden we nauw contact met de politie zowel in het noorden als in het zuiden, evenals met de centrale autoriteiten, burgemeesters, districtskantoren en scholen.

Het is onze verantwoordelijkheid om ongeautoriseerde toegang tot de Buffer Zone tegen te gaan. We monitoren demonstraties, ontvangen petities en doen ons best om te voorkomen dat situaties uit de hand lopen door te onderhandelen en te bemiddelen. Ook voeren we onderzoeken uit, wanneer dat nodig is. In coordinatie met de civil affairs afdeling leggen we bezoeken aan gevangenen wanneer mensen uit het noorden in het zuiden gearresteerd zijn, of andersom. Tevens begeleiden we pilgerstochten naar beide zijden, begeleiden bezoeken aan ziekenhuizen en assisteren bij de overdracht van post en geld. We nemen ook een aantal patrouilles over de paden in de Buffer Zone en in de dorpen voor onze rekening, om zodoende een gevoel van veiligheid te creëren.

Een van de meest bevredigende aspecten van ons werk is het spreken met de mensen en de politie-agenten aan beide zijden en te ervaren dat we een bijdrage leveren aan het herstel van normale omstandigheden binnen de Buffer Zone.

Graham Taylor
Commandant UNCIVPOL

NEW No 2 AT UNCIVPOL

Chief Superintendent Michael Fitzgerald arrived in Cyprus two weeks ago, to take up a six-month assignment as Deputy Commander UNCIVPOL. At the end of the year, when the current Commander, Graham Taylor, returns to Australia, Michael will take over as the next police boss.

Before joining UNFICYP, Michael spent seven years in as Chief Superintendent and Divisional Commander supervising some 500 police personnel in Limerick, in the mid-west of Ireland. Limerick, which stands on the River Shannon, is one of the oldest cities in Ireland. Its police force is a busy one, dealing with 4,000 indictable crimes a year - "Murders, armed robberies, and a host of other things."

Michael has also worked in Dublin, Tipperary, and Cork. Keen travellers, he and his wife Margaret have visited "at least 16 countries" ranging in size from Liechtenstein to the USA. It's one of his

ambitions to go to Australia.

"I've been to a lot of places and done a lot of things, but something I really wanted to do was work for the United Nations," he says. "The UN makes a substantial contribution to world peace, and I wanted to be part of this."

He says he is impressed by what he has so far seen of UNFICYP. "What I like to see here is people working closely together. People are very disciplined. There are a lot of different nationalities and a lot of different backgrounds. And we all have high expectations of each other."

Margaret, who normally works as a nurse, is with him in Cyprus. His two sons are still in Ireland - one in his last year at university studying engineering, and the other in the police force. His family and his job are the two most important things in Michael's life. The third is sport. "I'm very keen on rugby and was a member of the two big Limerick



Michael Fitzgerald, the new face at UNCIVPOL clubs, Garryowen and Shannon. I also play golf - but I haven't had time to try out the UNPA course yet."

ON TOUR IN SECTOR 4



New arrivals overlooking Pyla square

On 8 June, COs of Sector 1 and 2, Commander UNCIVPOL, OC UNFLT and other senior UNFICYP personnel were invited to take part in a line tour in Sector 4. The aim was to familiarise the new arrivals in Sectors 1 and 2 with Sector 4's tasks, locations and special features.

CO Sector 4 welcomed his guests at Sector 4's most westerly permanently manned installation, OP 91. After an OP briefing, the whole party went on to Camp Berger, the command post of 1st Platoon / 1st Coy. Here, LtCol Plieschnegger gave a briefing covering the whole area of responsibility of the Austrian-Hungarian-Slovenian battalion. After looking into the area of Lymia and Louroujina from OP 96, the next station was Camp Izay, named after an Austrian officer who fell on 14 August 1974 together with two comrades as he tried to arrange a ceasefire near Goshi village.

Camp Izay, otherwise known as Little Budapest is the Coy HQ of 1st Coy and the HQ of 2nd Platoon. From Athienou, the next stop, the visitors were guided through the Buffer Zone to

Camp Pyla and Pyla village to hear about the only mixed village in Cyprus and about the tasks and challenges that can occur here.

The Corridor Road took the convoy to OP 142. Here, they were informed about the violent demonstrations which took place in this Dherinia area in August 1996, with two demonstrators being killed.

Everyone who comes to Sector 4 wants to see Varosha. Although access to this area, located at the outskirts of Famagusta, is restricted, it was possible on this occasion.

The status quo of Varosha (for which the UN holds the Government of Turkey responsible) and UN's tasks were the content of a briefing held on the roof of OP-152, a 12-floor former apartment house. After all the questions were answered, a little problem had to be solved: after 189 steps up to the roof, many visitors were too tired to walk down. The solution: descent by rope. A few, however, after having a look down to the ground, decided to do some more physical training and use the stairs.

SALLY IS NOT BORED

By Sally Kyriakides

When I came for my UNFICYP interview, back in 1969, they asked me what my most recent work experience had been.

"Working in an RAF Public Information Office," I said.

They didn't have a vacancy in such an office, they told me. So I said I didn't mind what I did, as long as it was nothing to do with money and figures.

But when I reported for work what did I discover? I'd been assigned to the finance section. I went home and told my husband "I'm only staying there till I find another job." I never did find another job. But then again, I didn't really look for one. It took me 26 years to escape from finance, however!

