

# THE BLUE BERET

THE NEWSPAPER FOR CIVILIAN, MILITARY  
AND POLICE PERSONNEL WITHIN UNFICYP



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## TOO MANY CROSS MARITIME SECURITY LINE

The Austrian peacekeepers on duty at Observation Post 146 concentrate mainly on watching the Maritime Security Line (MSL) to the east. Through their binoculars, they make sure everything that happens at sea is observed. Not even a snorkeler can swim past unnoticed!

This MSL was established by the United Nations: it marks the mid-point between two ceasefire lines of the Buffer Zone and extends seaward for 3,000 metres. Approximately 700 metres north of the MSL, there are four buoys in the sea, placed there by the north and marking the seaward extension of the Turkish Forces ceasefire line. The authorities in the south do not have an equivalent line, as they do not recognise any division of the sea.

By crossing these lines, captains of boats from the south run risks. These include having their vessels stopped, seized and confiscated and having their passengers detained.



UN OP 146 - 24 hours a day,  
365 days of the year

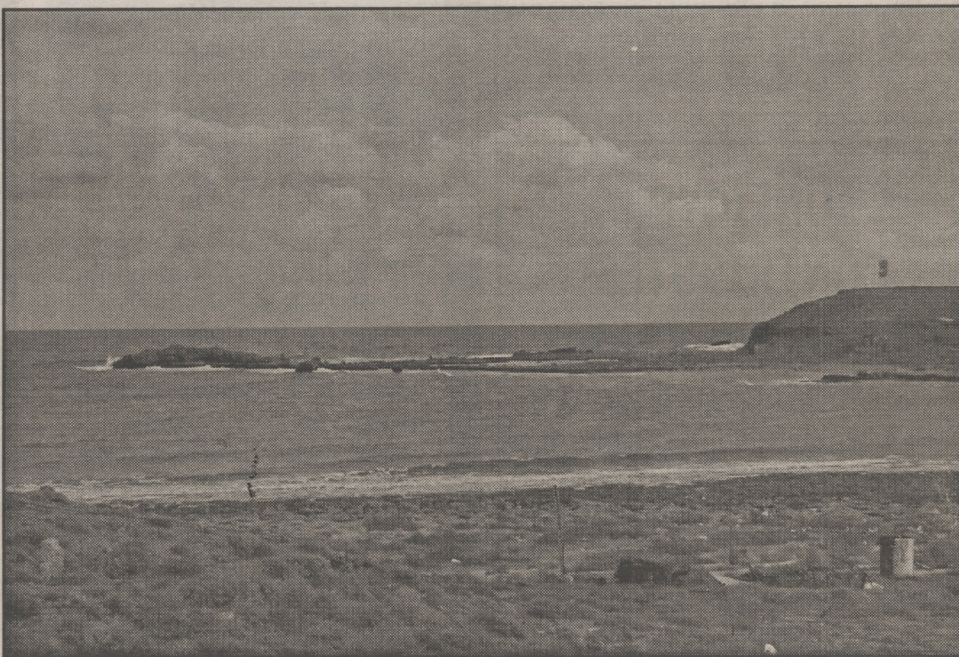
Patrol boats from the north have also fired warning shots when vessels pass the Turkish ceasefire line buoys. "It is clear that whenever a vessel from the south crosses the line, or whenever there is a response to that from the north, tension is raised," says OP Commander Staff Sergeant Klaus Hinke. "Of course, UNFICYP reports all violations when they happen."

Is this often?

"Oh yes, especially in the summer. We report every crossing and other incidents through the chain of command to the Joint Operations Centre of UNFICYP at the UNPA in Nicosia. There they keep the records and follow the trends. Compared to the same period last year, there is a significant increase."

"That's right," confirms Chief Operations Officer Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Platzer. "We have compared the most recent six-week period in 1999 to the same period in 1998. This period last year, 141 fishing boats and 165 tourist boats crossed the MSL; many of them also crossed the opposing force's ceasefire lines past the orange buoys. The same period this year shows a large increase: 306 fishing boats and 714 tourist boats. Statistically, this means there is an increased risk. In late August last year, a fishing boat was fired upon by a Turkish Forces patrol boat, and in early June this year, the same happened to a pleasure boat. Both incidents, like all violations, were, of course, vigorously protested by UNFICYP, but the fact is that if boats from the south go over the line, they put themselves at risk."

"UNFICYP is naturally very concerned about this recent development," says Chief of Mission, Dame Ann Hercus. "That is why we thought it was important to inform the Minister of Tourism and the Minister of Justice about the signi-



OP 146 - where tension often arises

ficant increase in crossings of the MSL. Earlier this year, UNFICYP took the step of improving the markings of the MSL; there is now a danger marker on the coast line with "DANGER, KEEP CLEAR" and warning flags on the cliff top. However, regrettably, these signs are being ignored. Also, tourist boats cross the line when it is obvious that they can clearly see Famagusta and Varosha without doing so. So why take the risk?"

And what will happen next?

"In part, that is up to the Ministers," said Dame Ann. "I know that both understand the seriousness of the statistics and appreciate the practical nature of my calling on them. I also hope that this recent publicity will ensure that fishermen and tourist boat owners know about the risks taken when these lines are crossed. UNFICYP is doing everything it can within its own capabilities to warn as well as continue to protest violations when they happen."



Clearly visible markers at the MSL  
Danger - stay clear

INSIDE: BB TIPS - PEOPLE - REAL LIFE - CLASSIFIED - SPORT



## THE BLUE BERET

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## UNFICYP CONTRIBUTES TO KOSOVO EFFORT

UNFICYP, like so many other UN  
peacekeeping and humanitarian  
missions, has recently been asked  
to contribute personnel to the  
Kosovo programme.

Senior Adviser Peter Schmitz  
is currently working short-term at  
UN Headquarters in New York,  
and Kjeld Nielsen and Keith Cole,  
both part of the advance party, are  
UNFICYP's first members who  
have been called upon to join  
UNMIK, the United Nations  
Mission in Kosovo.

## EDITORIAL

The 20th century started in the  
Balkans, and it is ending in the  
Balkans. The Balkans has been  
a notable area for centuries.  
When the Roman Empire was  
divided, the division went  
through the Balkans. The  
Great War started in the  
Balkans. Throughout the  
world's history, the region has  
become a hinge between  
different cultures.

This is why problems in the  
Balkans are referred to as  
ethnic problems. The word  
"ethnic" does not refer to  
races. Although belonging to  
the same race, human groups  
can be deeply divided by cul-  
ture, a very particular way of  
identity, a characteristic spirit  
or attitude of every commu-  
nity. In the Balkans, people  
belong to the same race, but  
they are divided by culture.  
Culture in the end means  
values.

