



The Blue Beret

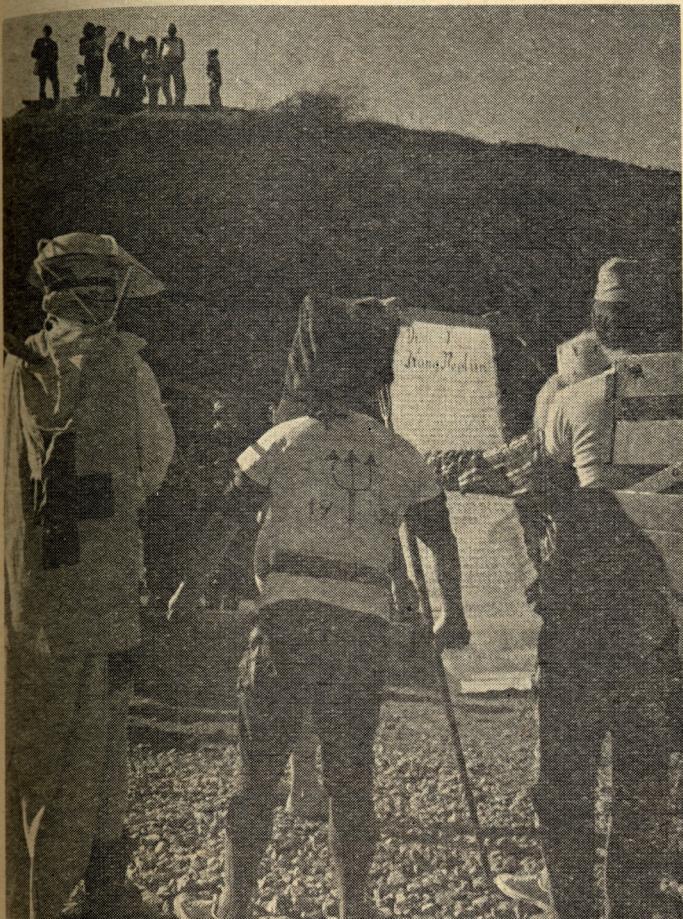
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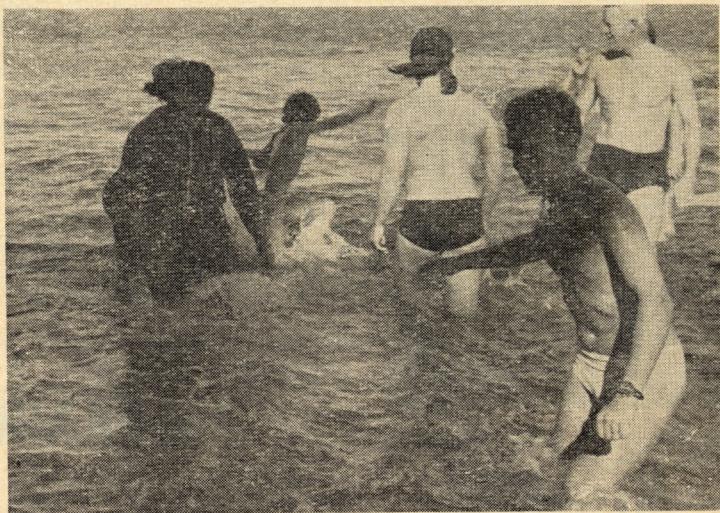
1973



A CHRISTMAS SWIM

On Monday the 25th December about 130 members of Dancon and Dancivpol went swimming. This Christmas swim has become a tradition amongst the Danes with UNFICYP, and it is an event surrounded by rituals. King Neptune and his followers are cordially met and receive the homage of the crowd. Each one to be thrown into the

water is first examined by the 'doctor', and then 'baptized'. After the swim each gets a document which states that the owner has been swimming on Christmas day and that he is allowed to call himself a viking. The event not only attracted many spectators from the Danish units, but also the local Cypriots.



MESSAGE FROM HQ UNITED NATIONS

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. B. Osorio-Tafall and the Force Commander, Major General D. Prem Chand, 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 best wishes for the New Year. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to you and to all the personnel of UNFICYP for the devotion and skill with which all of you have performed your important task. It is my earnest hope that the forthcoming year will witness significant progress toward peace in the Island."

Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General"

"We wish to send to you and the personnel of UNFICYP our Christmas greeting, all best wishes for the coming year. Our thanks for your co-operation and assistance."

