



The Blue Beret

Monday

30th December

1974

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SEASONS GREETINGS



Lt. Gen. D. Prem Chand, PVSM
Commander
United Nations Force in Cyprus

Once again as the New Year approaches and at this festive time when our thoughts turn to our families and loved ones at home, from whom many of us are separated, I send you all my warmest greetings and very best wishes.

As we look back over the events of 1974, the foremost has been the emergency and operations during July and August, when we found ourselves in an entirely new situation, very different to the duties and responsibilities entrusted to us till then. The splendid and expeditious manner in which all of you adjusted to the changed conditions, together with your devoted and selfless service to the cause of the United Nations in Cyprus, have received special mention and warm appreciation by the Secretary-General in his recent report to the Security Council, a matter of great encouragement and gratification for all of us. Let us not forget that we still have many arduous tasks to perform and I am confident that I can rely upon you fully to carry them out in the same conscientious and devoted manner as you have done in the past.

It is our sincere hope that the New Year will bring fresh opportunities for reaching a final solution to the problems which have brought us here and that there will be happier times for this Island in the coming months. I know that I can count on your continued support and loyalty towards achieving this end in the interests of the peace, prosperity and happiness of the good people of Cyprus.

A very happy New Year to you and to your families at home.



On Friday 20th December 1974, Major M.M. Barker, Camp Commandant of Camp UNFICYP handed to Miss Joyce Elkington, PA to the Special Representative to the Secretary General, the collection taken at the Carol Service held in St George's Church, Dhekelia. This money is to be used to purchase various items of clothing for the many refugees throughout the island. Our photograph shows Miss Elkington accepting the money on behalf of the refugees.

MESSAGE FROM HQ UNITED NATIONS

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. L. Weckmann-Munoz and the Force Commander, Lt. General D. Prem Chand, PVSM, have received the following Christmas and New Year messages:

"I send to you and to all the military and civilian personnel of UNFICYP my Christmas greetings and my best wishes for the New Year. I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the devotion, efficiency and courage shown by you, your staff and the Contingents of the Force in performing your important and often dangerous task. The excellence of the work done by UNFICYP during and since the recent crisis in Cyprus is particularly appreciated here at Headquarters.

It is my earnest hope that the forthcoming year may bring more peaceful conditions in the Island.

Kurt Waldheim,
Secretary-General".

"We take pleasure in sending you and all the military and civilian personnel of UNFICYP our Christmas greetings and our best wishes for the New Year. Your co-operation and the excellent work of your staff and the Contingents of the Force are greatly appreciated by all of us here at Headquarters.

Roberto E. Guyer,
Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs.
Brian E. Urquhart,
Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs."



L. WECKMANN-MUNOZ
Special Representative
of the Secretary General.

As the year 1974 comes to its close, I am pleased to convey to all of you — military and civilian personnel of UNFICYP — my sincere appreciation for the excellent manner in which you have performed your difficult duties as members of the UN Peace Keeping Force in Cyprus.

In so doing I interpret the feelings of gratitude not only of the Secretary-General and his immediate associates at Headquarters but also of the Permanent Delegates who spoke at the 13th December meeting of the Security Council, when the UNFICYP mandate was extended by another six months.

I would like to wish you and your families belated Christmas Greetings and a prosperous New Year in 1974.



FATHER CHRISTMAS

Very recently 41 Commando Group played Father Christmas to children from both the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities within the Limassol area. These took the form of afternoon parties for the children and as can be seen by both photographs everyone enjoyed themselves with plenty of all the normal fun and games to follow. C/Sgt John Neary in the guise of Father Christmas handed out presents to all the children who attended.

DER VAR ENGANG EN HANE



Under stor højtidelighed blev man i C-KMP, Limnitis enig om at kontingentets signalofficer skulle udstyres med en hane (Signalhane), hvilket krævede en del anstrengelser, som det fremgår af billedet. Hanen, hvis navn blev "Morgenfrisk" kom omsider til Xeros, hvor den med stor iver passede sit job og levede op til sit navn. Flere vil kunne bevidne, at når det var sengetid galede "Morgenfrisk" men den kunne også finde på at gale på en særdeles underholdende måde ved formiddagskaffetid. I esværre ender historien sørgeligt, thi uden at melde fra ved signalofficeren, var den en orle morgen forsvundet under mystiske omstændigheder.



