

THE BLUE BERET

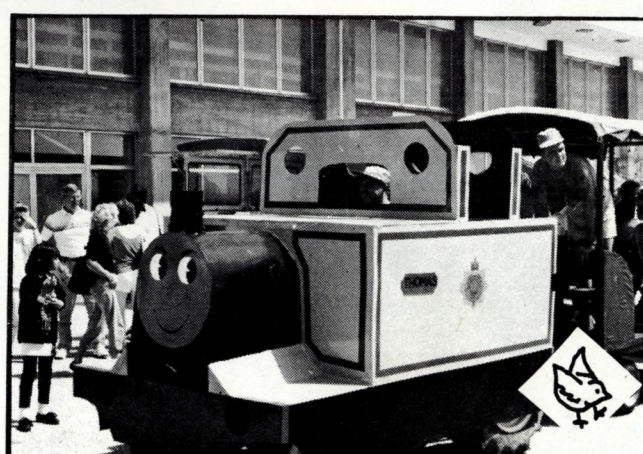
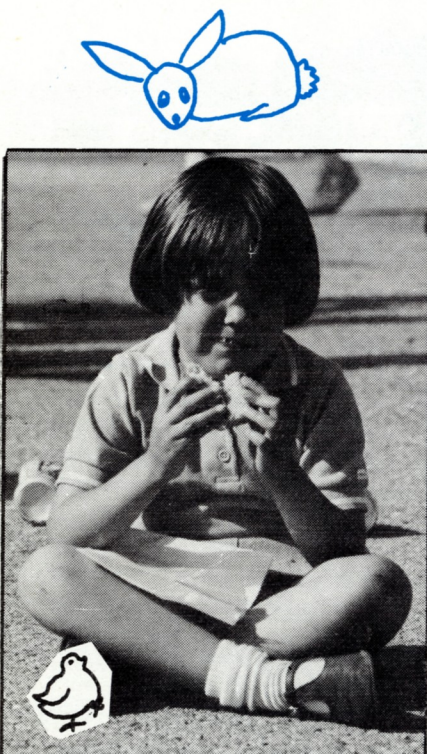


APRIL 88





Spring Fair



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Editorial Staff

Editor

Commandant P.J. Nash

Editorial Assistant

Mrs Angela Smith

Secretary

Mrs Karen Morgan

Photography

Staff Photographer-SSgt Angus Beaton

Contingent Photographers

Unit Press Officers

Sector 1	Major I Jorgensen
Sector 2	2Lt P T Vaughan
Sector 3	Lt M M Kenneally
Sector 4	Capt H Plesnitzer
SWEDCON	Ch Insp D Furst
Sp Regt	Major N Oxley
FSC Sqn	Capt C Ley
MP Coy	CWO R Diotte
UNCIVPOL	Ch Insp E Edvinsson

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

ONE OF THE UN FLIGHT
ALOUETTE HELICOPTERS



THE BLUE BERET

Editorial

As was published in last months Blue Beret the editorship has changed with effect from the April issue. May I, as the new editor thank Major Graeme Ratcliffe for the work that he carried out during his short term 'in the chair'. The editor and staff are dependant upon all members of UNFICYP for material, so may I once again appeal to you to continue to provide articles and photographs, therefore making the magazine truly representative of the force as a whole.

This month's edition features the Spring Fair held on the 9th April which everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy.

On the 6th May there will be a concert at the Salamis amphitheatre by the Band of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment an event I'm sure will be well worth attending.

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VISIT OF THE BAND OF THE LIFE GUARDS



April heralded a visit from The Band of The Life Guards. The Band alternately based in Windsor and London were taking a short break from its busy calendar of ceremonial duties in order to play at the BRITCON medal parade. The Life Guards Director of Music Major J G McColl was keen to play for all of the United Nations Contingents and to that end several Marching Displays took place.