The only way to fight is to  
consider culture as a collective  
and ancestral instinct for sur-  
vival. History has taught us that  
people who lose their culture,  
lose their values. We can see  
examples in America, where  
the Indians lost their own  
values. Conquerors imposed  
their own culture on them,  
and the great Maya and Inca  
cultures vanished in the  
centuries.

The real mystery about the  
human race is why human  
beings fight. Physically the  
weakest being in creation, a  
human is nevertheless the only  
being who kills for pure  
hatred. In any conflict, the  
world is shocked by the human  
suffering that surrounds a war.  
In ethnic confrontation, the  
only respected rule is to  
survive in whatever way you  
can. Let us praise those who  
are dedicating their lives to  
ease human suffering in the  
Balkans.

**Maj Gen EA de Vergara**  
Force Commander

El Siglo XX comenzó en los  
Balcanes, y está terminando en  
los Balcanes. Esta región ha sido  
bien conocida en el mundo en  
los últimos siglos. Cuando el  
Imperio Romano se dividió, la  
división pasó por los Balcanes.  
La Gran Guerra comenzó en los  
Balcanes. A través de la historia  
del mundo, esta región particular  
se transformó en la bisagra entre  
diferentes culturas.

Es por eso es que los problemas  
en los Balcanes se refieren como  
problemas étnicos. Cuando se  
habla de etnias no nos referimos  
a razas. Aunque pertenezcan a la  
misma raza, los grupos humanos  
pueden estar profundamente  
divididos por la cultura, una  
forma particular de identidad, un  
espíritu característico o actitud  
propia de cada comunidad. En  
los Balcanes, la gente pertenece  
a la misma raza, pero están  
divididos por la cultura. Después  
de todo, cultura significa valores.

La única manera de entender la  
ferocidad de la lucha étnica es el  
considerar la cultura como un  
instinto ancestral y colectivo por  
sobrevivir. La historia nos enseña  
que los pueblos que pierden su  
identidad, pierden sus valores.  
Podemos ver ejemplos en  
America, en el cual las culturas  
indias perdieron sus propios  
valores. Los conquistadores les  
impusieron su cultura, y las  
grandes culturas Mayas e Incas  
desaparecieron en los siglos.

El real misterio humano: los  
seres humanos son los protagon-  
istas. Aunque físicamente el  
hombre es el ser más débil de la  
creación, el ser humano es, no  
obstante, el único ser que mata  
por odio. En las guerras, el  
mundo se espanta con el sufri-  
miento humano que las rodea.  
En las guerras étnicas, la única  
regla que se respeta es la de la  
supervivencia, a costa de  
cualquier método.

Alabemos a aquellos que están  
dedicando sus vidas a aliviar el  
sufrimiento en los Balcanes.

**Maj Gen EA de Vergara**  
Force Commander

De 20e eeuw eindigt waar zij  
begonnen is: op de Balkan.

Bij de deling van het Romeinse  
Rijk liep de scheiding dwars  
over de Balkan; Het begin van  
de Eerste Wereldoorlog: op de  
Balkan. Al enige eeuwen is de  
Balkan over de hele wereld  
bekend.

Door de geschiedenis heen is  
dat gebied een scharnierpunt  
tussen verschillende culturen  
geworden.

Daarom worden problemen op  
de Balkan als ethnische pro-  
blemen gezien. Het woord  
'ethnisch' heeft geen betrekking  
op rassen. Hoewel ze tot het-  
zelfde ras behoren kunnen  
groepen mensen ernstig ver-  
deeld raken door cultuur, een  
heel eigen identiteit of een heel  
specifiek gedrag of karakter.

De mensen op de Balkan beho-  
ren tot hetzelfde ras, maar zijn  
verdeeld door cultuur. En uit-  
eindelijk komt cultuur overeen  
met waarden.

Alleen als cultuur gezien wordt  
als een collectief oerinstinct om  
te overleven, gaat men het  
gevecht aan.

De geschiedenis heeft ons ge-  
leerd dat mensen die hun cultuur  
verliezen ook hun waarden ver-  
liezen.

We kennen voorbeelden uit  
America waar de Indianen hun  
waarden verloren. Overheersers  
legden hen hun cultuur op. Ook  
de grote Maya- en Incaculturen  
verdwenen op deze manier.

Het is een groot mysterie  
waarom het menselijk ras vecht.  
Hoewel zij fysiek de zwakkeren  
in de keten zijn, zijn mensen de  
enige wezens die kunnen doden  
uit pure haat. Elk conflict weer  
wordt de wereld geschokt door  
het menselijk lijden dat een  
oorlog met zich brengt.

Overleven, ongeacht hoe, is de  
enige gerespecteerde regel in  
welk ethnisch conflict dan ook.

Laten we hen, die hun leven  
widen aan het verzachten van  
het menselijk lijden op de  
Balkan, prijzen.

**Maj Gen EA de Vergara**  
Force Commander

## BB TIPS: UNFICYP'S PHRASE BOOK: PART II

### ENGLISH

1. How are you?
2. I am very well.
3. What is your name?
4. My name is .....
5. Can I have the menu please?
6. Could I have some water please.
7. A taxi, please.
8. It is hot today.
9. What is the time?
10. How much does this cost?

### DUTCH

1. Hoe gaat het?
2. Met mij gaat het goed.
3. Hoe heet je?
4. Mijn naam is .....
5. Mag ik de menukaart?
6. Heeft u een glas water voor mij?
7. Een taxi, alstublieft.
8. Het is heet vandaag.
9. Hoe laat is het?
10. Hoeveel kost dat?