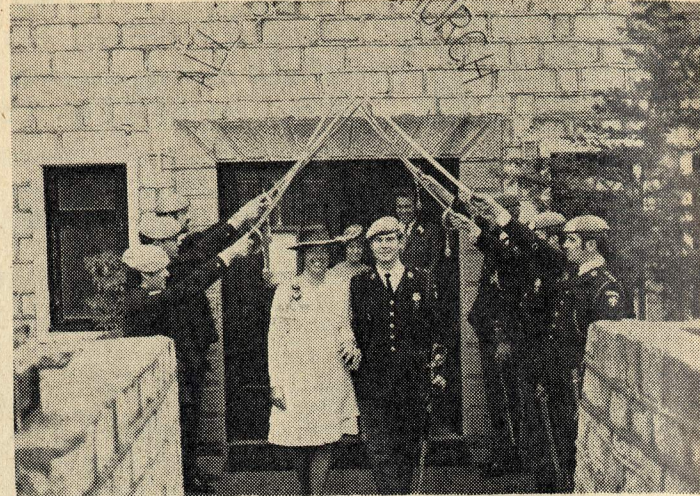
BRITCON afholdt våbendemonstration lo og 11 DEC, hvor en række engelske våben blev fremvist under stor interesse.

FELT PRÆSTEN PÅ KURSUS



FPR B. Hjort Jensen var SØN 15 DEC på kursus i feltkundskab hos OVDEL i PINWOOD VALLEY. Her ses "Spir" ved opvasken, mens FPR flittigt svinger viskestykket.

BRYLLUP I EPISKOPI



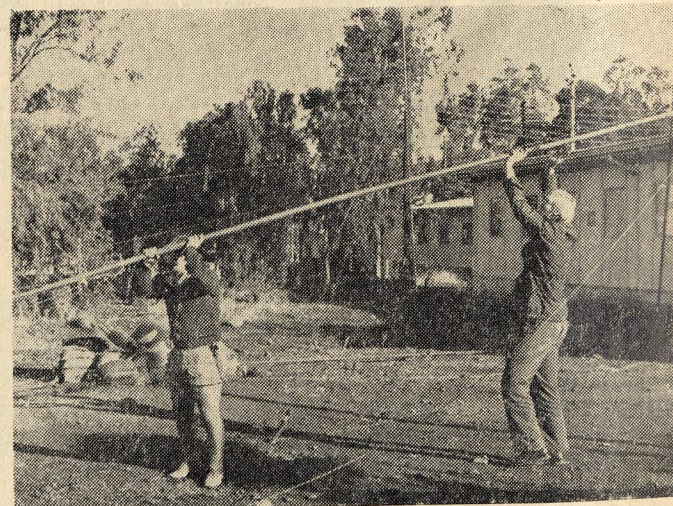
Lørdag den 14 DEC blev PRLT J. Gram-Andersen viet til Jean Schofield i All Saints Church. Det skete på værdig vis med spalter dannet af (fra venstre) KN Jacobsen, MAJ Ipsen, KN Blindbæk, LT E.H. Pedersen, SKLT Aldenborg og KN Lauritsen.

BESØG FRA DR



DANCON har som bekendt haft besøg af Arne Honore og Jørn Træ. holt fra Danmarks Radio med henblik på optagelse af julehilsner til udsendelse 1. juledag på P.I. Her ses Arne Honore under optagelserne med bla-"producer" Blindbæk.

MASTEREJSNING



Det sker, at det blæser så kraftigt, at selv OP-skure blæser ned fra vantårne. Også antenner kan det imidlertid gå over. Her ses "Krypto" og KS Peitersen i færd med at rejse en af masterne, som iøvrigt nu er blevet mere "stormsikre".

FÖRST KUNG FARUKS ÄLAKARINNA
— OCH NU HÖKEN...

Visste ni att "Höken" övertagit platsen efter Kung Faruks älskarinna?

Det gäller alltså Vattentornet. Hon-och de andra älskarinnorna bodde där.