Sat 9 April	United Nations Spring Fair
Mon 11 April	Skouriotissa (DANCON)
Tue 12 April	Ledra Palace (CANCON)
Fri 15 April	Beat Retreat (UNPA)
Sat 16 April	Salamis or Camp Duke
	Leopold (AUSCON)
Wed 20 April	BBC Officers' Mess Concert



Much to our chargin there were not enough cavalry blacks to be found on the island, therefore, the Band were not mounted. Household Cavalry chargers are by tradition jet black to strike fear into the heart of the enemy. Although it is usually the unfortunate riding the black who is petrified, wondering what his unpredictable beast is going to do next. The Band, however, were just as spectacular on foot.

SUPPORT REGIMENT OPEN DUTY FREE SHOP

At the entrance to Jubilee Camp The President of the Regimental Institute (PRI) Support Regiment have recently opened a shop. The shop will sell soldiers essentials as well as Regimental memorabilia. The shop is open to all UNFICYP soldiers and families.



THE 1988 DANCON MARCH



The DANCON MARCH is an event which takes place twice a year. This sports event, which is by far the largest within UNFICYP, has been conducted, by all Danish Contingents since 1972.

Originally the routes were along the coast in the Danish Sector to Kokina Point and back again. This was then changed to the mountainous area of Skouriotissa Camp. The total distance to be walked is 50km over 2 days (25km each day). The two routes take the marchers through some spectacular landscape besides a climb from 400 metres to 1300 metres. Resting points are established, approximately 5km apart, where it is possible for the marchers to get refreshments.

The first march in 1988 took



place over the weekends 12-13 and 19-20 March about 550 participants from all contingents took part in both marches and more than 95% successfully completed each of the two days

within the limit of 7 hours each day.

THEY SURVIVED THE
DANCON MARCH!

THE SUN HAS NOT GOT HIS HAT ON

I knew that there was something missing - a seed of doubt in the back of my mind. Last weekend, (Saturday at 0933 to be precise), I suddenly realised what it was; the realisation was prompted by the fact I was three quarters of the way up Mount Olympus with ten kilogrammes of kit on my back,

doing the DANCON March in a snow storm. That elusive factor was the sun. I looked around in panic. It was no where to be seen.

I can usually comfort myself on exercise with the thought that a great many people pay on awful lot of money to go camping, but this was different; not many



people I know pay six pounds to go fell walking with twenty-two pounds of gravel on their backs, even if spring is in the air.

I remember from a sailing course I did a few years ago that one of the best sources of information about weather patterns would be a local, so I went to see Chris.

Whoever claimed that regular visits to a barber were as good as sessions with a psychiatrist clearly did not get his haircut in PWC.

"Do not worry" said Chris "the summer she starts in two days".

That was two weeks ago and I am still waiting. I also want to know what Chris's forecast was based on, but the doctor told me to be careful until the stitches have been taken out!





KING'S OWN BORDER NEWS



UN ORIENTEERING COMPETITION

This month the UN Orienteering Competition took place on a very warm and sunny day, on the UNPA playing fields. The Drums from the King's Own Border turned out and a display of weapons, and equipment was layed on by RSM Prince. In fact, the whole event had the atmosphere of a village fete, with the local school children running riot amongst the exhibits, and could well have been in the sunny Surrey countryside, as opposed to the Buffer Zone. A fairly convincing result for Sector 2, as the places show:

Individual Winners, Class 1 (Under 35)

Winner - Capt Griffin, 1 Kings Own Border
Second - WO2 Downie, Sp Regt
Third - Sgt Graham, 1 Kings Own Border



Veterans Class (Over 35)

Winner - WO2 Doinier, Sp Regt
Second - WO1 (RSM) Hood, Sp Regt
Third - WO2 Lodge, FSC Sqn

Team (Best Four to Count)

Winners - 1 King's Own Border
Second - Sp Regt
Third - Sector 1

BRIGADIER FREEMANTLE VISITS THE BATTALION

The Commander of 19 Infantry Brigade, of which The King's Own Border are a part, paid a visit to Sector 2. Here he toured the line and met a good number of officers and soldiers, including a number of familiar faces. Pictured here at B40, he talks to LCpl Mahon whilst Pte Tyson and Major Mawdsley look on. They are members of Chindit Company, who are at present Eastern Company (commanded by Major Mawdsley) in Sector 2.