Five years later, on the morning of the second Turkish intervention, I brought my toddler son into work because our house was in a dangerous area. As I was there, I decided I might as well get on with some work, especially as only the Chief Finance Officer and myself had turned up. My son was a very active little boy, but I felt that as long as I kept an eye on the calculators and typewriters, we should be safe. Then, to my great alarm, it was decided that some cameramen from UNHQ, New York, should be based on our office. They left their extremely expensive camera equipment lying all over the place, and I spent most of my time running around after my son, keeping him away from the cameras. The only time I managed to get any work done was when he fell asleep.

While we were camping like this in the offices, our Force Commander often took an early morning walk-about to see how the women and children were

getting on. One morning I was making a pot of tea for the campers in Finance and threw yesterday's dregs out of the window, narrowly missing the Force Commander!

In time, of course, we got back to more normal working conditions, until, eventually, the computer age hit UNFICYP. The finance office got the first one, and I'm sure it was already obsolete when it arrived. It bore no resemblance to today's machines. We all had to share it. It had two alarming-looking red buttons, and the company who maintained it issued a dire warning not to touch them "unless you have to get out of the programme in an emergency". At the time, we had a very volatile Chief Finance Officer. One morning he kept coming into the computer room and asking if we had finished yet. Finally, he could wait no longer, and ordered us to get out so he could use the computer. So we started on the long routine that took us out of the programme. Mr Volatile couldn't wait for this and he pressed both red buttons. Sure enough, he got out of the programme. But it took weeks to repair the damage, and Mr Volatile never accepted that he had had anything to do with the damage.

Looking back over my 30 years of UNFICYP, there are so many more memories, the red chair that mysteriously went missing from the Force Commander's Office and the fire drill we missed because we thought they were just fumigating the store rooms. Some, like these, are amusing. Others are sad, colleagues who have left or died. And others were even quite frightening.

But one thing's certain. I couldn't describe my three decades here as boring.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

By Lieutenant Ferry van Rosendaal

I was trained to be an air defencer. My tools were high-tech, multi-million dollar Cheetahs. Their radars can observe an area with a radius of 15 kilometres, their weapons are feared by every sensible jet-pilot, their heaters make sure my personnel don't get frostbite inside.

So there I am, assigned to work with UNFICYP for a period of six months. My tools are my personnel and their negotiating skills. Through their binoculars, they observe an area with a radius of about one kilometre. Their weapons? I expect and hope they don't need to use them at all. And if so, only in case of self-defence. And the chances of getting frostbite are considered to be fairly low – especially at this time of year.

My very first impression of Cyprus – another Mediterranean holiday island – quickly faded when I entered the Buffer Zone. Observation posts on either side and in the middle, the Falcon troop house – my home, my castle, at least for the coming six months.

A quick supper followed by the first of many briefings. About my area of responsibility, about recent incidents, about particularities, about ... almost too much to remember. But soon I felt I was beginning to know and understand my new environment.

One of the particularities in the Falcon area is the



Visiting nightclubs and the bishopric, all in the line of duty!

Armenian cemetery. Every once in a while there will be a funeral, even though the premises is inside the Buffer Zone. To be introduced to the Armenian Bishop, a priest and the chairman of the church board, my predecessor took me to the bishopric. Prepared for an evening talking about religion, I was surprised by the topics raised: soccer, Feyenoord and beer. "You don't drink enough, Ferry," the priest told me. I suppose the church doesn't have a "two can rule" like ours.

Which brings me to the next surprise: a few days later I was ordered to visit a range of bars and nightclubs in downtown Nicosia. All in the line of duty, honestly! I was Regimental Orderly Officer for the night, checking that everyone was behaving themselves.

It promises to be an interesting tour.

ST. COLOMBA'S CHURCH

With summer upon us, the congregation of St. Colomba's Church in the UNPA has decided to move the time of the morning worship service to 0900 on Sunday mornings. Our primary concern for this change is the heat, and moving the Sunday service to 0900 will help a little, especially during the hotter months of July and August. We are also hopeful that this new time will possibly attract some new worshippers, who may feel encouraged to come along.

At the moment we are studying the Gospel of John in our service, and everyone is welcome to join with us. If you are interested in learning more about the Bible and its relevance for modern society, feel free to either join us or contact the Reverend PI McCormack, the Sector 2 Chaplain (home tel. 359108).



A warm welcome for everybody at Colomba's church

REAL LIFE

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO SERVE WITH UNFICYP?

By Lieutenant Sebastian Hitz

One obvious answer is hot. But there are other points worth mentioning. Spending day and night confined to an OP, forced to live with people you've



Soldiers are warmly welcomed

never met. It's a bit like suddenly finding yourself married to six complete strangers. Sharing everything, supporting one another in sickness and in health. No one at home told us it would be like this. Still, bonds quickly develop. You

have to rely on each other and the sooner you realise this the better. Personal weaknesses can't remain hidden for long.

This can be a good thing, in fact. Just think of the money you might otherwise spend on psycho

therapy. Here in Cyprus we get it free - from our colleagues. At home, in civilian life, people go home from work, keeping their own thoughts about what happened during the day secret. Next day, there may be residues of doubt or misunderstanding - things that never get cleared up. Here, you live with the problems 24 hours a day, seven days a week. And there's no keeping things quiet. Everything comes out in the open. And most things get sorted out.

So much for the inner life of the peacekeeper. Now for a look outwards.

This sort of job brings you into contact with people you barely knew existed, and with problems you'd never even dreamt of. Within weeks, they are part of your daily life.

Keeping in touch with the communities on both sides of the Buffer Zone - and inside it - is crucial. Many problems can be solved (and even prevented) over a cup of coffee with a town clerk.

I can't think of many places where uniformed soldiers walking through a village are so warmly welcomed. To be fair, we do make a real effort to be friendly, firm, and fair. Indeed, we are so impartial that when we run through the Buffer Zone and we need to clear our mouths, we make sure we do so in both directions so no one can get offended.