Då. Före Höken.
—Nu finns det inga kvinnor här, försäkrar han. Inte en enda.

På den tiden det fanns galanta damer i Vattentornet använde Kung Faruk nuvarande sjukhuset, Villa Oasis, som sommarbostad. Det gjorde han fö ända tills han blev avsatt.

ENGELSK BAS

Det var innan Carl Gustav Camp utnyttjades som FN-förläggning. Under andra världskriget, i ökenkriget mot tyskarna, hade engelsmännen både den här och Carolos Camp som underhållsbas. Härifrån utgick supply till de allierade.

Engelske trängtrupper var förlagda på campen och kommendanten hade sitt kontor i nuvarande officersmässan. De flesta byggnader är kvar sen den tiden, liksom taggtråden som är uppsatt runt området.

GOLDA MEIR FÅNGE HÄR

Det har gjort CGC mycket anrik och omskriven. Bl a skriver Romel om den i sin bok "Ökenräven", Montgomery i "Minnen" och Churchill i sin bok om andra världskriget.

Efter kriget användes campen som interneringsläger av judar, innan engelsmännen släppte Palestina 1948. Bland alla dem som satt internerade här kan nämnas Golda Meir.

I början av 1964 drog FN in på campen. Först irländare, sen danskar och i oktober kom svenskarna. Campen fick sitt nuvarande namn efter den först svenske chefen, Carl Gustav Ståhl.

VATTENTORN UTAN VATTEN

Det är alltså bakgrunden till att major Bertil Lilliehöök och hans kompisar fått sitt Vattentorn.

Varför det kallas Vattentorn är fö en gåta för de flesta.

—Det enda vatten vi har är en halv kubikmeter i en behållare uppe på taket.

—Och så har vi en brunn i köket förstås. En lucka i golvet leder ner i underjorden.

—Förresten märks det alltför tydligt att det här är ett sommarhus. Det blåser rätt igenom och är kallt utav bara den. Skriv det!

Vilket härmed varder skrivet.



Major Bertil Lilliehöök bor i ett hus med anriket förflutet, Vattentornet som tidigare var fyllt av galanta damer



Roland Winge, Sören Blem, Lasse Andersson, Bengt-Ivar Franck, Torbjörn Näslund, Johnny Göstasson, Ronny Andersson och Gunder Edström har övertagit kung Faruks forna sommarbestad.



De flesta byggnader på Carl Gustav Camp står kvar sen andra världskriget. Taggtråden är också ett minne från den tiden. Svenskarna kom hit först 1964 och i oktober kunde vi således ha firat 10-årsjubileum. Här är det Hans Olsrud, första kompaniet som går vakt.

SWEDCON NEWS

REQUEST PROGRAMME



Farwell
to
Brig.
Hann.
Clay
Beattie

Request Programme to be broadcast in Malta at Christmas arranged with BFBS for 41 Commando Gp. In the Officers' Mess at Polemidhia, Capt. Rob Gilding, on the left, plays it 'cuff' with from left to right, Capt. Roger Spiers, Capt. Peter, Nicole Raymond of BFBS and Lt. John Roberts.



A tug-of-war competition was held in Polemidhia under dreadful conditions on Monday 16th December 1974. WO 2 John Mays of 8 (Alma) Battery shouts encouragement to his team whilst they in turn try their best in the clinging mud.



A 5½ mile cross country race was held for all members of 41 Commando Gp at Polemidhia. The early leaders are seen shortly after the race commenced.



A 41 Commando Gp patrol makes its way through Evdhimou village with from left to right, Gnr. Peter Tulip, Gnr. Dave Matthews and Cpl Jock Skinner.

REGIMENTAL NIGHT



A Regimental Guest night was held on Friday 6 December 1974 in the Senior NCO's Mess at Polemidhia. WO 1 Ray Whitehouse the RSM, is flanked on the left by Lt. Col. M.R. Marchant, CO 41 Commando Gp and on the right by Capt. Bert Booth, the BK of 8 (Alma) Battery.



There is no truth to the story that the members of the OP at Evdhimou are rolling their own cigarettes. Whilst Capt. Brian Nash holds the whip aloft those straining at the wheel are, from left to right Gnr. Dave Matthews, Gnr. Harry Gates and Gnr Richard Odams.