Interesting to note that Brigadier Freemantle, whilst commanding 1st Bn The Royal Hampshire Regiment in Northern Ireland last year he worked with Chindit Company in February and April in South Armagh.



The roof at B28 did a fairly good impression of a sardine tin during the recent storms. It peeled back completely on one side and had to be patched up by 9 Sqn Royal Engineers. Interestingly enough there is a photograph of 9 Sqn in the Club House at Xeros Golf Club taken in 1968. Presently they are at the Box Factory.

King's Own Border are the Near East Forces Skiing Champions for 1988.



The full team (not available for the UN Skiing Competition) led by Lt Gardner put up an excellent performance to win the team event. Here Lt Gardner brushes past a slalom pole.



KING'S OWN BORDER HONOUR ITS DEPARTED

Before Somme Company of The King's Own Royal Border Regiment left B18 for Dhekelia, they held a parade and service in the British Military Cemetary.

Contained in Wayne's Keep are the last resting places of seven men of The Kings Own Royal Regiment who were killed in action over the period 1942 to 1943.



LCpl Craven plays the Last Post.



Lt Norton prepares flowers to place on the grave of Alfred Stewart Hallan, laid to rest in the British Military Cemetary in Nicosia. Somme Company have been instrumental in tracking down the grave for Hallan's sister, Miss Thelma Hallan who searched for it for many years. Hallan was a British businessman in Nicosia and was the first British casualty of the Eoka Campaign on 15th November 1956.



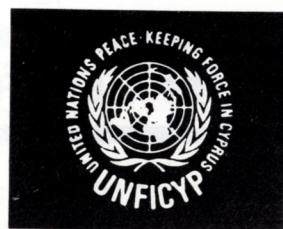
The service was conducted by Padre Cook with the Commanding Officer, Lt Col J R Westlake MBE in attendance. Wreaths were laid at the grave of each man and the Last Post was sounded by LCpl Craven of the Drums Platoon. A period of silence was observed during which the men of the company reflected upon the fact that soldiers from the Regiment lay so close to operational locations.

DRUMS PLATOON WAR ROLE

The Drums Platoon up at St David's Camp recently put down their drums and flutes and broke out some serious military hardware, namely their sustained fire GPMG'S, for that is their role in war-time. The medium machine guns are an essential part of the Battalion's arsenal in time of war, forming the backbone of the fire base in attack and interlocking fields of cross fire across the whole Battalion in defence. The weapon registers onto a series of targets, which are recorded and hence can be engaged accurately at night or in poor visibility.

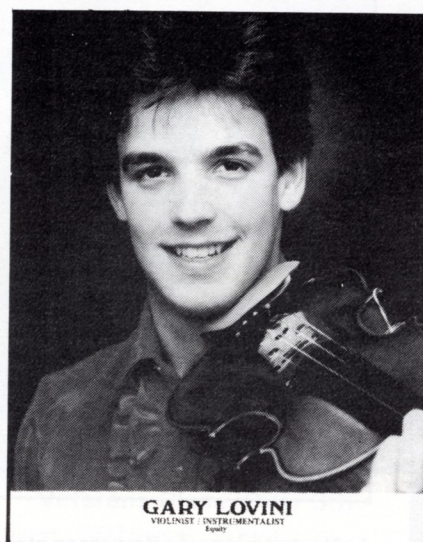
Exactly twelve months ago the Platoon were deployed operationally in this role in South Armagh on the Northern Irish border. A somewhat different situation to the one they are in now.