### GERMAN

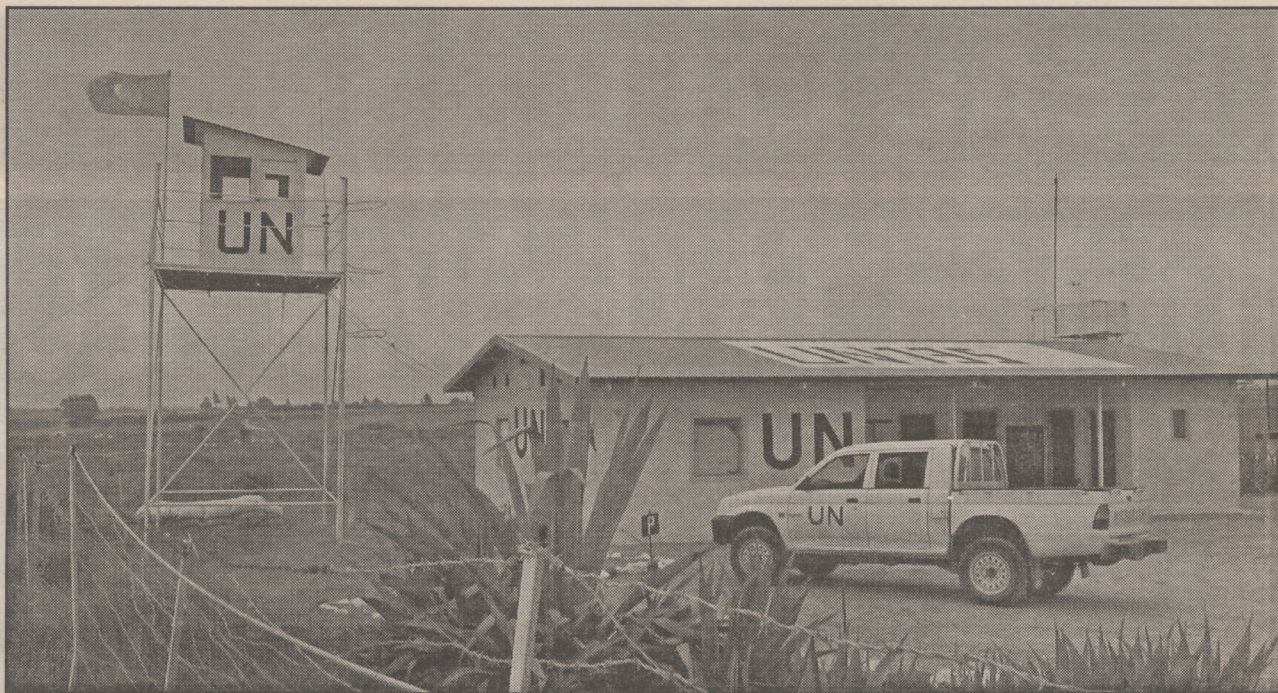
1. Wie geht es Ihnen?
2. Es geht mir sehr gut.
3. Wie heißen Sie?
4. Ich heiße .....
5. Darf ich bitte die Speisekarte haben?
6. Könnte ich bitte etwas Wasser bekommen?
7. Bitte ein Taxi.
8. Heute ist es heiß.
9. Wie spät ist es?
10. Wieviel kostet das?

### GREEK

1. Pos isé?
2. Ime polí kalá.
3. Pose se lené?
4. Me lené .....
5. Boró na do ton katálogo ton fayitón?
6. Boró na ékho lígo neró parakaló?
7. Ena taxí parakaló.
8. Káni polí zésti símera.
9. Tí óra íné?
10. Pósa káni aftó?



# OP 135 COMES TO LIFE



OP 135 has been fully operational since 21 April



Matej Kapelj: proud OP commander

Just south of the Corridor Road, between Dhekelia and Ayios Nikolaos, the 3rd Squad of the Slovenian Contingent operates UN Observation Post 135. Until 21 April, this was a temporary OP, although, due

to lack of space on OP 139, the six Slovenian squad members slept there every night. Now, however, it's a fully operational patrol base. With two Observation Posts instead of only one permanently operated, the Slovenian Contingent can now fulfil their tasks much better.

Says OP commander Senior Sergeant Matej Kapelj: "It's taken a lot of work. When we moved in to transfer this location into a permanently operated Observation Post and Patrol Base, the grass was over 60 centimetres high and cactuses were growing everywhere."

Indeed, the place is impressively neat, inside and out, with a row of army boots lined up in a cupboard on the terrace. Corporal Meta Kocijancic gives hers a good polish before she joins Corporal Alex Cizelj for a patrol along the UN observation posts in the Corridor Road area.

Alex sees his work with UNFICYP as a welcome change from his previous job with the civilian police in his home country. "I worked for the traffic police for two and a half years, before I decided to join the army. In this job there is much more variety. And there's a lot of responsibility on the shoulders of each



Preparing for patrol

individual. That is why I already know I'd like to stay longer than my six-month tour, although I only arrived in Cyprus two months ago. If I can't stay, I'd like to come back to UNFICYP some other time."

What's life like at OP 135?

"Well, of course it's not all fun. I don't like radio-duty much. I'd rather be outside. I prefer doing things like this patrol we're going out on. And off duty, I like to do sports. Most days I start early with a run of about one and a half or two hours. And whenever there is time in between my shifts, I like to go swimming or to 'pump some iron' in the little gym we've made."

Matej Kapelj adds: "As an OP commander, I see it as a responsibility to make sure that everybody performs their duties with a high level of discipline. But it is also important to keep motivation high and to have fun or to relax. That's why I try to encourage people to be active. The Slovenian Contingent rented a billiards set and a table tennis kit. We play basketball against the other squads in Sector 4, and organise football matches against teams from the NG or the TF."

So are there any problems?

"Oh sure. At OP 135 we've only got one generator. Every day it has to be shut off for two hours. If we're to keep things going, we need a second one. But this will be taken care of. Apart from that, I am happy and proud to be commanding our very own Slovenian OP."

## OP 135 JE ZIV

Nekje na južni strani ceste, ki povezuje mesti Dhekelia in Ayios Nikolaos, upravlja z opazovalnico ZN 135 tretji oddelek slovenskega kontingenta. Do 21. aprila je bila to samo občasna opazovalnica, ceprav je zaradi pomanjkanja prostora na opazovalni postaji 139 šest pripadnikov slovenskega oddelka že takrat prenočevalo na tej občasni opazovalnici. No, zdaj je to patroljna baza, ki deluje s polno paro. Namesto ene stalno naseljene postojanke, ima slovenski kontingent zdaj dve, tako da lažje izvršuje svoje številne naloge.

Poveljnik opazovalne postaje, visji vodnik Matej Kapelj zna povedati, da

je bilo potrebnega precej truda: "Ko smo se priselili v na novo ustanovljeno stalno opazovalno postajo in patroljno bazo, je bila trava visoka 60 centimetrov in kaktusi so rasli povsodi, mona."

In res, prostor je zdaj videti cudovit, znotraj in zunaj, z vrsto skornjev, postrojenih na robu terase. Desetnica Marjeta Kocijancic jih vedno skrbno spolira, preden se pridruži desetniku Aleksu Cizlju na patroljiranju vzdolž opazovalnic ZN, ki so namescene ob cesti, ki povezuje bazi.

Aleks je spoznal, da je tale misija pri UNFICYP-u prava poslastica v primerjavi z delom policista, kar je bil prej v Sloveniji: "Dve leti in pol sem delal kot prometnik, preden sem se odločil za vojsko. Tukaj je veliko več

priloznosti, pa tudi odgovornost vsakega posameznika je veliko bolj izražena. Prav zato si želim, da bi ostal dlje kot teli 6 mesecev, kolikor traja ena rotacija in v to sem prepričan že zdaj, ko sem sele 2 meseca na otoku. Če ne bom srečne roke tokrat, bi se pa z veseljem vrnil v misijo UNFICYP kdaj drugič."

In kaksno je življenje na OP-135?