AUSCON MEDAL PARADE



MEDAL PARADE: Bei der am 14.12.1974 im Camp Duke Leopold V. durchgeführten Medal Parade erhielten 158 Soldaten des AUSCON die Auszeichnung "In the Service of Peace". Kpl GÖRI wird gerade durch den FC Lt. Gen. D. PREM CHAND, PVSM ausgezeichnet.

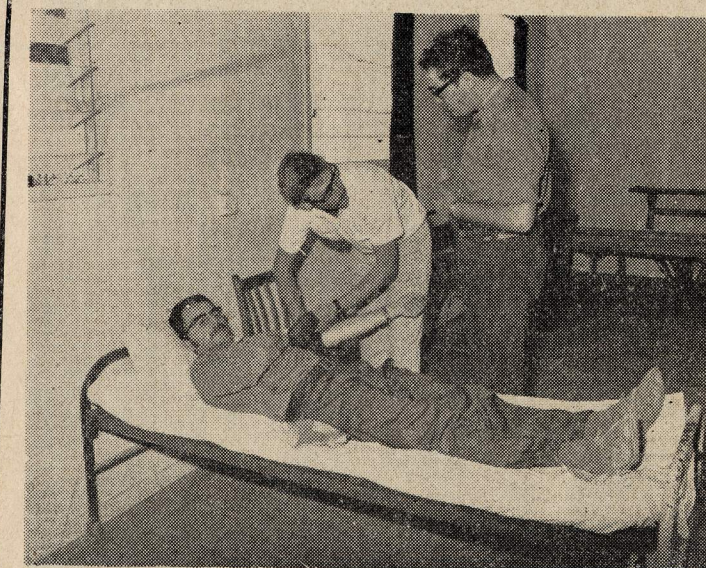
Anlässlich des Aufenthaltes einer Delegation des Europarates in Cypern besuchten die Abgeordneten zum N.R. CZERNETZ und Dr. KARASEK das AUSCON. Sie zeichneten die Medal Parade durch ihre Anwesenheit aus. Unser Bild zeigt die beiden Abgeordneten im Gespräch mit dem FC, begleitet vom Kdt des AUSCON, Obstit RIEGER und dem Kdt der AUSCIVPOL Sektr. Dr. FUCHS.



AUSCON NEWS



Heiß erwartet wird jeden Tag OSTV WINKELMEYER mit dem Postsack. Hier bemüht er sich gerade alle Briefe richtig zu verteilen, was bei zwei Camps und zwölf OP nicht ganz einfach ist. Bild 4:



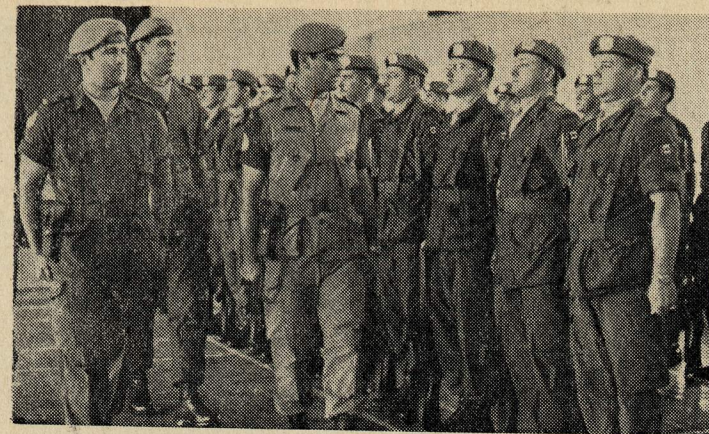
In uneigennütziger Weise beteiligten sich 85 Soldaten aller Dienstgrade an einer Blutspendeaktion, um die schwere Arbeit des BMH DHEKELIA zu unterstützen, das auch den Soldaten von UNFICYP zur Verfügung steht. Hptm STROHMEYER wird gerade für den Aderlaß vorbereitet.