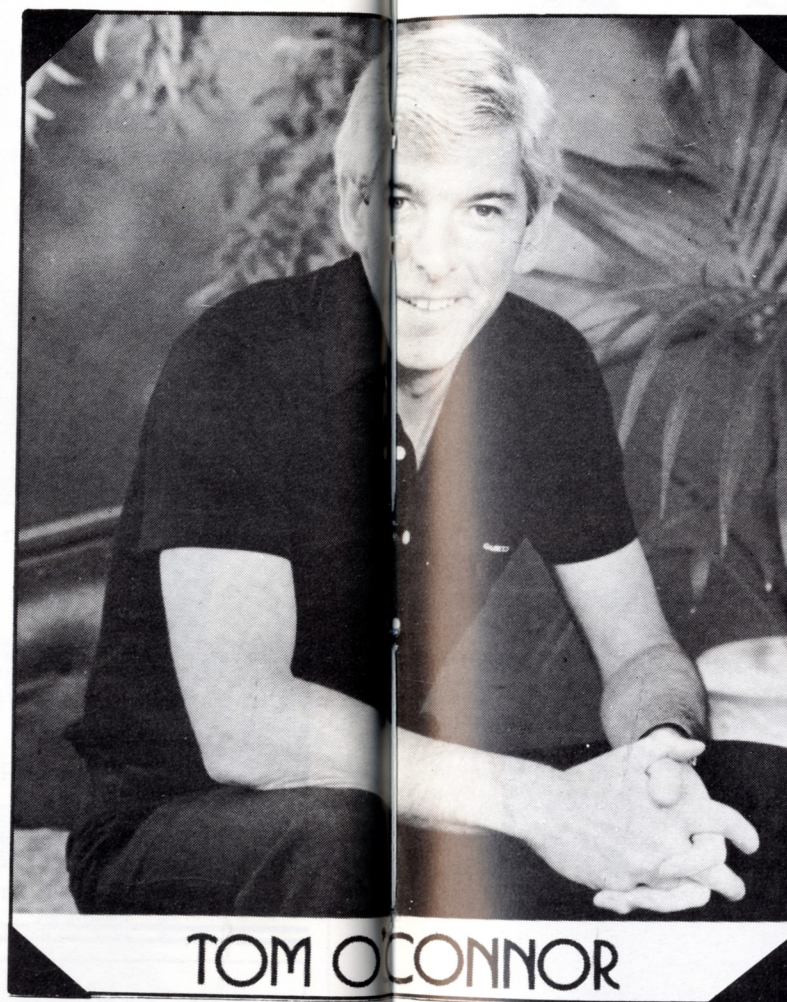
COMBINED SERVICES ENTERTAINMENT

THE TOM O'CONNOR SHOW 4 MARCH 1988



GARY LOVINI
VIOLINIST / INSTRUMENTALIST

The British Contingent sponsored this variety show brought to Cyprus by Tom O'Connor. The highlights of the first half were the SPATZ dancing troupe five lovely ladies who sang high and kicked even higher. The brilliant young violinist Garry Lovini had all of us on the edge of our seats-especially the ladies in the audience! After a short refreshment break, Ward Allen the ventriloquist and Karen Noble a vocalist really



TOM O'CONNOR

WIVES CLUB

SPONSORED FASHION SHOW

On 16th March the HQ UNFICYP Wives Club sponsored a fashion show on behalf of various boutiques in Nicosia. It had been hoped that some evening dresses and swim wear could have been shown but in the event the models were only able to show some summer outfits.

Photos show various models displaying clothes.

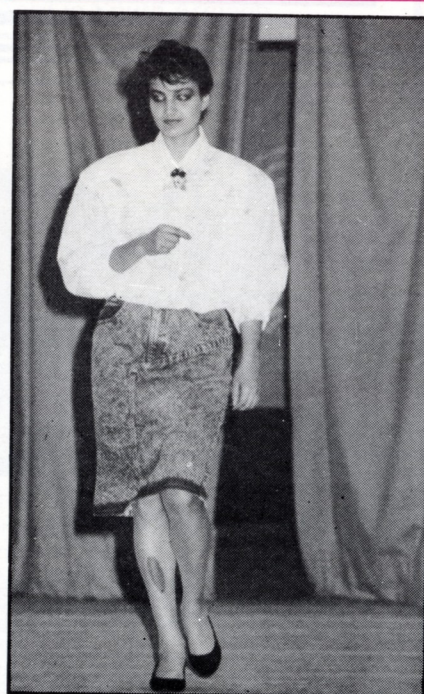


WARD ALLEN
(AND FRIENDS)



Karen Noble INTERNATIONAL CABARET ARTIST

turned on the heat. Altogether 500 members enjoyed a fabulous show, clapping and cheering in appreciation (and trying to keep warm!) As a comic Tom O'Connor proved his value by keeping us in fits of laughter with 30 minutes of continuous jokes and funny stories. From us all 'Well done Tom'.