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

Brian E. Urquhart, Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs".



The dancers, seen in action in the photograph are members of the Austrian Folk Dancing group. This group consists of six dancers and one accordion player. They are dancing just for fun and would gladly give to other messes "the taste of Austria". The dance is carried out in national dress with leather trousers, and the dance is called "schuhplattln", which indicates that the dancers are using their shoes also for other means than only to protect their feet.

JUST A REMINDER

Don't drink and drive!



Thank you.

I ANLEDNING AF ÅRSSKIFTET 1972-1973

TRÆD IND OM DU EST VÆRD

JEG LADER OP MIN BUE

OG AABNER PLADS DET KRONED SLOT AT SKUE

TRE KONGER HAR DET FØRT AF VAND

AF ILD OG SKUD

TRODS HAVETS SLUG TRODS BRAND.

TRODS FIENDENS KUGLEREGN HAR

KONG CHRISTIAN DEN FEMTES MAGT OG MØJE

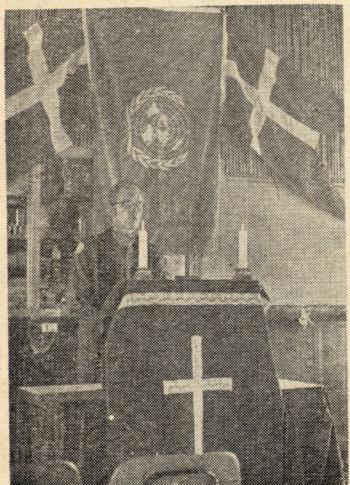
BYGD KRONEVÆRKET TRODS HVER AVINDSYGES ØJE

GUD GIVE KONGEN OG HANS SLÆGT EN ÆRLIG RAAD

SAALÆNGE ØRESUND SKAL KYSSE KRONBORG'S FOD.

Denne gamle tekst, som findes

på en stentavle over indgangen til Kronborg Slot har også noget at sige os danske af idag. Måske især til os, som forretter tjeneste langt fra hjemmet!



• Feltpræsten holder julegudstjæste i Limnitis



• Så det sådan ud, da feltpræsten og oberstløjtnanten var på julerundtur i helikopter?

med til at skabe en bedre verden at leve i.

De sidste linier "Gud give kongen og hans slægt en ærlig råd, sålænge Øresund skal kysse Kronborgs fod" er en bøn om, at der altid må være folk, der vil bistå de regerende og ledende med ærlige, redelige og gode råd.

Lad os her ved Dancon give hinanden håndslag på, at vi i det nye år vil være ærlige, pligttrø og flittige, og at vi ved vort eksemplel vil vise vejen frem for de mennesker, vi for en kort tid er sat til at leve iblandt.

Med disse ord ønsker jeg alle i Dancon, Dancivpol og alle hjem-



me, som er i vores tanker, et godt og fredeligt nyt år.

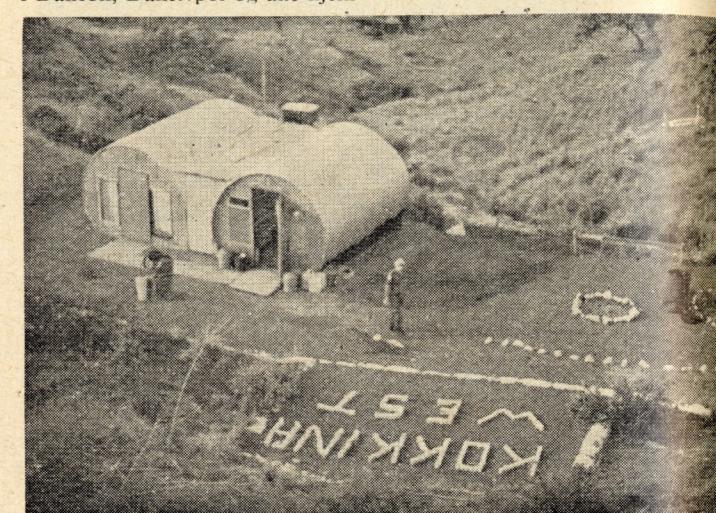
H. E. Skaarup.
Chef Dancon

De første linier "Træd ind, om du est værd—" er et symbol på vor militære tilværelse her på Cypern. Vi kan få lov til at være med, såfremt vi er værdige dertil, hvis vi har det sind og den opførsel, som skal til for at tæne freden.