FIRST BATTALION THE ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT RETURNS TO CYPRUS

At 1200 hrs on Wednesday the 18th of December a brief ceremony was held in the gymnasium at Wolseley Barracks, to mark the official handover of command of Nicosia Zone East. The incumbent Lieutenant Colonel G.R. Hirter, Deputy Commander of the Canadian Airborne Regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel P.L. Spencer, Commanding Officer of the First Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment signed the official handover documents after inspecting a fifty man Guard of Honour.

The Guard of Honour was made up of members of the 1 RCR Battalion Group now on duty in Nicosia Zone East. The Battalion Group based on 1 RCR which has its home station at Wolseley Barracks, London, Ontario; includes in its numbers several men from 2 Combat Group based in CFB Petawawa, Ontario.

Heavy support comes from the 8th Canadian Hussars and the Engineer Field Squadron. As well our logistics company in Blue Beret Camp boasts of augmentees of many trade classifications from various parts of Canada.



The Guard Commander Capt. R. Turpin escorts the incumbent Comd. of Nic. Z. East LCol. G.R. Hirter, as he inspects the Guard of Honour at the Handover Ceremony on Wednesday 18 December.

All members of the Battalion Group, though specialists in their own fields, are moulded into one cohesive unit. The rifleman, crewman and engineer all serve at the outposts and barriers, while the gunner and the signaler work together in the Joint Operations Centre.

The ceremony on Wednesday marks the end of a long rotation period which began on 17th November when our first

advance party landed. The second advance party followed on November 20th. A series of our main body flights beginning on 4 December and ending ten days later brought the new contingent up to strength.

To some of us this our first tour of duty in Cyprus, and thus a new and at times a strange and bewildering experience. To others it is the second, third, or even a fourth tour on the island. Regardless of the fact one has been here before or has come to Cyprus for the first time, there is one common denominator. To put it very simply, we are here to do a job and all mean to do that job well.



LCol. G.R. Hirter signs the Handover Certificate while LCol. P.L. Spencer the new Comd. of Nicosia Zone East eagerly awaits his turn to put pen to paper.

Immediately following the Handover Ceremony the Regimental Colour and Queen's Colour were marched to the front door of the Officers' Mess at Wolseley Barracks. The Colour Party was met at the base of the steps by Lt R.V.

Goldik the Mess Secretary. With the assistance of Sgt D.A. Filey the Mess Manager, the Colours were accepted for safe keeping within the mess and are now in the dining room display case.



On 13 December 1974 it was announced that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II had approved the award of the Order of Military Merit to 54 members of the Canadian Armed Forces. Chief Warrant Officer B.C. Robinson, the Regimental Sergeant Major of The First Battalion The Royal Canadian Regiment, will be invested as a Member of the Order.



Lt. R.W. Reid hands the Queen's Colour of the First Battalion of The Royal Canadian Regiment to Lt. R.V. Goldik the Mess Secretary of the Wolseley Barracks Officers' Mess.

TULIPA UUSI VUOSI

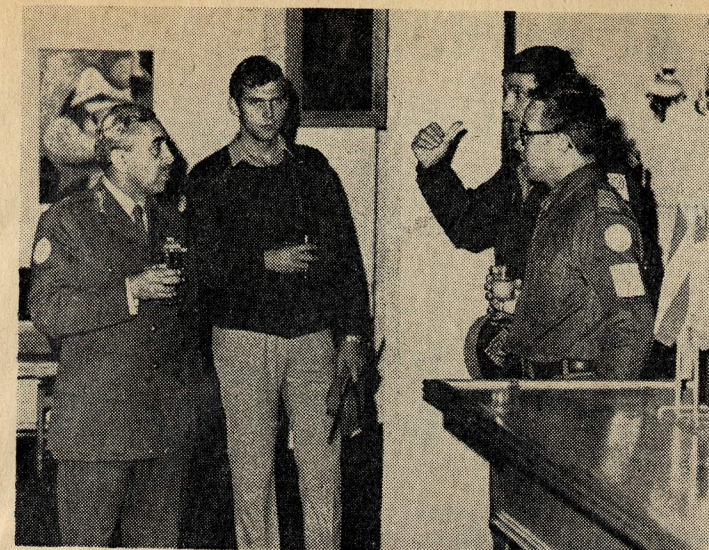
During his routine visit to FINCON on 20th December, the Force Commander also visited the new Officer's Mess, Corner Restaurant. In the light of his previous experience about the restaurant he also wished the Officers many merry evenings in the new location.