UN MP MEDAL PARADE



The UN MP Medal Parade took place on 26th February 1988. Congratulations to the 36 members who received medals.

The Force Commander awarding medals to members of the UN MP Coy.



Sgt J Blom - Sweden



MCpl J McNutt - Canada



Cpl K. Postin - Great Britain



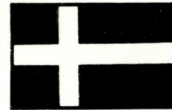
Sgt S.B Petersen - Denmark



Sgt T. Boyle - Ireland



REMAINING SWEDES IN UNFICYP



Are there any remaining Swedes in UNFICYP?

Yes Sir!

Since the withdrawal of the Swedish Battalion in October 1987 there are still some Swedes on duty within UNFICYP.

Lt Col Borggren is the present Comd of the Swedish Contingent and Senior Humanitarian Officer, Supt K G Andersson is the DComd

of UNCIVPOL and is responsible for the Eastern Police Division of UNCIVPOL Sector 4.

There are 15 Swedish police officers in the newly formed UNCIVPOL (United Nations Civilian Police), of these 15, 6 are stationed in Larnaca at Camp Flamingo, 5 men at Pyla and 4 men at the UN Headquarters in Nicosia.

The Swedish police officers form the Eastern Police Division and serve the Sector in different tasks and investigations of intercommunal matters.

There are also 6 Swedish Military Police Officers stationed in different camps all over the island and 5 Swedish officers in various posts within the UN HQ.

by Ch Insp D Furst



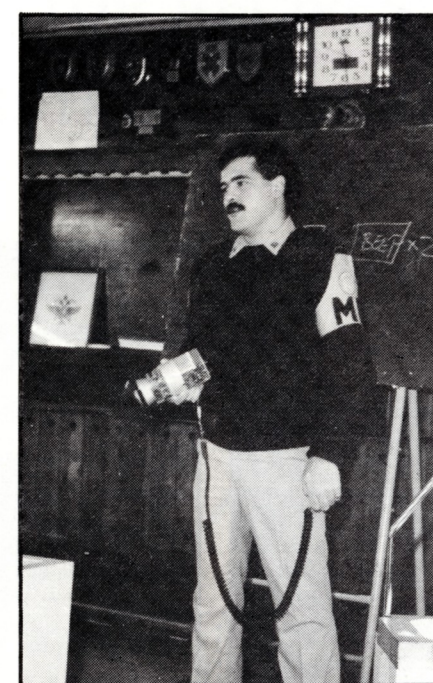
THE RADAR



Did you know that about 80% of all fatalities, major property damage and motor vehicle accidents, can be attributed to excessive speed? What's excessive speed? Well I guess that question could be open to conjecture. However, as far as the police and transport safety personnel are concerned, "Excessive Speed", is driving too fast for road or traffic conditions and/or the flagrant disregard for posted legal speed limits.

Military Police can't really deal with people who drive too fast for road or traffic conditions until after they have had the motor vehicle accident they are looking for. However, we can encourage people, who persistently drive in excess of the posted speed limit, to slow down.

To combat these careless and sometimes criminally dangerous drivers, the UN MP Coy, with the full support and authorization of



Practical Training.

the Force Commander, use the Muni Quip T3 Stationary Radar Gun. This extremely accurate piece of equipment is capable of

assessing the actual land speed of a vehicle to within plus or minus one half kilometer per hour.

Although the manual operation of the radar gun may appear very simple on the surface, all UN MP undergo comprehensive theoretical and practical training prior to operating the instrument in the line of duty.

The UN MP policy for dealing with speeding offenders is fair and firm. Offenders exceeding the legal speed limit by 5-10 mph for the first time receive a warning. The second time they are apprehended and any time they exceed the speed limit by more than 10mph a mandatory report is submitted by the MP investigating.