So what's it like working for UNFICYP? Unlike anything I'd ever expected. But extremely rewarding, all the same.

VISIT TO SECTOR 1

Sector 1 has recently said goodbye to Jeannette Everett, Senior Administrative Assistant to the UN in Argentina. Jeannette spent five days here, to update herself about what the soldiers do and how they live. This is important as it is her job to keep in touch with UN HQ in New York, and to advise on the rotation of UN missions, logistics issues, and airline charters.

She has been with the UN since 1970 and has visited a number of missions: she said it was

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five years since her last visit to Cyprus.

She confessed she always felt proud when a new Argentinian contingent left the country.

"This visit gives me a chance to see you all again and check that the Argentinian troops are working with care and dedication in this distant land," she said. "I hope I can see all of you when you come back to Argentina. Meanwhile, I wish you a quiet and successful mission in Cyprus."

A CASE OF BRIBERY?

A car approaches the Mobile Force Reserve soldier at Foxtrot Gate. The woman behind the wheel hands over her blue plastic card and awaits the soldier's reaction.

"Do you come here often," asks the lad.

"Yes, quite regularly," replies she, "My husband works here."

"O.K.," the soldier continues, "I will give you a temporary pass."

"But why," she asks. "Other times I am allowed straight in after showing my identity card."

"Well, madam," the soldier answers, "this is not your identity card, this is your credit card."

SEEK TO UNDERSTAND AND

By Captain Jeremy Mawdsley

Only a handful of people in the world can speak Anglo-NetherHungarian to colloquial standard. Even fewer can also speak Spanish. Unfortunately for the Mobile Force Reserve (MFR), there is currently no one with these talents serving at the UNPA. As a result, most MFR soldiers are now accomplished mime artists - although the MFR should never be described as a charade. All soldiers carry a notebook in case a quick sketch is required to put a point across. There are a few linguists among us, but generally speaking the common language is English. That said, it is good to see how everyone takes an active interest in learning the basics of each other's languages. Within two weeks of arriving, most MFR soldiers can pass the time of day in at least four of the five languages spoken by the different nations who contribute soldiers to the MFR.

The MFR is a company-sized group set aside for the Force Commander's personal direction and tasking. The platoons and sections of the MFR are structured by rank, not nationality. A typical platoon will consist of say seven British, nine Dutch, three Hungarian, three Austrian, and five Argentinian soldiers, all mixed within the sections. National differences are further subdivided into marine and army - which can create a healthy rivalry between different MFR members.

The major benefit of working in such a diverse community is that it gives us the chance to adopt "best practices". We all bring new and different ways of doing things. Not all styles suit all situations, but there are lots of ideas, taken from a pool of experiences from theatres all over the world.

Since the arrival of a new British contingent a few weeks ago, the MFR has had a new commanding officer, Major Tim Wood, plus a new injection of personnel from the UK. We have been working hard to integrate sub units, use a common language, employ a mixed structure, and take part in joint sporting activities.

The only aspect of MFR life that is not integrated is the

accommodation. It is vital for everyone to have the chance to relax together and talk freely - in their own languages. Nevertheless, a tour round the UNPA in the evening will reveal groups of mixed groups of soldiers, all chattering in a strange blend of dialects, hand signals, and languages. A visitor could be forgiven for not knowing where any of us originally came from.

The MFR is a stimulating environment to work in. It gives us the chance to understand different cultures, beliefs, working practices, and a complete range of personalities. We do have differences of opinion, but these should be respected. What should be emphasised is the effort we make to understand each other. The MFR is, in a sense, the UN in microcosm: a group of people from different countries working together to achieve one aim: peace.



Five nationalities on patrol in one Tactica

Tratar de entender y darse a entender

Solo unas cuantas personas en todo el mundo pueden hablar "Anglo-germano-húngaro" de forma coloquial. Más difícil todavía es hablar castellano. Desafortunadamente, para la Fuerza Móvil de Reserva (FMR), no hay nadie que cuente con estos talentos dentro de la "UNPA". Como resultado, muchos soldados de la FMR se han convertido en "mimos", aunque la FMR nunca debiera ser descrita como un "acertijo". Todos los soldados llevan consigo un cuaderno de notas en caso de tener que dibujar un "boceto" para darse a entender. Hay pocos de nosotros con características lingüísticas, pero generalmente hablando, el inglés es el idioma más común. Dicho esto, es bueno saber cómo cada quien toma un interés especial en aprender lo básico del idioma del otro compañero. Dos semanas después de haber llegado, la mayoría de los soldados de la FMR, pasan la mayor parte del día hablando o escuchando en por los menos cuatro de los cinco idiomas hablados por las diferentes naciones que contribuyen con soldados a la FMR.

La FMR es un destacamiento especial formado separadamente bajo el control directo del Comandante de la Fuerza. Los pelotones y secciones de la FMR están estructurados por rango y no por nacionalidad. Un típico pelotón de soldados, se compone de siete británicos, nueve holandeses, tres húngaros, tres austriacos y cinco argentinos, todos repartidos en las diferentes secciones. Diferencias dependiendo de la nacionalidad corresponden a la rama a la que pertenecen, entre la marina y el ejército, lo cual puede crear una rivalidad saludable entre los diferentes miembros de la FMR.

El mayor beneficio de trabajar en una comunidad tan diversa, es de que nos brinda la oportunidad

PEOPLE

THE LAST SERVING BRITISH NATIONAL SERVICEMAN

By Major Peter Boxell

Imagine the excitement around the regiment when it was known that we were to acquire our first military doctor for years. Then imagine our concern, when word leaked out that the person nominated was not a newly-qualified single woman, willing to soothe away war injuries gained whilst performing heroics on the rugby field. Instead, it would be a 61-year-old male Obstetrician and Gynaecologist!