Uusi vuosi on edessä kuin tyhjä täyttämätön lehti. Monia arvoituksia ja tuntemattomia tapahtumia se pitää sisällään. Näistä ehkä jotkut askarruttavat mieltä, kumma ellei näin olisi. Onpa minulla varastossa eräs sana, joka sopinee näin vuoden alussa sanottavaksi. Entinen huoltopäällikkö kertoi seuraavan tarinan: Kaksi YK-SP:n sotilasta oli eräänä aamuna vähän mielteissään. Oli ollut iloinen ilta ja nyt tilanne oli hieman hankala. Nähdessään silloisen papin he vaativat jotain lohduttavaa häneltä ja saivat: "Joka aamu on armo uus", tämä lause oli auttanut.

Tarinan opetus on helppo löytää. Kun me elämme, olemme näin vuoden alussa tehneet noita uuden vuoden lupauksia tai emme, on varma tuo opetuksen lause. Joka päivä meistä pidetään huolta.

Toisilla "lanaa" tässä kuussa toisilla myöhemmin. Olimme pa täällä saarella, Suomessa tai missä tahansa niin voimme olla turvallisella mielellä kaikissa tilanteissa. "Joka aamu on armo uus". Uskallanpa edelliseen viitaten toivotella kaikille todella "Hyvää uutta vuotta". Jussi-pastori

Muista jälleen:
Kypros-konsertti
OY Yleisradio AB
00260 Helsinki 26



The traditional UNFICYP Christmas gift for the Red Cross — home for Sick Children and Old Peoples home in Kyrenia was this Christmas delivered by FINCON. The result of the collection arranged in FinBn was handed over by OC 1 Coy Maj Karl-Erik Lenck. In the picture Maj Lenck, Maj Elizabeth Hunter-Cowan and Lt Piipari singing Christmas carols to the children.



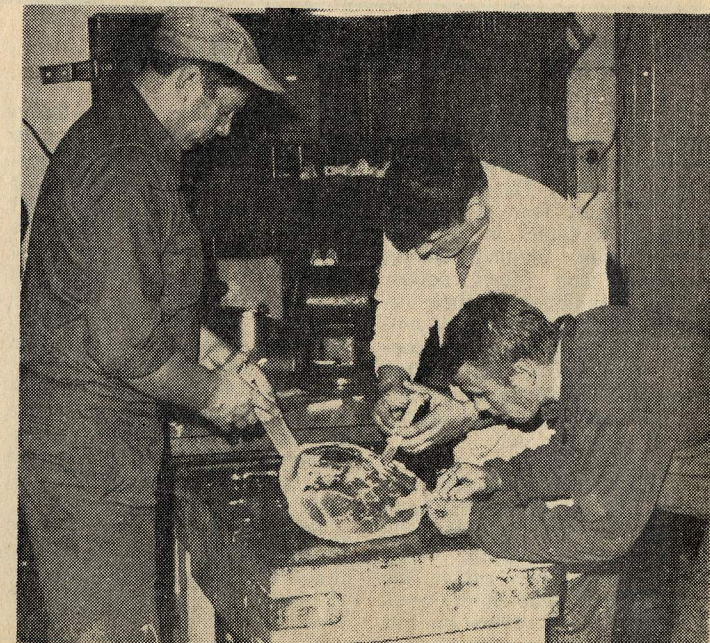
UNFICYP in perinteinen joululahja Kyreniassa toimiville CP-lastenkodille sekä vanhainkodille kerättiin tänä vuonna FINCON-issa. Lahjasumman, yhteensä £92, kävivät luovuttamassa Vuoren päällikkö majuri Lenck, englantilaiset majurit Elizabeth Hunter-Cowan ja Phyllis Haymann sekä luutnantti Piipari. Kuvassa he laulavat suomalaisia ja englantilaisia joululauluja lapsille sekä heidän hoitajattarilleen.



MEILTÄHÄN TÄMÄ KÄY...