UN MP have jurisdiction over UN personnel Island wide, so be warned, day or night, the road has eyes.



UNFICYP FUEL ECONOMY — NEW CLOCKWORK CARS

Is this some kind
of a wind-up?

says W02 Böhm



3 PPCLI

CELEBRATE REGIMENTAL DAY



On 17th March 88, the Third Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (3 PPCLI), celebrated its Regimental Day in fine style, playing sports and participating with equal vigour in

his remarks, one minute of silence was observed and the Last Post was sounded to mourn the loss of Cpl John Sharp, of Recce Platoon, who died recently.

As the last echoes of the bugle

between the Senior NCO's and the Officers, the old adage that treachery and old age will triumph over youth and skill held true as the Senior NCO's won 1-0.

Following the sports events,



the opening of the Junior Ranks Mess.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A W Anderson, addressed the men on the Ledra Sports Field. Following

died away, the sporting events began. The softball matches were won by Adm Coy - who proved to be the winning team when they won the Tug-of-War as well! In the traditional game of Broomiloo



the attention turned to the Junior Ranks Mess where the band 'Bone Idle' demonstrated that practice pays off as they rocked the house down. A BBQ and the Senior NCO's at home to the Officers ended an enjoyable day for all ranks of 3 PPCLI.

THE FORCE RESERVE



The Force Reserve, the Force Commander's multi national Quick Reaction Force (QRF), was deployed recently on 1st March 88 and is usually exercised monthly.

Consisting of the Scout Car Squadron and elements from each of the other contingents, the Force Reserve can be used by HQ UNFICYP as a way of showing the UNFICYP's resolve in dealing with problems in the Buffer Zone.

Being equipped with Scout Cars, Grisslys and Land Rovers it is a very mobile and flexible force, able to deploy anywhere in the Buffer Zone within four hours, responding to a wide range of situations.



The deployment on 1st March was one of the regular exercises designed to test call-out procedures and speed of reaction. Communication is an aspect that needs special attention, and is central to the command and communicate with Sector HQs and the Force Reserve throughout the Buffer Zone, all we have to do is talk the same language, and that's what practice and exercises are all about.

This particular exercise tested the coordination of DANCON, UNCIVPOL and the Force Reserve in dealing with an incursion into the Buffer Zone. Many lessons were learned, and progress will be tested on the next exercise.

INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK

TOP RECIPES
OF
AUSTRIAN COOKING

By: Capt H. PLESNITZER

GOULASCH-SOUP

For 4 Persons

(recipe by WO2 L. HOFINGER)

INGREDIENTS:

250 g beef in small cubes
(approx 1 cm) not too meager,
not too fat
150 g potatoes in small cubes
(approx 1 cm)
250 g finely chopped onions
100 g finely chopped bacon
2-3 fresh, finely chopped
paprika

Salt, pepper, marjoram, garlic,
bay-leaves, cumin (pulverized),
lemon-peel, worcestershire
sauce, pulverized paprika
(genuine sweet), vinegar, edible
oil, pepperoni (hot).

PREPARATION:

Fry the chopped onions in hot edible oil till goldbrown. Add the cubed beef and let it fry together until most of the gravy has evaporated.

Add a few dashes of vinegar (cautiously) and fill up the pot with water until the beef is well covered. Use beef stock instead of water if available.

Add the spices to your taste (use pulverized paprika aplenty) and drop in the potatoes when the beef is half-rare.

Meanwhile fry the bacon separately and add it together



SACHERTORTE

(SACHER CAKE)

(recipe by MCpl J. BERSTLING)

INGREDIENTS:

6 eggs
160 g soft butter
175 g chocolate
Apricot jam
160 g sugar
160 g flour (sifted)
1 packet (2 teaspoonfuls) vanilla
sugar (sifted)
Chocolate icing

PREPARATION:

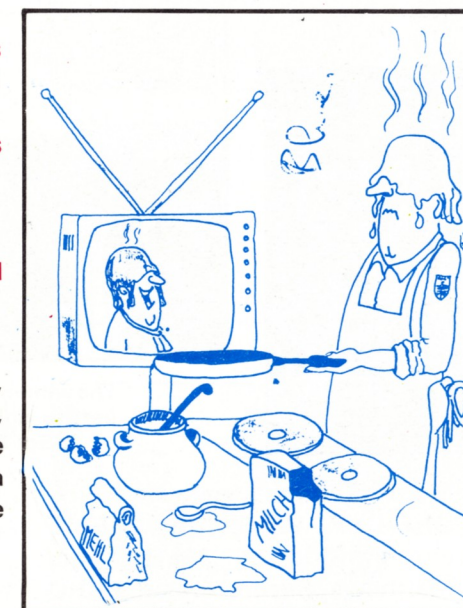
Beat the soft butter with half the sugar, the warmed chocolate and the egg yolks until fluffy. Whip the egg whites with the remaining sugar until stiff, add to the mixture. Carefully stir in the flour and vanilla sugar.

Pour into cake tin and bake for an hour in a moderate oven. When cool cut in half, spread with apricot jam and sandwich together again. Also coat the sides and top with apricot jam, then cover thickly with chocolate icing.

ICING:

Warm 100 g chocolate carefully (not too hot). Heat 200 g sugar with water until it becomes syrupy.

Mix the lukewarm sugar with the softened chocolate and beat until smooth.



with the chopped fresh paprika and pepperoni a few minutes before serving. If necessary thicken the goulasch-soup with a spoonful of flour and season for the last time with wit and taste.

Note that only the cook is entitled to taste the goulasch-soup during the cooking-procedures, otherwise... (it might be superstition, but who dares?)



SUPPORT REGIMENT NEWS



CYPRUS MAJOR UNITS FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 19 MARCH 1988

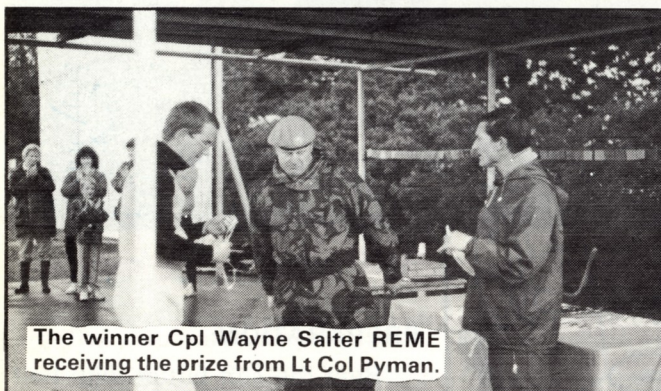
The British Contingent have been invited to take part in the Cyprus Major Units Football Championships. In the first leg of the first round the team beat the 1st Bn Coldstream Guards 4 nil and in the second leg, played at the UNPA, the team managed to stay ahead and convincingly won by 5 goals to 2 on aggregate.



WINNING TEAM - BRITCON 5
COLDSTREAM GUARDS 2

Photo shows the winning team. Kneeling on the left is the team Captain and Manager WO1 Dave Dent RE. Standing on the left is WO2 Butch Maycock R Signals who is Coach. In the last few minutes LCpl Earl Scott RAOC had the bad misfortune to break a leg. Luckily medical assistance was quickly at hand.

ORIENTEERING



The winner Cpl Wayne Salter REME receiving the prize from Lt Col Pyman.

On 8th March Support Regiment held an orienteering competition to select their best runners for the UNFICYP competition on 22nd

March. The race was won by the UNFICYP Workshops REME commanded by Major Tom Matthews. Second was the RHQ

team and third was a team from Ordnance Detachment and Flight.



The winning team from the Workshops (left to right) Cpl Salter, Cpl Nelson, SSgt Bittles and Sgt Gibbon.