We couldn't wait to meet this character who really should have known better than to volunteer to spend six months of his life working with the Welsh Gunners. However, we needn't have worried, as we were delighted to find out. Instead of being a lonely, old do-gooder he is instead that increasingly rare specimen of today a proud and loyal eccentric English gentleman.

For Lieutenant Colonel Anthony John Hamilton takes great delight in being the longest serving Officer in the British Army having notched up 45 years service (48 if you include his cadet force days at King's School, Canterbury). Unfortunately we will have to take his word for these claims, as there appears to be nobody serving within Sector 2 who has been alive long enough to fully substantiate his claim.

Colonel John began his distinguished career in 1955 as a



45 years of service

wireless fitter in the RAF while doing his National Service. From here, he progressed to the Army Emergency Reserve before joining the Honorable Artillery Company, which is a renowned Territorial Army unit. During 12 years service he refused to rise above the "giddy height" of Infanteer as he was "having too much fun with his mates". Additionally, he could not afford the demands of extra soldiering commitments as his medical career was beginning to flourish following his graduation from St George's Hospital, London. During this period of service he was awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal, which he modestly proclaims was awarded for 12 years undetected crime.

From there he became recognised for his undoubted medical talents and was given a commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps (Volunteers). Since 1973 he has risen to the rank of full Colonel (a rank he had to give up in order to serve past the age of 60) and has performed operational tours of duty in Northern Ireland and Bosnia.

He is dearly going to be one of the characters on this tour of duty being easily recognised from a distance by the glint of sunlight from the highly polished brasses of his 1937 pattern web belt. He can also boast that he has saved the tax payer money by driving his beloved Daimler car out from England.

Unfortunately, it is sad to report that he has already managed to have disciplinary action taken against him when he was caught looking inside the airport terminal building at the UNPA. Fortunately, the fact that he claimed he was looking for lost luggage from a previous tour of duty lead to a slightly lighter sentence. Of more concern to the CO, however, was the fact that he appeared to be leading younger soldiers astray. Rest assured that the 52-year-old Quartermaster has now been warned to pick his friends more carefully, otherwise his own career may suffer!

Sadly, it is thought unlikely that Colonel John will be receiving many correctly addressed invitations to functions whilst on the island, as he has a staggering 37 letters after his name. He has undoubtedly, become a popular member of the Welsh Gunners and obviously cares passionately about the welfare of the soldiers of this regiment. We are sure that his long-suffering wife Susan and his three children will be extremely proud of a man that is recognised as being the last serving British National Serviceman.

THE FLYING POLICEMAN



A "Cyprus Veteran" returned to the UNFICYP Force Military Police Unit on 23 March. Austrian WO2 Werner Lechner came back after two years of absence for another one-year tour, which will make up seven years in Cyprus with UNFICYP.

Lechner, (or Mac, as his friends call him) started with UNFICYP in 1983 as a Deputy OP Commander in what is now Sector 4. In 1989 he returned as an OP Commander and Deputy Platoon Leader in Sector 4 and joined the then Military Police Company in 1990.

In civilian life he is a Private Investigator, mainly for organised crime. He has been divorced for eleven years, and has two daughters (Adina, 14 and Patricia, 13) who live in Austria.

In his free time he buzzes over Cyprus in various aircraft and the flying hours are building up as he makes for his Professional Pilot's Licence.

So watch out: new trials and speed traps from the air may be a regular feature of the FMPU.

THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD

Megérteni másokat és megértetni magunkat!

Nagyon kevés olyan ember él a földön aki társalgási szinten beszéli az angolmagyarosztrákholland nyelvet. Közülük is csak kevesen beszélnek még spanyolul is. Az MFR lenyűgöző sajnálatára az UNPA-n jelenleg senki sincs e képesség birtokában. Ennek eredményeként a legtöbb MFR katona mostanra kész pantomím muvész - bár az MFR-t nem nevezném színháznak. minden katona jegyzetfüzetet tart magánál arra az esetre, ha szükség lenne néhány leírt szóra a gyorsab megértés érdekében. Kevés a nyelvész közöttünk, de általában mindenki beszéli a közös nyelv alapjait.



MFR-soldier safeguarding the UNPA at Foxtrot gate

Es emellett nagyon jó látni ahogyan mindenki próbálja elsajátítani a többiek nyelvénél alapvető kifelyezéseit. Két héttel a megérkezés után a legtöbb katona már ért néhány szót mind az öt, MFR-t alkotó, nemzet nyelvéről. Az MFR egy századnyi eter készít a Force Commander közvetlen parancsnoki és ellenorzé alatt. A rajokat és szakaszokat nem nemzetiségi, hanem rendfokozat szerint építették fel. Egy tipikus szakasz 9 holland, 7 angol, 3-3 magyar-osztrák és 5 argentín katonából áll. A szakaszt alkotó rajok ugyanilyen vegyes felépítésük. A nemzeti hovatartozáson belül a katonák megeszlanak a szerint is, hogy hazájuk mely "erejét" képviselik; a Légi Erol, a Szárazföldi Erol, vagy a Tengerészeti. Ez a megesztsésgével verseny-szellemet képes generálni az MFR katonák között.

A nemzetközi munka legnagyobb előnye, hogy lehetőséget ad a "legjobb megoldás" kipróbálására. Mindnyájan valami újat, valami másat teszünk hozzá a közös munkavégzéshez. Nincs olyan stílus amely minden helyzetben megfelelő, de rengeteg ötletünk van amiket a föld minden tájáról összehozott tapasztalatok táplálnak.