...ja huolto pelaa. Suurin osa Finconia säästyi menneenä jouluna suuremmilta kiireiltä, joululahjastajaisetkin sujuivat paikalliseen tapaan paljon rauhallisemmin kuin koto-Suomessa. Mutta kaikkia joulunviettopojamme emme toki unohtaneet. Pöydät notkuivat supisuomalaisia joulukakkuja, kinkkua, laatikkoita, riisipuuroa, kotikaljaa sekä glögiä, tottakai.

Huolto teki töitä lähes yötä päivää, aatonaattona saapuneet laatikkoruokatarvikkeet sekä kinkujen valmistaminen pyöristivät keittiön päivää. Kuvassa keittomiehet Klemola ja Haapala kinkkuja ruiskusuolaamassa, mukana auttamassa ja käytännön harjoitusta saamassa myös lääkintämies Kontkanen.

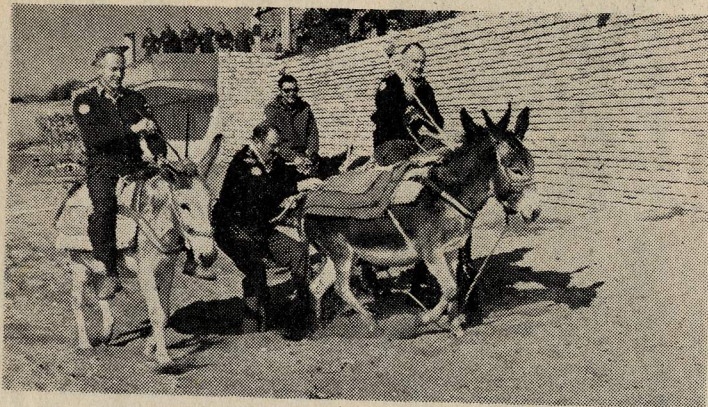


FINCON NEWS

DONKEY DERBY AT PAPHOS



On the 12th December 1974, a lunch and Donkey Derby was held at the Paphos Beach Hotel which a large number of officers attended as the guests of the Queens Royal Irish Hussars. The photograph above shows several of these officers grouped together on the steps of the Hotel with the Force Commander Lt. Gen. D. Prem Chand, PVSM.



Supt. M. Kelly of the Australian Civil Police encountered considerable difficulty in getting on and staying on his 'mount'. Here he is seen attempting the water skiing technique.

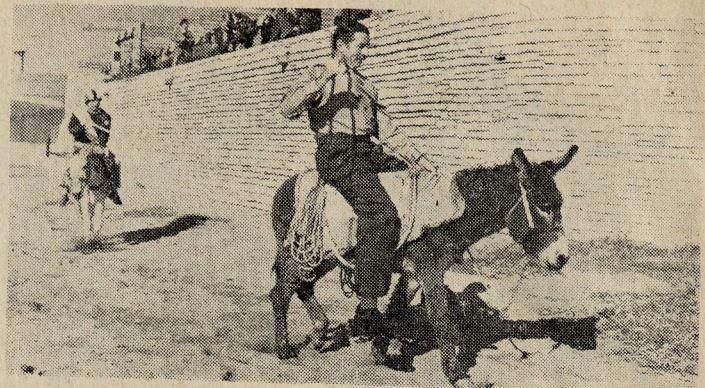
WIRELESS FOR THE BLIND

Earlier in the month a small number of WO's and Sgt's of Camp UNFICYP rallied together to form a choir. The idea was to do a short tour of all the Messes and Clubs in the immediate area, singing Carols and other well known songs, then on completion of their repertoire to ask for a small collection from the members present. This collection (when completed) would be forwarded to "Wireless for the Blind", care of BFBS.