Såfremt vi med værdig ro, upartiske, søger at bevare vort gode forhold til befolkningerne herhende, så ligger belønningen lige foran os, bl. a. i form af glade smil, tillid og hengivenhed. Så skuer vi det kronede slot. Så føler vi arbejdsglæden.

De næste linier af inskriptionen minder os om, hvordan generationer har bygget på "slottet", på Danmark, om man tager det i overført betydning.

Vor indsats her på Cypern er også en sten i dette bygningsværk! Løser vi vor opgave på en god måde, øger vi kendskabet til og respekten for vort land Danmark i internationale kredse, og vi er



JULEKAGER SKABTE KONTAKT!

Det er en fantastisk oplevelse at flyve i helikopter, når man ikke har prøvet det før, men der er jo ikke megen kontakt mellem passagerer og fører og "konduktør" i sådan en "luftbus". Man klarer sig med tegnsprog udenom øreklapperne.

Det lille problem ordnede Limekiln og Mosquito. Limekiln havde som så ofte før bagt. Julekager selvfolgeligt.

Og vi troede ellers, vi var forsønt på den, fordi ingen havde tænkt på at der var vogntransport fra flodlejet til Ny Selemani, og vi havde kun 20 minutter hvert sted, transporttid indregnet. Men der var også beregnet 20 minutter til Kokkina West, og

der skulle vi bare læsсе af, så der blev tid til en sludder om kærlighed og de helt forskellige juleskikke, mens vi drak en kop kaffe og fik en smøg på Mosquito.

Pludselig var kontakten der. Vore britiske venner sad iblandt os, både til juleandagt og den efterfølgende overholdelse af "ikke at bære julen ud".

Tak Limekiln og Mosquito. Og tak allesammen for mødet med jer på alle poster.

Det var julens oplevelse for Feltpræsten.

DANCON NYT



• Finalen på julebadningen i Xeros. Skulder mod skulder vandrede politiets officials ud mod horisonten...



Julfirandet på Carl Gustaf Camp blev for de allra flesta en oforglömlig upplevelse. För huvudelen av styrkan började det redan julaftons förmiddag med färd till Mimosa Beach utanför Salamis och det mycket omtalade och lika traditionella juldoppet i Medelhavets blå men ack så svala böljar. De allra flesta, inklusive de anhöriga som vägat sig med, intog emellertid vattnet och verkade till och med njuta av den korta vistelsen. Väl återbördade till stranden igen serverades varm glögg och derefter kunde samtliga känna sig väl förtjänta av sitt nyförvärvade medlemskap i Polar Bear Club.

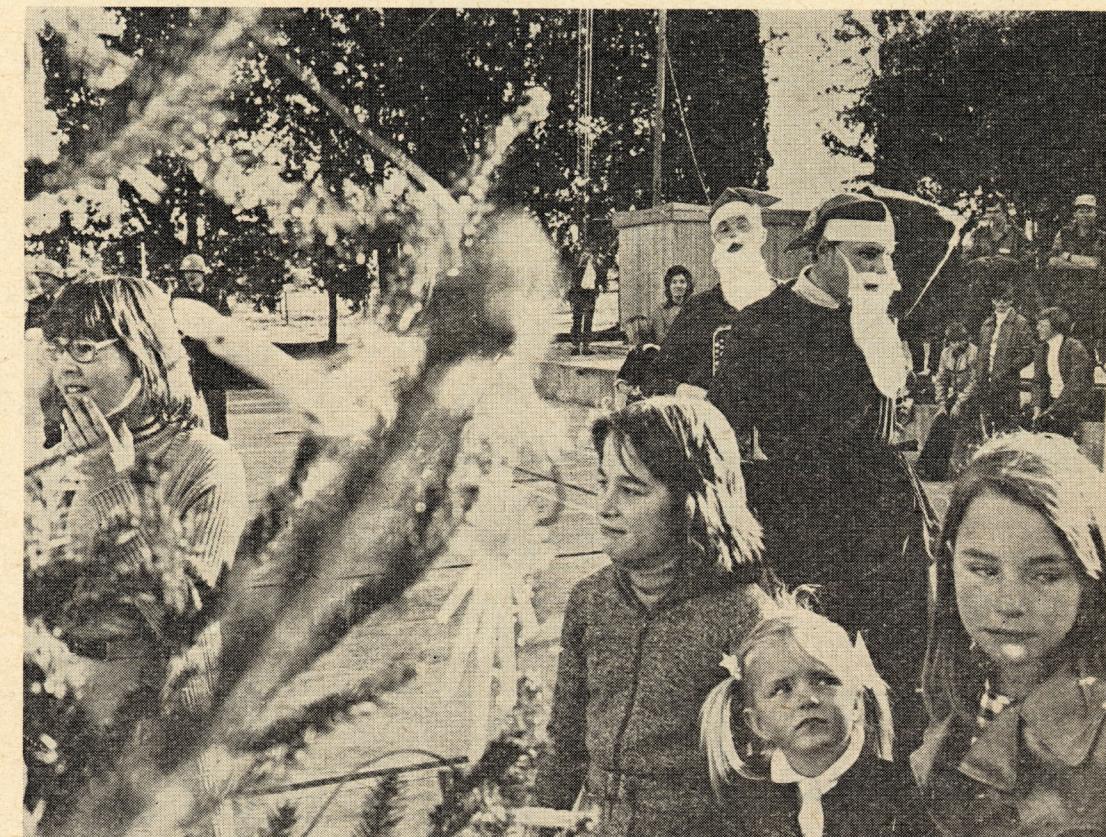
På eftermiddagen samlades man i Muskelhallen för att betitla Walt Disney-film. Spända av förväntan bänkade sig unga som gamla framför den vita duken. Men tyvärr—Walt Disney är en eftertraktad filmmakare speciellt till jul och filmavdelningen hade inte lyckats gräva fram något av honom. Men film blev det i alla fall och de flesta verkade nöjda.