"No, seveda ni samo prijetno. Kadar sem radio operater, sem kot na trnjih. Raje sem zunaj, denimo na patroljiranju, kamor se odpravljamo sedajle. Pa rad se ukvarjam s sportom. Skoraj vsak dan grem zgodaj zjutraj na tek za uro in pol, ali dve. In kadar je dovolj časa med dvema delovnikoma, grem plavat ali pa 'kvihtat' v malo telovadnico, ki smo si jo pripravili."

Matej Kapelj si ne more kaj, da ne

bi dodal: "Kot poveljnik opazovalne postaje vidim veliko odgovornost do posteno opravljenega dela. Istocasno pa je pomembno, da ostanejo fantje visoko motivirani, vedri in sproščeni. Zato jih spodbujam, da so cimbolj aktivni. Slovenski kontingent je najel tudi biljard in namizni tenis. Večkrat igramo kosarko med oddelki in organiziramo nogometne tekme z mostvi iz NG ali TF."

In imate potem sploh kakšen problem?

"Seveda. Na OP-135 imamo samo en električni generator. Vsak dan ga moramo izklopiti za 2 uri. Če hocemo, da stvar deluje kot mora, potem potrebujemo se enega. Pa bomo poskrbeli tudi za to. Vesel in ponosen sem, da sem poveljnik nasega lastnega, slovenskega OP-ja."

### HUNGARIAN

1. Hogy vagy?
2. Jól vagyok.
3. Hogy hívnak?
4. A nevem .....
5. Megnézhetem az étlapot?
6. Kaphatok egy kis vizet?
7. Egy taxit kérek.
8. Meleg van ma.
9. Mennyi az idő?
10. Mennyibe kerül?

### SLOVENIAN

1. Kako si?
2. V redu sem, hvala.
3. Kako ti je ime?
4. Ime mi je .....
5. Lahko dobim jedilni list, prosim?
6. Ali lahko dobim malo vode, prosim?
7. Taksi, prosim!
8. Danes je pa vroče.
9. Koliko je ura?
10. Koliko pa tole stane?

### SPANISH

1. Como está usted?
2. Yo estoy muy bien
3. Cuál es su nombre?
4. Mi nombre es .....
5. Me podría traer el menú?
6. Me podría traer un poco de agua, por favor?
7. Un taxi, por favor.
8. Hoy hace mucho calor.
9. Que hora es?
10. Cuánto cuesta?

### TURKISH

1. Nasilsiniz?
2. Çok iyi.
3. Adiniz ne?
4. Adim .....
5. Menü lütfen.
6. Biraz su lütfen.
7. Bir taksi lütfen.
8. Bugün hava çok sıcak.
9. Saat kaç?
10. Fiyatı ne?



# REAL LIFE

## DUTCH TAKE OVER SECTOR 2 WEST

For the first time, the Dutch have their own little sector, Sector 2 West. Last year, the Dutch troop in Sector 2 West served under a British major. Now another Dutch troop, which used to be part of Sector 2 East, joined them, and they all came under Major Wils Hein, who uses a former school as his headquarters, locally known as Kingston. A third Dutch troop is still a part of the MFR.

2i/c, Captain John Sliepen, seems to feel at home already. But he was part of the advance party

and has already been in Cyprus for three weeks. Looking back, he notes: "It's important to absorb as much knowledge as possible from the departing unit. Everybody has to know exactly where the ceasefire lines run, this is essential. I can safely say we have had a very good handover. The departing soldiers organised that very well. After our training period, which included two weeks of exercises in England and one week in the Netherlands, everyone had a good 'feel' for this mission. Following our

arrival, we also had 'vision', and it's good to know that our senses gel."

Corporal Karin van der Linden is a radio operator at Kingston. "This is what I joined the army for. I really wanted to go on a mission. After a preparatory year, during which we were introduced to military procedures, I had no hesitation about enlisting for UNFICYP."

In the first week, the temperature reached a level of 34 degrees Centigrade. That was quite a shock to the system. Karin sighs: "At 3:00 pm I had to withdraw. I was then sent to bed. I probably didn't drink enough. I do have a small bottle of water on my desk, but I think it will have to be a larger one from now on."

Suddenly we hear a pump start, and a penetrating smell of sewage crawls through the open windows. Looking outside, we can see a sewage disposal truck, a "honeysucker", collecting the faecal leftovers from the headquarters.

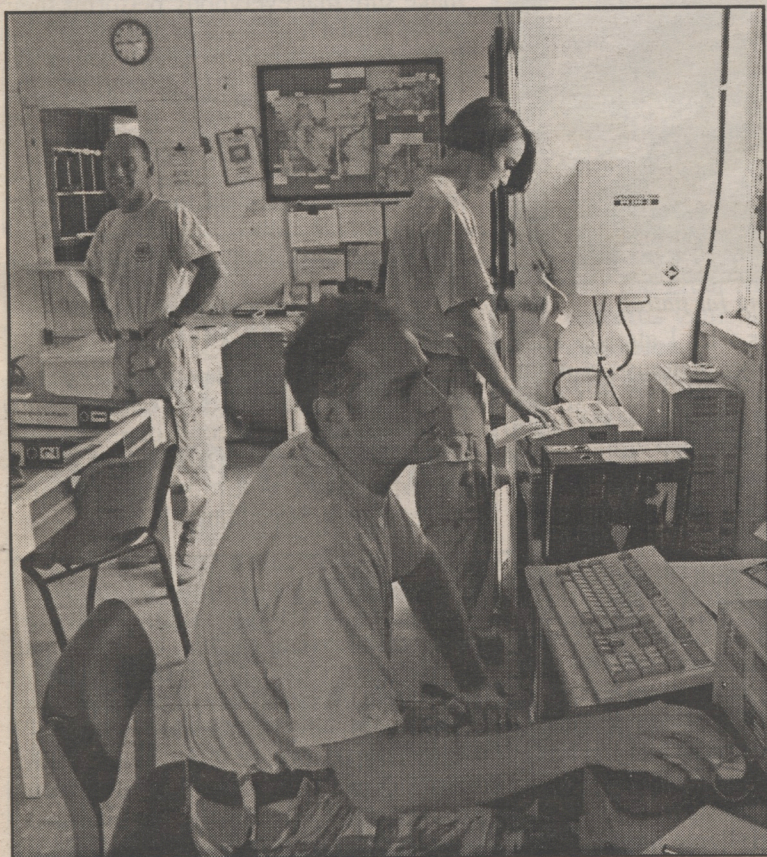
On one of the posts along the 180 km-long Buffer Zone, Pte Ruben Kraaijkamp is on duty. He also suffers from the weather - although in an operational sense, rather than in a physical one. Pointing upwards, he says: "Normally, I'd be on the roof of that building, seeing that both parties stick to the rules. Because of the danger of lightning at the



Kingston, Headquarters of Sector 2 West, commanded by Dutch Major Wils Hein, who replaced his British predecessor

moment, I have to be at the job in the army. "And ground level, looking what's more important, it towards trees and seeing has helped me to make up nothing! I do hope the my mind to join the NCOs' threat of thunder will dis- school when I return. My appear soon." experience with UNFICYP will be a definite advantage when I apply."