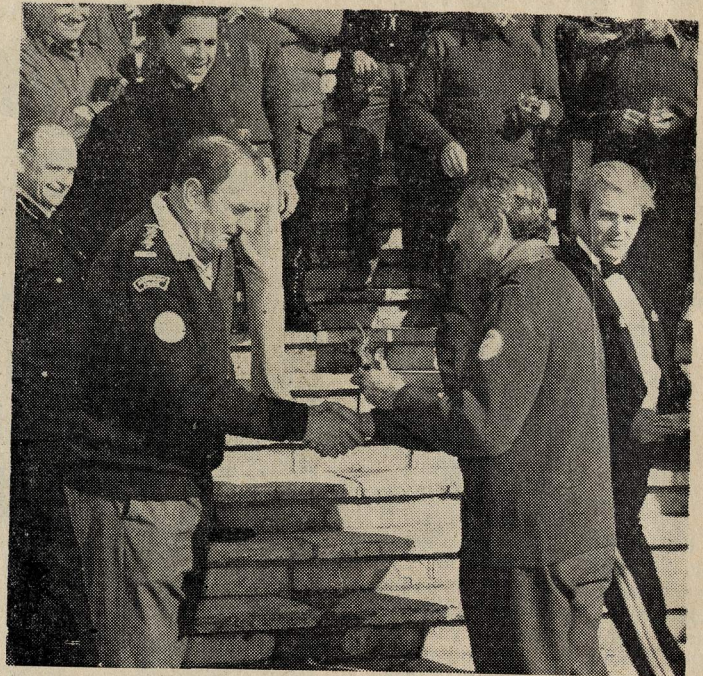
On the evening of 17th December 1974, the choir commenced their tour, beginning at the International Club, Camp UNFICYP and then on to the Officers' Mess, Blue Beret Camp; Mercury Club, Wheel-em-Inn,

Craftymans Club all of Camp UNFICYP and then finally on to the RAF WO's & Sgts Mess, RAF NICOSIA. A resounding welcome was given to the choir in all of their visits to the Messes and Clubs mentioned and by the end of the evening a large sum of money had been collected towards this charity. The only Mess not visited that evening was the WO's & Sgts of Camp UNFICYP, but the following afternoon a short Carol service was given and a final collection taken to swell the total sum collected to £C36.300 mils.

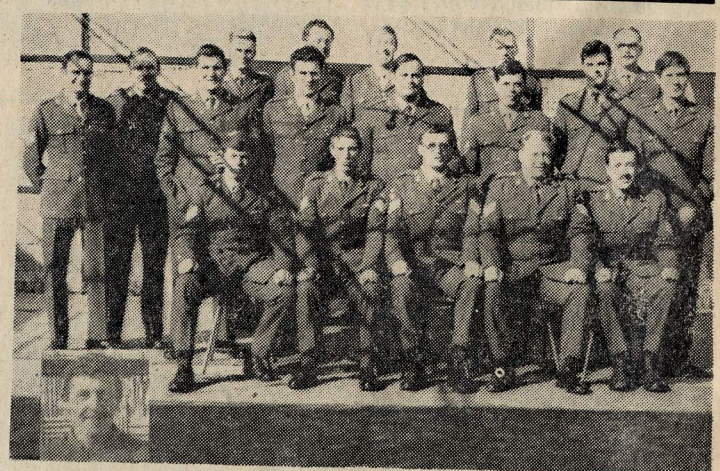
On behalf of all the members of the choir we would like to thank everyone who contributed to this worthy cause and wish them all a Happy New Year.



Lt. Col. M.R. Marchant, CO of 41 Commando Group races his 'mount' towards the first bend in the actual race.



Supt. M. Kelly receives the 'Booby' prize from the Force Commander Lt. Gen. D. Prem Chand, PVSM on the completion of the races.



Although the choir has now disbanded, we managed to persuade them to pose for the above photograph. Unfortunately the photographer, Ssgt P. WAUGH and Sgt KIRKBRIDE were also member of the choir and are not shown. They are from left to right, back row, Sgt R. Cox, Sgt F. Gill, Sgt P.D. Cody, WO 2 F. O'Neill, WO 1 R.S. Clarke, Sgt W.A. Coltman and WO 2 D. Runciman: centre row, Sgt I. McColl, WO 1 J.A. Beattie, Regimental Sergeant Major of Camp UNFICYP, Sgt J.W. Evason, Sgt P. Cross, Sgt G. Greenaway and WO 2 E. Sayers: front row, Sgt A. Ellis, Sgt D. Camplin, Ssgt G. Frobisher, Sgt R. Burden and Sgt M. Wells. The small inset photo is of Ssgt S. Rose who has since left the island.