För de allra minsta arrangerades sedan dans kring granen och ringlekars samtidigt som tillfälle erbjuds att rida åsna, ett populärt inslag som utnyttjades flitigt.

Så bjöds det genuin svensk filmkomedi innan de dignande julborden översvämmades av glupska firare. Och nog fanns det mat så även den mest kränsne kunde bli tillfredsställd. Inte en enda rätt lär ha saknats från det traditionella svenska julbordet.

Senare på julaftonkvällen bjöds till underhållning i Muskelhallen, ledd av kapten Lundin. På programmet stod bl a musik av Royal Goldfish Band, sång av Lotusblommorna, avklädningsunderhållning av doktor Franck och kapten Nilsson, samt Viktor Rydbergs Tom-

BLÅ - GUL JUL MED MYCKET KUL



Nu är det jul igen, nu är det jul igen... Musiken ekade över kampen och sergeant Cronbergs drag spel höll på att gå varmgång. Här dansar årets tomte, batass Ljung, tillsammans med några av de yngre julfirarna.

ten deklamerad av kapten Burström och så naturligtvis äkta Lundgrenska vitsar.

Det var förresten inte bara vi svenskar som firade. På annan dag var samtliga civilanställda inbjudna med familjer och även då bjöds julmat, godis och olika jullekars i privatmässan till stor förtjäntelse för de inbjudna.

SWEDCON NEWS

Swedish Forces Photos



Medlemsskapet i Polar Bear Club måste ha varit åtråvært sådan fart som det var på julbadarna när de oförskrækta kastade sig i Medelhavets nog så svala böljar. Men att det var kallt spelade ju ingen roll när man badade i kungens bästa långkalsingar...