Ruben thinks the mission is an essential part of



Radio operator Corporal Karin van der Linden assists Ops Officer Captain Philip Curtis (UK) at Battery HQ



2i/c Captain John Sliepen points out troop locations: Bengal (NL), Falcon (NL) and Irish Bridge (UK)

## FLIGHT SAFETY IN SECTOR ONE

Two weeks ago, the Air Liaison Officer of Sector 1 began training members of the Argentinian crew, who have been assigned as assistants in helicopter operations in San Martin Camp, Roca Camp and Brown Base.

The basic training includes flight safety rules, ICAO (International Civilian Aviation Organisation) procedures and air communications to facilitate flight operations in the OP heliports.

Advanced training includes instructions and procedures relating to medical evacuations. Sector 1 will join with UN Flight to improve this part of the training.

Night flight operations to San Martin Camp were also included in the training plan.



Desde hace dos semanas, el oficial de enlace aéreo del Sector 1, comenzó a entrenar a los miembros de la tripulación argentina designados como asistentes en las operaciones con helicópteros en los campos San Martín, Roca y Brown.

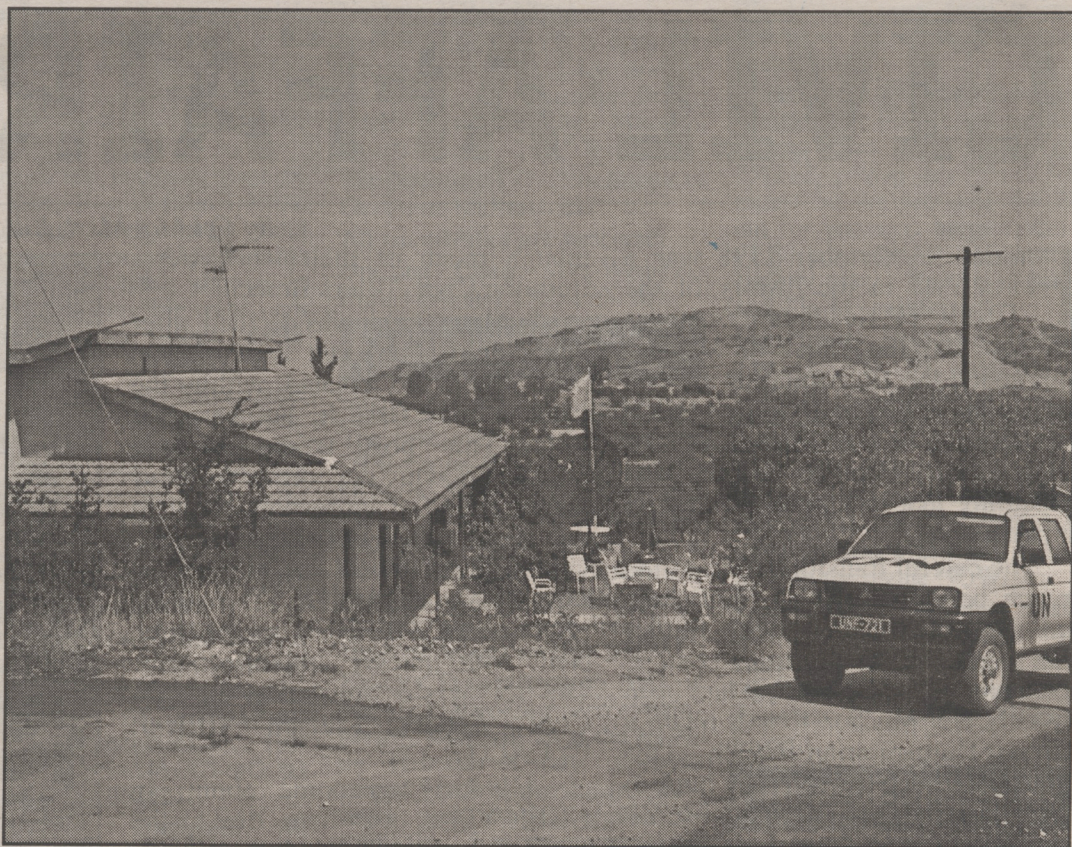
El entrenamiento básico incluye: reglas de seguridad para el vuelo, así como los procedimientos y las comunicaciones según las normas de la Organización Internacional de Aviación Civil (OIA) para facilitar las operaciones en los helipuertos de los OPs.

El entrenamiento avanzado incluye las técnicas y los procedimientos para la evacuación médica helitransportada. El Sector 1 trabajará estrechamente con UN Flight durante esta parte del entrenamiento.

También se ha incluido, como parte del entrenamiento, la ejecución de vuelos nocturnos al campo San Martín.



## PEOPLE

COMMUNITY  
POLICING  
IN LINO

UNCIVPOL Police Station in Linou

Just a few kilometres south of San Martin Camp, on the lower slopes of the Troodos, lies the village of Linou. Linou has one of the seven UN civilian police stations currently being established. It is home to three UNCIVPOL officers: Station Sergeant and team leader Garry Fulton, Sergeant Mark Scott from Australia and Police Officer Con Lynch from Ireland.

Mark Scott says life has been quite quiet recently, "Apart from some controlled explosions Con monitored in Mammari the other day. They were part of a movie!"

But it's not always this tranquil: "During the hunting season, we're pretty busy trying to keep hunters out of the Buffer Zone," says Mark Scott. Hunters are not allowed into the Buffer Zone because, due to the camouflaged clothing they wear and the guns they carry, they are easily confused with the military and their

presence can raise tension.

"If hunters come into the BZ, we have to escort them out. The area we have to cover, along with two colleagues from the UNPA, is extensive. It stretches from the UNPA to Linou and then onwards to the Kokkina pocket. It takes us two and a half hours just to drive over the patrol track to Kokkina. We visit all the OPs and ask if there are any problems and if we can assist in any way."

Do they carry out the sort of speedgun controls that happen at the UNPA?