Az új brit kontingens megérkezésével az MFR is új parancsnokot kapott Tim Wood ornagy személyében, valamint friss katonákat az Egyesült Királyságból. Kéményen dolgozunk, hogy összekovácsoljuk alegységeinket, gyakoroljuk a közös nyelvet, muködtetjük ezt a vegyes csapatot és sprtrendezvényeket szervezünk.

Az MFR egyetlen része van amely nem menetközi: a katonák körletei.

Mindenki számára egyértelmu, hogy meg kell adni a katonáknak a lehetőséget, hogy társaival együtt szabadon beszélgetve pihenhessenek.

Bár egy esti sétán az UNPA-n több csoport vegyes nemzetiségi katonát látni aik különös akcentussal, vagy mutogatással értik meg egymást.

Az MFR-ban dolgozni nagyon inspiráló feladat. Lehetőséget ad hogy megismérjük egymás kultúráját, szokásait, munka módszereit. Véleményeink nem minden egyeznek, de ezt tiszteletben kell tartani. Az MFR az ENSZ kicsinyített mása: Különböző nemzetiségi emberek egy csoportja aik egyetlen cél elérésén fáradoznak és ez a Béke.

de adoptar "prácticas mejores". Todos aportamos modos diferentes y novedosos para hacer cosas. No todas estas modalidades satisfacen las necesidades, pero hay una gran número de ideas tomadas de las experiencias de los diferentes escenarios de todas partes del mundo.

Desde la llegada del nuevo contingente británico, hace varias semanas ya, la FMR ahora cuenta con un nuevo Comandante, el Mayor Tim Wood, como parte de la nueva rotación del Reino Unido. Hemos estado trabajando arduamente para integrar a las unidades, usando un idioma común, empleando una estructura mixta y conjuntamente, tomando parte en actividades deportivas.

El único aspecto de la vida en la FMR, que no está integrado, es el alojamiento. Es vital para todo mundo el tener la oportunidad de estar juntos para relajarse y poder hablar libremente en su propio idioma. Sin embargo, hacer un recorrido por la UNPA durante las horas de descanso, muestra diversos grupos de soldados socializando, todos charlando entre ellos en sus dialectos, ademanes y otras formas de lenguaje. No es de extraar, que a un visitante se le perdone, el no saber de dónde cada uno de nosotros proviene originalmente.

La FMR tiene un ambiente de trabajo muy estimulante. Nos brinda la oportunidad de entender diferentes culturas, creencias, prácticas de trabajo, y una gama completa de personalidades. Por supuesto, que tenemos diferencia de opiniones, pero estas se respetan. De lo que si se debe hacer énfasis, es del esfuerzo que hacemos para darnos a entender el uno al otro. La FMR de alguna manera es un microcosmo de naciones unidas, un grupo de gente de diferentes países trabajando juntos para alcanzar un objetivo, la paz.

NEWS

NEW SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

On 30 June, the UN Security Council unanimously agreed two resolutions on Cyprus. Resolution 1250 requests the Secretary-General to invite the leaders of the two sides to negotiations in the autumn of 1999. It calls upon the leaders to commit themselves to four principles: no preconditions; all issues on the table; commitment in good faith to continue to negotiate until a settlement is reached; and full consideration of relevant UN resolutions and treaties.

Resolution 1251 renews the UNFICYP mandate for another six months, expressing "grave concern at the increasing practice by both sides of engaging in provocative behaviour along the ceasefire lines" and calling on the Secretary-General and his Special Representative to continue to "work intensively with the two sides with a view to early agreement on further specific tension-reducing steps". The Council reiterates its "grave concern at the continuing excessive levels of military forces and armaments in the Republic of Cyprus and the rate at which they are being expanded, upgraded and modernised" and calls upon all concerned to commit to a reduction in defence spending and in the number of foreign troops on the island.

The resolution also reaffirms that a Cyprus settlement "must be based on a State of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded and comprising two politically equal communities ... in a bi-communal and bizonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or in part with any other country or any form of partition or secession".

HUNGARIAN VISITORS



Zsolt Lanyi meets and greets his fellow countrymen

By Captain Attila Rábai

Június 10.-én 9 magyar parlamenti képviselő látogatta meg az Osztrák-Magyár-Szlovén szektor első századát. Saját szemükkel akarták látni, hogyan élnek és dolgoznak a magyar katonák Cipruson.

A bizottságot Lányi Zsolt, a magyar parlament honvédelmi bizottságának elnöke vezette. Kíséretében volt Fodor Lajos, a miniszterium védelem-politikáért felelős helyettes államtitkára, valamint Györössy Ferenc dandártábornok, a Szárazföldi Vezérkar képviselőjeként.

On 10 June, nine senators from the Hungarian Parliament visited the 1st Coy / UNAHSB, to see for themselves how Hungarian soldiers live and work in Cyprus.

Zsolt Lanyi, chairman of the Defence Committee in the Hungarian parliament, lead the group, while Deputy State Secretary for Defence Policy Lajos Fodor and Brigadier General Ferenc Györössy accompanied him.

SECTOR 2 ROCKS TO THE 1999 CSE ENTERTAINMENT SHOW

By Captain Vicki Walker

Take one comedian, two bands and three dancing girls; add 200 eager listeners, a kicking sound system and a dash of sultry night atmosphere and you have it: the 1999 Combined Services Entertainment show brought to our very own Ledra Palace.