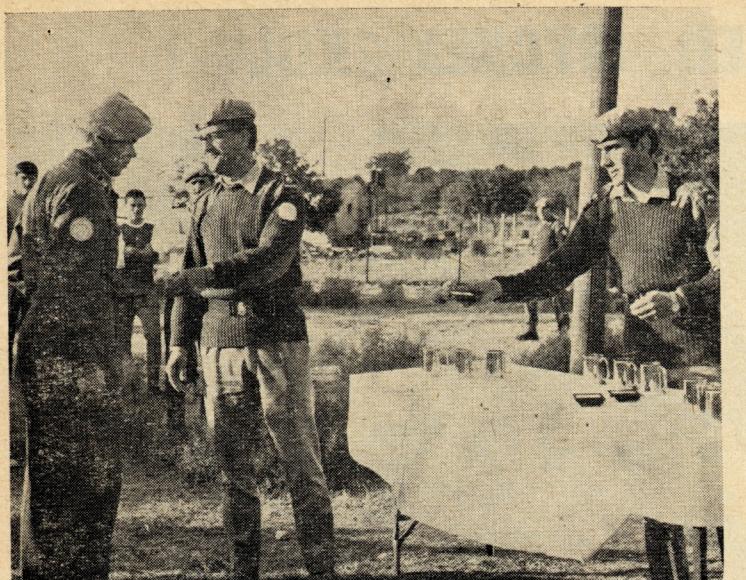
NEWS IN BRIEF

The Christmas celebrations at Swedcon turned out to be a great success with lots of traditions and typical Swedish Christmas food. On the lavishly provided tables you could among other things find ham, brown and red cabbage, stockfish, and brawn. Besides all that there was also dancing and games round the Christmas tree, donkey riding, cartoons and a genuine Swedish comedy movie.

The top of the day came in the morning when almost the whole battalion went to the beach to take a Christmas swim in the quite chilly Mediterranean. Afterwards hot drinks were served and everybody became honorary members of the Polar Bear Club.

Later in the evening there was a show with music, singing and humour performed by men of the battalion.

On Christmas day almost the same programme was followed as then the OP-platoons rotated and new men "entered" the camp. Besides all the soldiers there were also a lot of relatives visiting the camp during the Christmas celebrations.

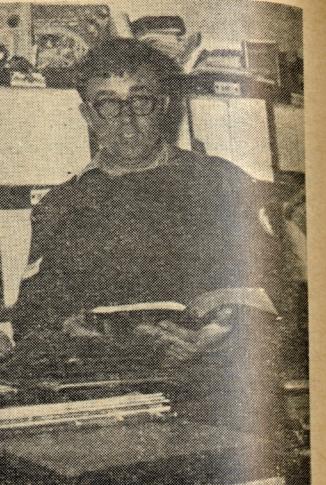


ORIENTEERING

3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment organised an Invitation Orienteering Competition on Wednesday 20 December 1972. The final placing were:-

- 1st — Fincon
- 2nd — 1 Royal Anglian
- 3rd — HQ Company, 3 Queen's
- 4th — Town Company, 3 Queen's
- 5th — Ircon

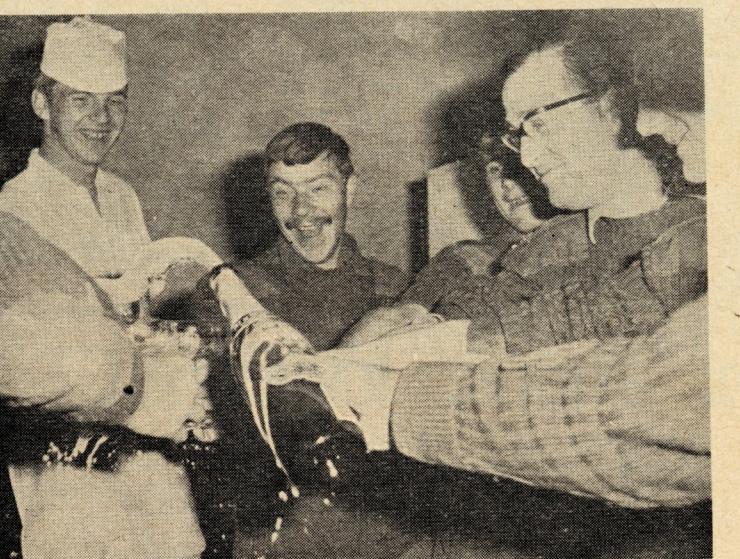
The picture left shows a member of Fincon being presented with his prize by Lieutenant Colonel C.L. Tarver MBE.



PERSONALITY

Corporal "Slim" Sivers has served with the 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment since 1961 and carried out the duties of Post Corporal since 1968. No matter where he might be posted to Corporal Sivers always carries a Father Christmas outfit with him and enjoys playing the part for the children every year. When not busy with the post, he takes an active interest in the Soldiers and Airmens Scripture reading Association and has also run the Battalion scout troop, the only Battalion troop in the British Army, since 1961. Our picture shows him at work in the Post Office.