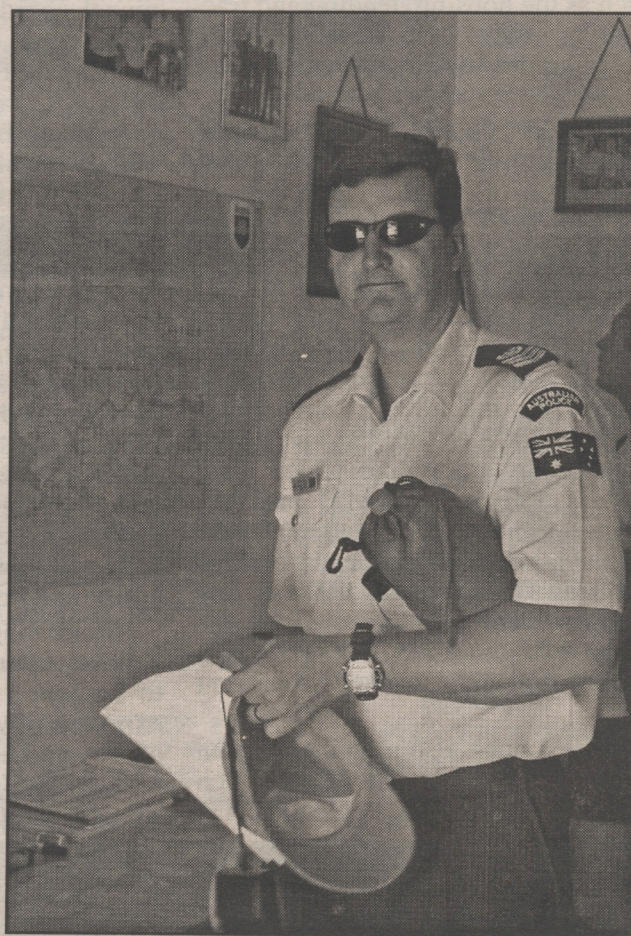
"No, that's a job for the Military Police," replies Con.

"Anyway," adds Mark. "It's a waste of time their coming. The Argentinians are the slowest and most sensible drivers I've seen over here. They always drive way below the maximum speed."

Before moving to Linou, Con was based in Famagusta. "That was a different type of policing," he says. "There was more contact with people up there, especially when I escorted the Civil Affairs team on the money run to the Karpas. Civil Affairs take government allowances up to the Greek Cypriots who still live there. I also had quite a lot to do with the Turkish Cypriot community in the north."

Prior to Con moving to Linou, Sgt Peter Kuhnke was the third Australian member of the Linou crew. Following the integration of UNCIVPOL, Peter is now attached to Sector Four on the other side of the island.

The Linou crew recently started to intensify contacts with people living in nearby villages



Mark Scott ready to leave Linou station for patrol

like Kakopetria and Akaki.

"We talk with the people in the coffee shops and try build a rapport with the Mukhtars. People need to know that we're here, and to understand that we're here to help - as far as we can," stresses Con.



Sgt Peter Kuhnke on patrol in Linou. With the integration of IRCIVPOL and AUSTCIVPOL in full swing, the community policing aspect of UNCIVPOL is becoming ever more important.

## ON THE MOVE AGAIN

Armenian Maida Megerditchian started work with UNFICYP 24 years ago in the orderly room with the Canadian Contingent. She stayed there for 2½ years, and then transferred to the Welfare Office where she worked until the end of 1993.

The next move was to Camp Command where she helped out in any

way she could with all kinds of tasks, including interpreting. Whenever confusion developed, Maida was always at hand to straighten things out.

After more than six years with Camp Command, Maida is again on the move - this time to the Force Engineer's office. Camp Command's loss is the Force Engineer's gain.

*Gor raibh mile maith agat.*





# NEWS

## CIVIL AFFAIRS BRANCH

By Cpl Maj Mark Kingston

Friday 23 October 1998 was a key date in the history of the UNFICYP Headquarters; it was the day that the Chief of Mission summoned the Humanitarian Branch staff to her office to announce that it was about to be transformed into the Civil Affairs Branch. This was something that had been worked on for some time.

The careful transformation of the branch began in earnest right there and then and it goes much further than a mere cosmetic name change. For many years, UNFICYP had been the only UN Mission to still retain a military Humanitarian Branch. This branch had been formed way back in 1974 when the task facing UNFICYP was very different from that of today. Many of the tasks carried out then, such as the housing, feeding and tracing tens of thousands of refugees and their families, simply do not exist any longer.

The key changes, however, were the re-staffing of the branch with integration of some civilian personnel and the shifting of the branch from the military chain below the Force Commander and Chief of Staff to UNFICYP's civilian hierarchical chain, directly below the Chief of Mission and the Senior Adviser. Essentially, the former Chief Humanitarian Officer (military) has been replaced by a civilian Chief Civil Affairs Officer (CCAO) and the former military Staff Officer (economics), was replaced by a civilian Political Officer post. These key changes were supplemented by the creation of an Office Manager's post and a Liaison Officers' Assistant post.

The branch also now includes an Interpreter and Translator Pool which supports the entire UNFICYP,

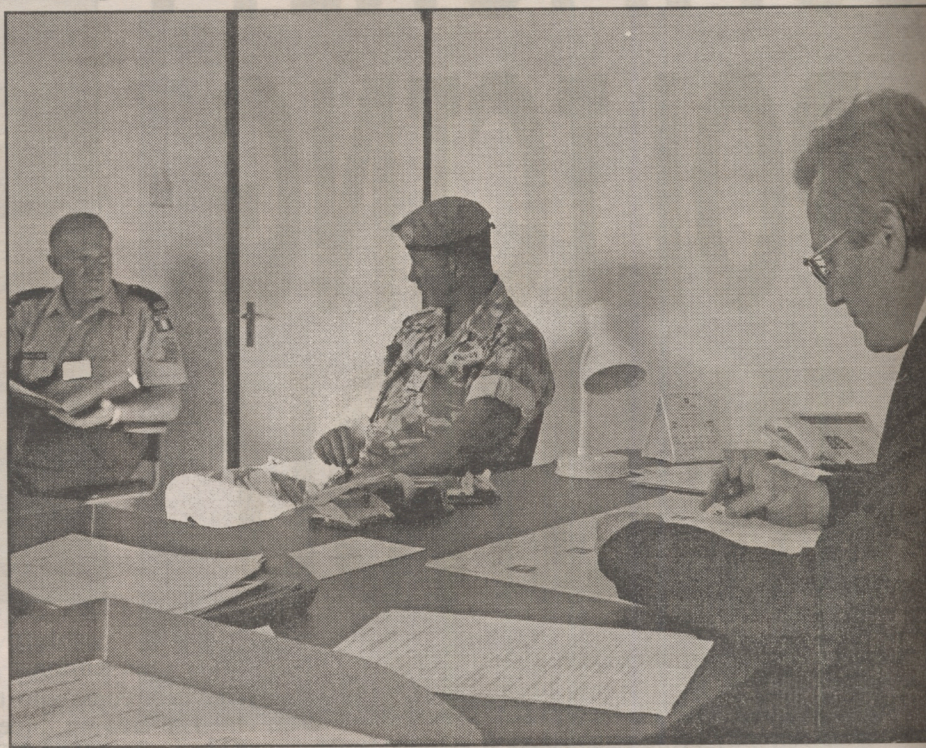
though much of their work stems from the Civil Affairs Branch.