The set-up was simple: a stage on the car park and plastic chairs arranged in rows, but the atmosphere was great and all thoughts of patrolling were banished to the back of soldiers' minds as Jim Tavaré took the stage. Everyone was fair game for the comedian, although as they say, some are fairer game than others. On this occasion, UNCIVPOL and the RSM of Sector 2 were singled out for special treatment. Said Sgt Vreede, from 13 (NL) Bty: "English humour is different to the Dutch, it is much drier, but we still found him very funny, especially the jokes about the police."

Licence to Thrill sent temperatures rising with their dance routines. The opening song, "Look At Me" got the audience doing just that whilst their interpretation of the Britney Spears song, "Baby, One More Time" sent soldiers rushing to pack their satchels and dig out their old school ties in the vague hope that they might be rewarded with a little detention! The finale was a cool, calm and collected gangster number to leave fans in a hot sweat. It all proved a little too much for Bdr Jason Fletcher whose chair collapsed underneath him, though he insists the girls on stage were not the cause.

The support band was a local group from RAF Akrotiri called Short Straw who covered songs by The Clash and The Buzzcocks. It's easy to dismiss home-grown bands as amateurs but these guys could really play. Sector 2 has already got "Rocket" Ronnton, of R&R Cell fame, on the case: "The RAF guys were the business, they should sign a contract."

The legendary Stranglers first started in 1976. It was great to see them still going strong, (despite having changed the original line-up slightly) and still appealing to all ages - both the people who remembered them the first time round, and those who are new to their music. The new singer powered his way through the old classics as well as the later chart hits, as LPH reverberated to the beat of the drums and 400 dancing feet. Cpl Nathan Wallace won't forget the band in a hurry: "They were very good, but I wasn't expecting chairs to be put to one side and everyone to get up and dance. I don't think I'll wear flip-flops next time, my feet got quite bruised." Mrs Susie Coats, wife of COS UNFICYP first saw the Stranglers live in 1979 when they were an up-and-coming band supporting The Who in concert at Wembley Stadium, London. Of this latest performance: "It was brilliant - thoroughly enjoyable. And the new singer was fantastic."

An evening like this doesn't just happen. A lot of work went on behind the scenes. WO2 (RQMS) Calpin headed up a team of ten Sector 2 soldiers, getting the area ready for the big event. Six hours of humping, dumping and sorting out generators took place before the CSE crews arrived, producing yet more equipment to fit into place. An hour later and the scene was set for the night's entertainment.

CO Sector 2, Lt Col Huw Lawford also took part in the festivities. "It was a thoroughly good evening that managed to entertain all ranks, nationalities and ages," he said. "The CSE shows are always very well received and looked forward to. This was no exception. My only regret is that due to the operational nature of our role, only about 25% of the sector was able to see it, although I can report that at least another 50% heard it."



No more heroes any more

STUDENTS VISIT KOKKINA

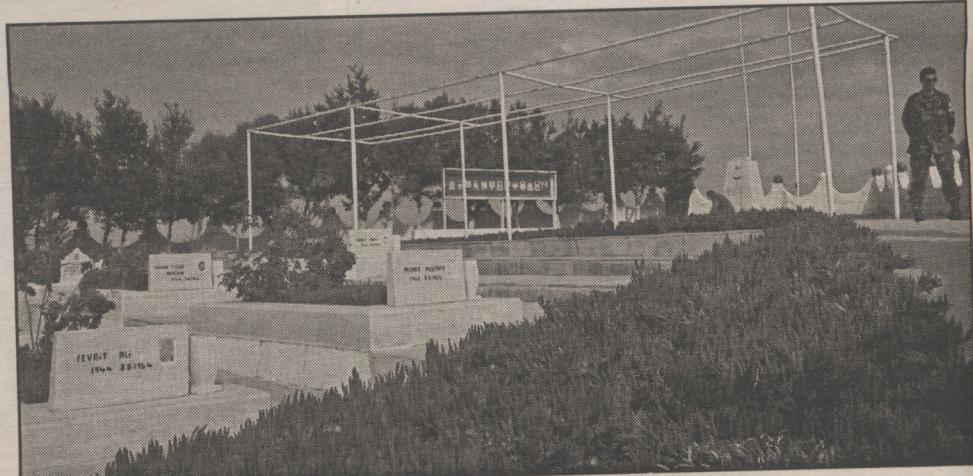
By Corporal Major Mark Kingston

On 26 June, two buses carrying 42 students from Famagusta University crossed the Buffer Zone at Kato Pyrgos to visit Kokkina - an area of special significance for the Turkish Cypriot population.

The students were escorted by members of the UNFICYP Headquarters Civil Affairs Branch, UNCIVPOL, and Sector 1. As the

buses passed through the village of Kato Pyrgos, local Greek Cypriots lined the roads and waved. Touched by this warm welcome, the students waved back.

Once at Kokkina, the students took part in a short service and wreath-laying ceremony at the Students' Memorial. They then attended a barbecue and football match, laid on by the resident military personnel.



The students cemetery in the Kokkina pocket

CLASSIFIED

ITEMS FOR SALE

CARS FOR SALE

Mitsubishi Galant Super Saloon, 1985, 1600cc, p/s, a/c. £700. Call (02) 592467 or (02) 864555. **Mitsubishi Lancer GLX**, df, a/c, p/s, r/c, 70,000km. £1,600.00 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.

Toyota Corolla 1.3XL, 1995, green met., 53,000 km, a/c. £1,900 d/f. Call Thomas Isenring (02) 344333 or 374144

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

Game Boy Color, 6 different games £75. 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.