3 QUEEN'S WISHES EVERYONE



BRITCON NEWS

F.C. VISIT'S BLUES & ROYALS

'B' Squadron, Blues and Royals who took over the responsibilities of the Force Reserve from 'D' Squadron, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards on 9 December 1972, had their first visit by the Force Commander, Major General D. Prem Chand on Thursday 28 December 1972. In the picture below the Force Commander is accompanied by Major A.H. Parker Bowles. (Squadron Leader of the Blues and Royals), (left) Captain C.R. Starwing (centre) and Corporal Major P. Bell.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR



SERGEANT FOR A DAY

Private Manville, 17½ years old, of the 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment, the youngest soldier in the Battalion was promoted Sergeant for Christmas Day, and carried out his duties of Orderly Sergeant with distinction, though admitting at the end of an exhausting day that he was glad that Christmas only came once a year. Our picture above shows Private Manville being congratulated by the Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer I Hart, on his temporary promotion.

BLUE BERET CAMP GUARD

On Christmas morning 23rd Infantry Group completed their second stint of duty at Blue Beret Camp and all are pleased that the very high standard set by Number 1 Platoon was maintained by Sergeant Joe Spillane and the men of Number 2 Platoon.



● The left of our picture shows Ircon taking over the Blue Beret Camp Guard from Cancon and on the right we see the changing of the Sentries.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT LARNACA



● Sergeant Billy Quinn conducts the choir at Christmas Mass while Captain Noel Kelly plays the organ.



● The Christmas morning swimmers look pleased with themselves.

MP NOTEBOOK ACCIDENTS — UNFICYP

Week Ending 29 Dec 72	— 12
Same Period	
Last Year	— 5
Total This Year	— 371
Same Period	
Last Year	— 323

Main Cause Of Accidents This Week:
**DRIVING WITHOUT
DUE CARE AND
ATTENTION**



● A unique game of football was played in Polemidhia shortly before Christmas when 23rd Infantry Group played 3rd Battalion Queen's Regiment in a Gaelic football match.

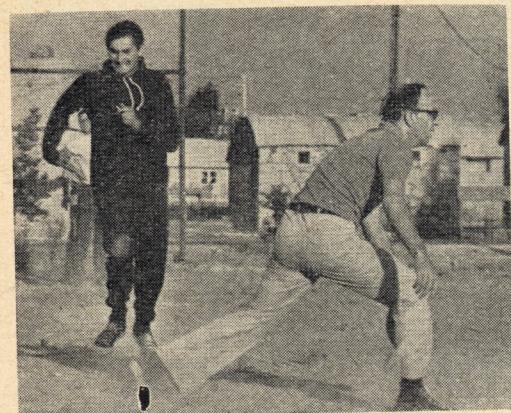
PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK

This week our personality is Sergeant Lea O'Neill who is our Transport Sergeant. Sergeant O'Neill is a very experienced transport man and his Parent Unit is No. 2 Garrison Company Supply and Transport Corps, Mc Kee Barracks, Dublin. He is a native of Dublin and married with four children and he is on his fourth tour of duty with the United Nations. He has previously served in Limnitis, Lefka and Zyyi, he also served in the Republic of the Congo in Leopoldville. He lists among his many interests Darts, Soccer, Films and Dancing.



A HAPPY NEW YEAR

IRCON NEWS



• Sprinting towards first base is Corporal Scott Smith. Waiting the throw from the infield is the first baseman Captain Ed Bucci. Watch that stretch Ed!

CHRISTMAS DINNER

The traditional Men's Christmas Dinner was held Christmas Day at Suburb Company kitchen and at Blue Beret Camp kitchen. The men are traditionally served by the officers and senior non-commissioned officers of the unit. The turkey and trimmings are prepared by the cooks for whom Christmas Day is not a holiday but is one of their busiest days of the year.

Approximately three hundred men were served at Blue Beret Camp by Sergeant Duke Warwick and his staff. Among the men present were members of the Force Military Police Company Nicosia Detachment from all nationalities comprising the detachment. The dinner was honoured by the presence of Santa Claus, Major Ross Mooney, the Provost Marshall, who went around exchanging Christmas greetings with the men.

After dinner, the assembled troops were addressed by Colonel C.E. Beattie, Commander of the Canadian Contingent, who wished them a Merry Christmas and thanked them for the fine job they are doing in Cyprus. The dinner was concluded by a Christmas Lotto draw, the first prize winner being Corporal Cec Badcock of Maintenance Platoon.



• Sergeant Mel Stevens serving Christmas dinner. From left to right we have Corporals Lou Berthelot, Andy Bigras, Chief McDermott, and Private Bill Lehoux.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

For the past few years the Canadian Contingent has sponsored a Christmas party for the children of the Kyrenia Sick Children's Hospital. This year was no exception, and under the guidance of Major G.S. Wharton, members of the contingent prepared for the 23 December party.