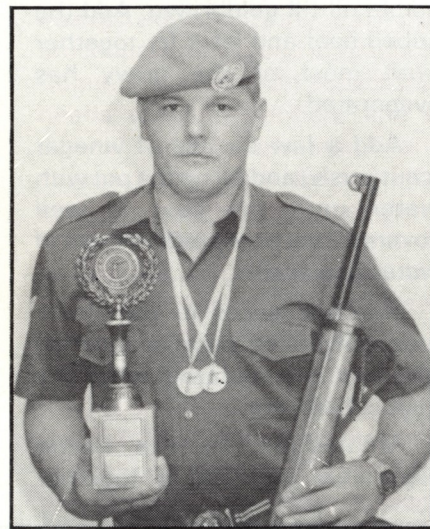
SUPPORT REGIMENT 22 SHOOTING COMPETITION



RSM Robin Hood checking the scores.

On the 14th March the 6 sub-units entered a 4 man team into the Regimental Small Bore Rifle Shooting Competition. The winning team was B Troop commanded by Lt Dixon. The team consisting of SSgt Burrows, LCpl Duckworth, Driver Carol and LCpl Bolam scored 715 points out of a maximum of 800. The top best shots were:

1st LCpl Bolam RCT 189 out of 200
2nd Cpl Bowyer REME 186 " " 200
3rd Major Matthews REME 186 " " 200



The winner LCpl Bolam



UNFICYP SQUASH

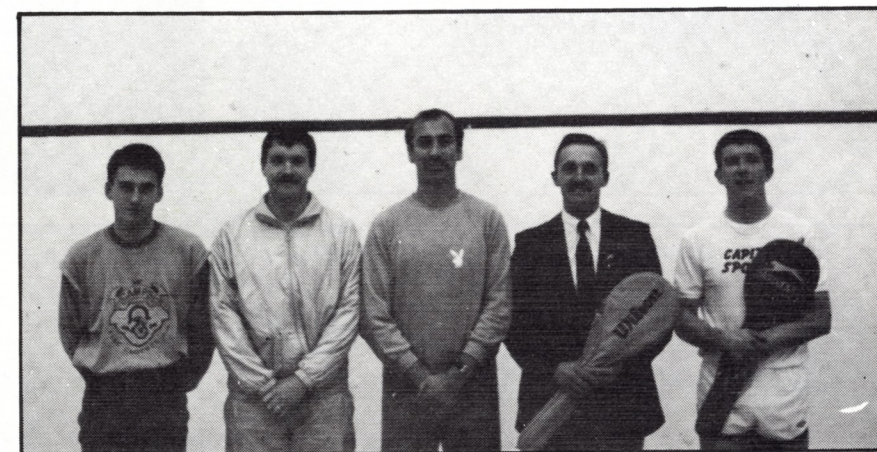
PLAYERS ARE ISLAND CHAMPIONS



As the squash season draws to a close National teams prepare for the European Squash Championships in Amsterdam. On 20 March at LAPATA Sports Centre the best players in Cyprus were invited to a final Competition sponsored by FRINICS INDUSTRIES. Four teams played in the first round:

Cyprus National Team beat Cyprus Expatriots 3 matches to 2
The Nickshots beat The Akrotiri Trojans 5 nil

In the finals the Nickshots beat the Cyprus National Team 5 matches to nil without losing a game. All players are to be congratulated on an outstanding performance.



Right to Left:

First String SSgt John Baldock RE
Second String Sgt Barry Hawksford APTC
Third String Mr John Warren PSA
Fourth String SSgt Ian Sharpe RAOC
Fifth String Tpr Adrian Leeson Life Guards



THE UN TAKE TO THE GREEN

Earlier this month the Kings Own Border took on a combined UN team at Xeros in a golf match. Fortunately the sun remained out long enough for a round in the morning and one in the afternoon. A hard fought competition resulted in a narrow victory for the UN team. Numerous prizes were distributed and beer and sandwiches consumed at lunchtime. All in all quite a jolly day for all concerned.

The competitors outside the clubhouse at Xeros.



NICOSIA SELECT
HOCKEY TEAM -
19th MARCH 1988

WO2 Hammet, Royal Signals, was asked at short notice to raise a hockey team from Nicosia to give the touring RAF team a match on 19th March. In a close game the Nicosia Select Hockey Team (consisting of civilians and servicemen) beat the RAF 1 goal to nil.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY...



CELEBRATIONS