2 Diving suits. Men size M and woman size M. £50 each. Call Thomas Isenring: (02) 344333 or 374144.

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

Household Items. TV+VCR, £150; fridge-freezer, £90; washing machine, £75; drinks trolley, £25; plus other items. All as new, prices negotiable. Tel: (02) 356758.

Intel Pentium 200 MMX computer, 32 MB RAM, 3.2 GB hard drive, 24 sp CD ROM, speakers, monitor, colour printer, Windows 95. £450 OVNO. Computer Table £15. Contact WO2 Barry Green on ext 4510 or (02) 359001.

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

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.

DISCO FOR HIRE

The UNPA WOs' & Sgts' Mess (The Vic Club) has upgraded its disco equipment to a high standard. This is available for hire for functions etc. The cost of hire is now £50.00 per event. Two DJs are also available and separate arrangements should be made with either DJ regarding fees. Bookings for the disco should be made through the PMC, WO2 Miller on (02) 359760 ext 126 (W) at least seven days in advance.

HAVING A PARTY?

The Youth Club is now available for hire. Many facilities including new disco equipment and lights, barbecue and plenty of space! Contact Pam on (02) 359112 for more details.

PROPERTY TO LET

Fully furnished house in the mountain village of Troodos to let for periods from Monday to Thursday or Friday to Sunday. All conveniences, house sleeps five persons. £50 per period. Tel: (02) 422516.

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

Three 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, living and dining room, large kitchen. 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. £300 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. Big 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. Contact (02)771039 or call opposite the premises for Mrs Alexia Hadjigeorghiou. Flat in Lycavitos. Third-floor, 3 bedrooms, storeroom, covered parking, c/h, provision for a/c. Let furnished or unfurnished. Rent £400 (negotiable). Tel: Yannos (02) 344461/09-693993 or Yanna (02) 864524.

Second-floor apartment in Romanos Street (Hilton area) for rent. 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.

SERVICES

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.

Opening Hours:

1000-1300 and 1700-1900 hrs Mon - Fri.

All nationalities are welcome. 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.

YMCA NEWSFLASH!! The staff of the YMCA are just "abuzz" with ideas to improve our service to you. Visit Jackie, Carol and Ann at the canteen and sample our great sandwiches, English breakfasts, tea or coffee. We make a mean milkshake, and yes, Rose will be baking again. Need a card or a gift wrap for a special occasion coming up? How about stamps, stationery, etc? Call into the YMCA.

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 Geraldine Kendrick.

All nationalities are welcome!

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

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

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 Vyzantou Street, Ayios Dhometios, Nicosia (close to UNPA, near Astra garage). Tel: (02) 773206.

TEDDY TOTS PLAYGROUP, UNPA

Children from the UN and international community are most welcome. Ages: Two to rising five. Excellent facilities, air-conditioned, follows English pre-school curriculum. Small numbers in class. For further information Tel: (02) 359655 (school) or 359225 (home).

"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 Padré's Office (LPH) tel: 864760/1, Ext 301.

Britcon Chaplain: Padré Philip McCormack.

Dutch Chaplain, Padré Frank Duyvenvoorde.

DOLPHIN SWIMMING POOL COMPETITION NIGHT

On Tuesday 13 July 1999 there will be UNFICYP swimming championships, children's swimming races, fun races and pool side entertainment with bar, bbq and disco.

All members of the UN, the diplomatic community, the swimming pool and their friends are welcome.

Non pass holders to be accompanied or booked in at Foxtrot gate.

Over 25 mega raffle prizes. All proceeds to childrens charities

LARNACA RUN

On Saturday 10 July at 7.30 p.m. at the Larnaca town hall, a six kilometre run will start.

Participation is free, Competitors will receive a T-shirt and a diploma at the finish.

More information available at (04)653 995 (02) 333 462 (02) 356 552 (09) 411 411

WANTED NEW YOUTH LEADER.

DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME ON YOUR HANDS? WOULD LIKE TO PUT YOUR ENERGY INTO A MUCH NEEDED FACILITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, AGED 8 - 16 YEARS?

THEN THIS COULD BE THE POST FOR YOU. FREE YOUTH WORK TRAINING IS PROVIDED.

PHONE PAM FOR MORE DETAILS ON (02) 359112

SEE CYPRUS FROM ABOVE

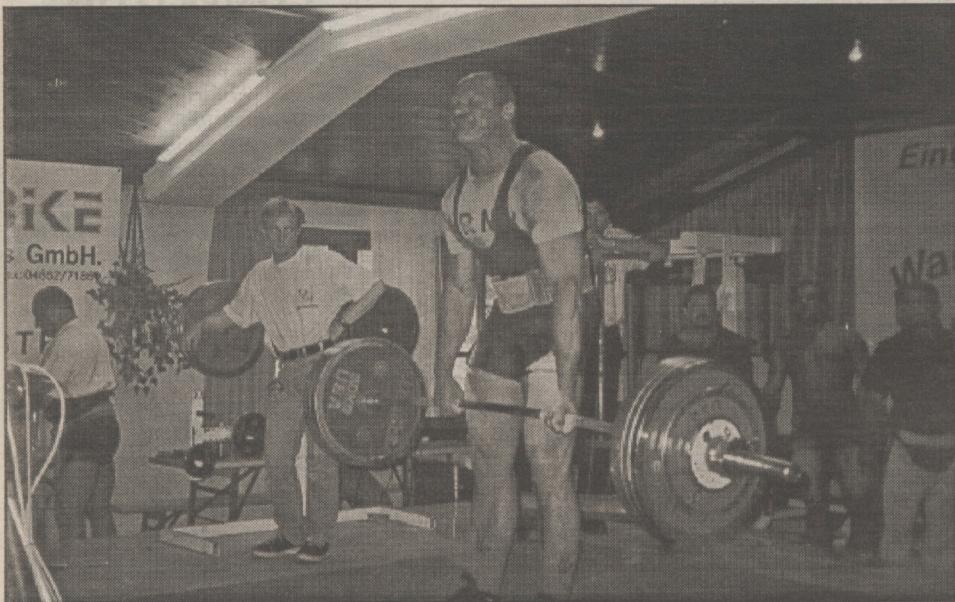
Sightseeing flights over Cyprus available. Experienced pilot. 4-seat, high winged aircraft gives excellent view. Great fun. An experience not to be missed. For more info, call (02) 864669. Ask for Mr. Lechner