In May 1999 it was decided, after much discussion, that another new post should be created within the Civil Affairs Branch, but based at Pyla. This post would provide UNFICYP with the means to carry out its ethos of co-responsibility in the mixed village of Pyla, and to provide a direct line of communication from Pyla to HQ UNFICYP enabling issues of a Civil Affairs nature to be dealt with quickly and effectively. The post was designated as the Pyla Civil Affairs Liaison Officer, PYCALO.

All this has come about, in UNFICYP as elsewhere, due to the realisation that the conduct of humanitarian, economic and intercommunal coordination tasks required a new focus. Not so much efficient military staff carrying out contact and delivery tasks on the ground (important though that is) but more a mix of people with expertise (political, legal, police-based and military-based) who can liaise at the correct level and together tackle problems.

For example, the previous military Humanitarian Branch faced all sorts of difficulties because, in the Cyprus arena, everything, especially anything to do with contact with minority groups, may have important political or legal aspects. The branch now has the necessary expertise to deal with issues, often before they arise, without having to wait for assistance from outside staff.

Following the Chief of Mission's announcement, there was much work to be done. If the new branch was expected to work efficiently, then its offices and equipment had to be up-to-date and suitable. This might sound obvious, but it was now time



New Chief of Civil Affairs Branch, Wlodek Cibor (right) coordinating with his personnel

to give certain priorities and support to Civil Affairs functions which, quite frankly, the old Humanitarian branch sometimes lacked. So the entire Branch was redecorated and re-equipped. The CAMLO (Civil Affairs Military Liaison Officer) was able to ditch his charcoal and slate in favour of the latest Pentium, whilst the branch carrier pigeons were retired to give way to e-mail. By the grace of God, the branch even acquired the 4WD patrol vehicle it had been requesting since 1975.

New post titles were allocated and completely new procedures and routines were drawn up to define the branch's new approach and new way of conducting business, particularly with regard to contact and liaison with the authorities, individuals and groups across a wide spectrum. Old ways and perceived wisdoms were all questioned and, if necessary, changed.

The new Civil Affairs mantle is not only confined to Headquarters but is spread far and wide into the sectors, whose Humanitarian Teams were retitled Sector Civil Affairs Teams (SCATs), led by Sector Civil Affairs Officers (SCAOs). These teams now have a direct tasking and reporting chain to the CCAO, through the CAMLO. Previously, they operated under the military chain, through their Sector COs (though they still remain now under their military commanders for administration purposes). This is a totally new scenario for everyone concerned and, with the goodwill of all, it is easy to implement.

The benefits of this new system are wide-ranging. Issues are not necessarily dealt with more quickly nowadays, but they are certainly tackled in a more uniform and integrated manner. This is important when dealing with contentious issues between the two communities;

UNFICYP must always be seen to be impartial and the same consistent line must always be taken. In its role in the Buffer Zone, the Force must always be beyond reproach and must be seen to be "whiter than white" in all its dealings.

Such changes to any organisation invariably involve farewells to some people and here was no exception. Amidst all the departures, it was particularly sad to lose the personality and expertise of the branch PA, Dolly Ollsen, who has retired. Dolly's vast experience, her impressive catalogue of contacts and her general efficiency is fondly remembered. In the middle of May, the Branch also lost its first (acting) CCAO, Lone Jessen, who has been called back to New York headquarters. Lone played a crucial role in getting the new CAB started, and she definitely paved the way for the branch's new permanent head, Wlodek Cibor, from Poland, to take over an up-and-running department.

Cibor arrived on the island only last week, but the considerable experience he has gained in his previous UN appointments stands him in good stead.

UNFICYP's new Civil Affairs Branch was officially opened on Wednesday 23 June 1999. The branch personnel are listed below:

**CCAO:** Wlodek Cibor  
**CAPO:** position currently being filled  
**CAPLO:** Insp John Galvin  
**CAMLO:** Cpl Maj Mark Kingston  
**Chief Clerk:** S/PO Danny Flynn  
**R/supply Clerk:** WO2 Gary Pathy  
**Office Manager:** Klaus Hoechtl  
**Assistant:** Anita Thomas  
**Translator/Greek:** Noel Evdokiou  
**Interpreter/Greek:** Yanna Tsangara  
**Translator/Turkish:** Beraat Mustafaoglu



Taking supplies home



# CLASSIFIED

## ITEMS FOR SALE

### CARS FOR SALE

**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.

**BMW 525 TD**, calypso-red met. 143 PS, April 1996, 41,000 km. £12,300 d/f. Phone (02) 664362 or (02) 592043.

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

**Nissan 100NX Targa**, 1600cc, 1994, red, 42,000 km, a/c. £2,000 d/f. Call Thomas Isenring (02) 344333 or 374144.

**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.

**Mazda 626 GLX**, 1993, 4 door-sedan, aut, a/c, 54,500 km new tyres, available in July, £2,000. Call Mary: (02) 771921

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

**Hyundai Excel L.S.** 4 doors, 26,000 km, d/f. Tel (02) 779842.

**Volkswagen Polo SP**, 1984, red, d/f, RC, 150,000 km, £400 (negotiable). Call (02) 664362 (o) or 666485 (p).

**Peugeot 405 Saloon GL**, white, Nov '88, a/c, radio/cass, d/f, £1,000. Phone (02) 445318 or 664068.

**BMW 525 TDS**, '96, 40,000 km, rhd, red metallic, a/c and many other extras, £12,600. Phone M. Schroder, (02) 664362 (office).

**Mobile Sandwich van**, new engine and interior, 2-flame gas grill, 2 built-in electric fridges. Phone (09) 698374.

### OTHER ITEMS FOR SALE

**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.

**Swiss luxury designer group**, 1, 2- and 3-seater, in finest green suede leather quality. Practically unused. Original £3,200. Now £1,600. Tel Thomas Isenring on (02) 344333 or 374144

**LTV Decoder**, £25. 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/SE-CAM/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 ONO. 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.

**Lady's (Marin) diving suit** with jacket for sale. Medium size, as new. £85. Call Joanne on (02) 864485 during office hours.

## 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

**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. Available end June. 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.

Fully furnished 3-bedroom pent-house flat to let in Acropolis (Hilton area). 175 sq.m. Sitting/dining room, TV room, study, large kitchen, bathroom, 2 WCs. Including all kitchen appliances. Split unit and separate shower in

master bedroom. Large verandah overlooking park. C/h and solar water heater. Available from end June. Address: 2 Ermokleios St. Rent: £395. Tel: (02) 337044 (O) or 335534 (H).

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 Hadjigeorgiou.

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

Second-floor apartment in Romanos Street (Hilton area) 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

**BABY BOOM Nursery & kindergarten** provides 28 to 30 places, a full range of educational toys, morning and afternoon care in a friendly environment, parent advisory services, care for toddlers and newborn and baby parking by the hour. See the principal, Child Psychologist Irene Louca, at 9a Vasilis Michaelides Street, Engomi, or phone (02) 665978 or (09) 430016.