THE NICOSIA DOG SHELTER

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BLUE BERET SPORTS SECTION

STRONGEST AUSTRIAN



A heavy piece of cake

On 19 June, WO2 Christian Chmela won the Austrian powerlifting championships in his weight class, 100 - 110 kg.

Christian improved his personal best by lifting 230 kg in squad and

260 kg in deadlift and by benchpressing 122.5 kg.

This result secures his participation in the World Championships which will be held in Canada in November. Keep training!

WELSH GUNNERS RUGBY

By Major Miles Brown

The Welsh Gunners took to the rugby field against Dhekelia Lions on Wednesday 30 June. It was the regiment's first game since arriving in Cyprus a month ago, and the Welsh were keen to try out their skills in the island's hard, hot conditions - a far cry from wet and windy Lincolnshire! Despite leaving a number of experienced players in Britain, the regiment was able to put out a young team, eager to prove themselves against an acclimatised and determined opposition. They were rewarded with a

creditable 48-0 victory, although the score did not reflect the Lions' pressure and missed opportunities. There were strong performances throughout the Welsh Gunners' team, particularly from Corporal Richie Yeomans in the centre and Lieutenant David Blackburn at fullback. The Welsh even had some luck: Captain Rhys-Evans scoring from a fortunate ricochet off an opposing player. All in all an encouraging start, but much work still to do on the training ground!

LYNCH UNBEATABLE

By Lt Andrés Pereira

Mechalis Menelaou was a young man from Lythrodhondas who devoted his life to helping people fight drug addiction and to carrying out other good works. Tragically, on 11 February this year, he was killed in a car accident near his home.

On 18 June, to celebrate Mechal's memory, 141 runners gathered in Mathiatis, the village where he died. Their task: to run the 4,300 metres to his home village of Lythrodhondas.

The first runner to cross the finish

line was UNCIVPOL's super-charged Sgt Con Lynch, who covered the distance in 14'10".

Meanwhile, most of Sector 1's 16 entrants came within the first 50. Soldier Alberto Leiva came second in the 20-29 age-group, and Soldier Alejandro de Leon was the second fastest woman under 34.

At the prizegiving session, Sector 1 was presented with a memento to record its participation in the race, and was warmly invited to come back again next year.



Runners taking off in commemoration of Mechal's Menelaou

TOO BUSY LOOKING GOOD

By Staff Sergeant Dave Picken

Back in April, 20 Commando Battery RA and 13 Brigpaluabt Battery NL started training for their new role as the UNFICYP Mobile Force Reserve. Along with training for duties such as guards, patrols, fire picket and QRF that everyone knows can be quite mundane, an additional task jumped out: "Pool Life Guard". Eight soldiers dived at the chance of becoming trained as lifeguards and gave up their precious time off to undertake the pool lifeguard training course before they deployed.

kids and grown-ups playing about in the water for six hours at a time and make sure no one drowns.

It's now a month into the tour and another 12 soldiers of the MFR have thrown themselves forward to volunteer for lifeguard training and pool duty. Sue Norton of Dhekelia garrison is the island's chief Royal Life Saving Society examiner and will be conducting all training for the soldiers in the MFR. They will undergo 33 hours of intensive training



MFR personnel guard the lives of swimming dependants and off-duty soldiers

Baywatch star David Hasselhoff look-alikes immediately took up their work during off-duty hours as lifeguards down at the poolside in the UNPA. The impression given to any onlookers or visiting personnel would be that it's a doddle of a time with tanned soldiers posing around and who are just "too busy looking good". Bdr Tez Morris, when asked if he enjoys doing the lifeguard duty described it as "a change from the norm" but anyone who thinks it's easy should attempt the course first. First vacuum the pool for three hours daily, clean all areas, empty the bins, check water temperature and chlorine levels. Then try child minding over a hundred

over five days. The course runs concurrent with all normal MFR duties and the soldiers happily give much of their hard-earned time off to get the qualification. The course consists of one Hungarian, three Austrians, three British and five Dutch giving the MFR a total of 20 fully trained lifeguards.

It should be noted that the 50-metre Dolphin Pool was built by the British Army back in 1957, and the costs of maintaining it are largely borne by the British. All UN personnel have the right to use the pool in their free time, on payment of a fee, which helps pay for its upkeep.

PARTNERSHIP UNITED NATIONS AND FIFA

On Friday 18 June Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the President of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), Joseph Blatter, announced during a joint press conference that FIFA has agreed to fly the United Nations flag at all World Cup games, beginning with the FIFA Women's World Cup series. The next day, Kofi Annan officially opened the FIFA Women's World Cup at the Giants Stadium in New Jersey. These games are being held in the United States ending 10 July. Both organisations also announced a series of joint activities to publicise United Nations activities throughout the world. The joint programmes will promote the themes of tolerance, health, development and social integration. They will address topics such as gender equality and efforts against racism; physical fitness and campaigns against smoking and drug abuse; children rights, education, social opportunity and the plight of children in armed conflict.