### 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 McKendrick.

All nationalities are welcome!

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

## FACILITIES

### Why don't U.Network@the UNPA?

The next meeting takes place at 1000 am on Wed 30 June at the Officers' Mess. Come along and exchange news and information with a group of spouses from UNFICYP and diplomatic missions. Coffee, raffle and a friendly chat. More info from Helgard Adams on (02) 591933.

**BEAUTY TREATMENTS BY NIKI.** If you are in desperate need of pampering, Niki will be at the HIVE on Thursday 8 July. A wide range of facials, manicures, pedicures and waxing treatments available. For appointments or more information, call Niki on (05) 391640 or the Nicosia HIVE on (02) 359316.

### 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 Vyzantiou 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.

**Louis Shoe Repairs**, travel goods, belts, purses and handbags. 15, P. Katelari Street (opposite main bus station) or Engomi, 19, Grivas Afxentiou Street.

## CHURCH SERVICES

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

Roman Catholic Mass, Saturdays: 18:00 hrs.

Sunday worship: 09:00 hrs.

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

Britcon Chaplain: Padre Philip McCormack.

Dutch Chaplain, Padre Frank Duyvenvoorde.

## 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

## WANTED: PIANO PLAYER

International Officers' Club looking for piano player seeking opportunity to perform occasionally in informal but appreciative atmosphere. For details, contact Major Style at HQ UNFICYP, (02) 864514/9

Staff required for YMCA Mon-Fri, 0800-1300 hrs Would suit a dependant. Please contact Rose at 359308 or enquire at the YMCA

## THE NICOSIA DOG SHELTER

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

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



# MILITARY ADVISERS VISIT UNFICYP

Eight Military Advisers from United Nations missions in New York visited UNFICYP on 15-16 June. They included representatives from Australia, Austria, China, Chile, Jordan, Norway, the Russian Federation and Slovenia.

They were given a full briefing at UNFICYP HQ as well as in all three sectors. MAs from UN missions make

periodic visits of this kind to different regions where there are United Nations peacekeeping forces, and this visit was part of a tour of missions in this area. Before coming to UNFICYP, the advisers had been to UNDOF, UNTSO and UNIFIL.

The group left the following morning for UNLB, the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi.



CO Sector Two, Lt Col Huw Lawford (left), with the eight MAs

## BLUE BERET SPORTS SECTION

### GOLF, GET INTO THE SWING OF IT

The heat stress indication notice board outside the Joint Operations Centre of UNFICYP shows a clear red square: refrain from heavy exercise or sports. Runners and soccer players obey this advice. But it seems it is wasted on players of the noble sport of golf.

Close to the terminal of the old Nicosia International Airport, Peter Ives ignores the heat and plays his sport for several hours, thoroughly enjoying himself.

Carefully he places a ball on a tee, judges the direction and the speed of the wind, chooses a club of the right weight and size, and swings. The ball gets airborne. Peter keeps the ball in sight, sees it land and suddenly change direction. Some unquotable words pass his lips.

"That's the one disadvantage of this golf course," he explains. "This isn't a nicely mown lawn. It just happens that your ball changes direction when it hits a pebble. But every player faces the same circumstances, so it's not really a problem."

Peter plays about four times a week. Doesn't that use up a lot of time?

"Yes, it does," he answers. "But since I'm retired, that's no problem for me. It takes me about four hours to play all 18 holes. And then I go to the club house for some time to evaluate my game," he smiles. And adds: "With a drink, of course."



Peter Ives putting on the 'brown'

The golf club in the UNPA was created and is maintained by its members. According to Peter, who is vice-captain of the club, golf is a sport for all people of all ages. "Although the world famous player Ballesteros started playing when he was four years old, I think the age of 9

or 10 is fine to start. Our club has over 90 members, all ranks of UN personnel as well as members of the diplomatic community. The good thing about golf is that golfers of total different abilities can play together. Because of the handicap system, a novice can have an equal game with an experienced player."

What handicap does the vice captain have himself?

"My handicap is 13. This means that I count the hits I need to finish the 18 holes, and deduct 13 from this number. A novice would have a handicap of 28, and professionals, of course, don't have a handicap anymore. What I like best in golf is the ethos. There is no cheating. I wish to believe 99.9% of the players are scrupulously honest. By lying about your score you would only cheat yourself, and then there is no pleasure in winning."

#### Interested in playing golf yourself?

Come and visit the clubhouse opposite the traffic control tower at the UNPA for more information. There is some second hand kit available for your first try. Saturdays and Sundays are especially good days to come along and get into the swing.

THE BBC OFFICERS' CLUB INVITES ALL MEMBERS, FAMILIES & GUESTS

TO TAKE PART IN THE  
UNPA ORIENTEERING COMPETITION  
ON FRIDAY 2 JULY

REGISTRATION & BAR OPENS: 1800 HRS

FIRST RUNNERS AWAY: 1830 HRS

LAST RUNNERS AWAY: 1930 HRS

PRIZE GIVING: 2030 HRS

TWO COURSES: 4.5 KM APPROX AND 2.5 KM  
APPROX, IDEAL FOR CHILDREN, PRAM  
PUSHERS, DOG WALKERS AND STROLLERS.

FOUR CHAMPAGNE PRIZES TO BE WON.  
FIRST RUNNER ON EACH COURSE AND FIRST  
MALE/FEMALE COUPLE RUNNING TOGETHER  
ON EACH COURSE. ROSETTES FOR ALL UNDER  
18S WHO COMPLETE EITHER COURSE.

MAPS PROVIDED, JUST TURN UP WITH YOUR  
RUNNING SHOES ON!

MORE INFO: 02-864756

## MEDAL COLLECTOR

It will take UNCIVPOL's Con Lynch six months to get his medal for peacekeeping in Cyprus. That's a lot longer than he spent acquiring the 1,500-metre world police championship medal. That only took 3 minutes and 47 seconds. He's also pretty speedy over 5,000 metres (14'05") and 10,000 metres (29'15").

Now Con thinks he's ready for the ultimate challenge: the full marathon.

"On 11 July I'm doing the Brugge marathon in Flanders, Belgium," he says. "To be ready, I cover about 140 kilometres per week. I try to vary between training high in the Troodos mountains, training on the flat in the Dherinia area, and training on a track in Nicosia. It's heavy. But my colleagues are being incredibly supportive. When I come back from training, they have dinner ready. I try to make up for it by doing the washing up."

And how long does he aim to spend collecting this particular medal? "Well, let's put it this way, I'll be disappointed if I can't finish under 2 hours and 30 minutes."

Watch this space to see if he makes it. And if there's anyone out there who can do a marathon in better time than this, let us know.