The Corps of Drums started the party with music for the children. At 1030 Santa Claus, played by Warrant Officer Gerry Smith, arrived with his bag of presents. Amid squeals of joy and anticipation, Santa handed out his gifts to the youngsters. Santa was accompanied by three clowns led by Corporal Willie Williams. Further entertainment was provided by Corporal Mike McCarthy on the trampoline. Just before dinner the children sang Christmas carols.

Dinner, turkey and all the trimmings was prepared by Master Corporal Bert Struthers and was served under the supervision of



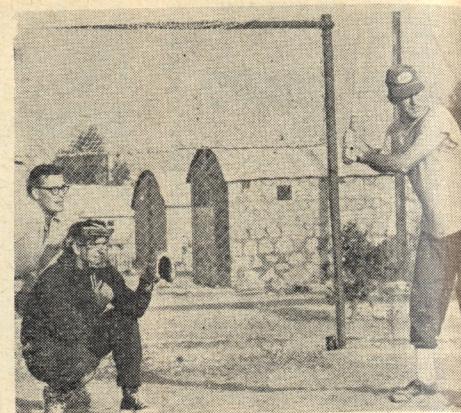
• The "clown", Corporal Willie Williams with some of the children at the party.

SOFT BALL

While Canada enjoys frigid weather appropriate for hockey, the Canadian Contingent is making full use of the fine Cyprus weather to play softball. An intercompany league is in full swing with games played once a week at Wolseley Barracks sports field.

In October and November a softball league was in operation in Cancon Base with four teams participating; Maintenance, Transport, Quartermaster Stores, and the Leftovers. Games were played twice weekly with no team managing to dominate the league. The Maintenance "Rats" were leading the league when it closed down.

The Canadian Contingent is willing to play friendly games against other contingents. If you wish to play us contact the Contingent Sports Officer at Wolseley Barracks.



• Sergeant Dave Johnson at bat. The catcher behind the plate is Corporal Scott Smith while looking over his shoulder is the plate umpire Corporal Joe Igleniec.

CANCON NEWS



the head waiter, Major Wharton. During and after the dinner, the children played with the band instruments. A few squeaks led to more laughter and encouragement to budding musicians.

All members of the contingent who took part agree that the party was a moving experience and that they would enjoy doing it again.

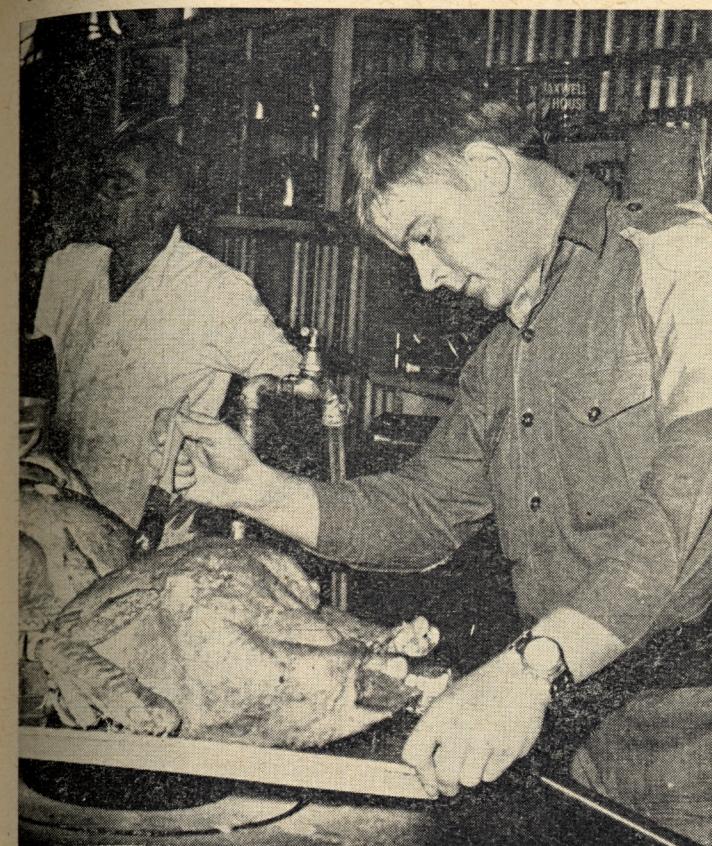
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• A new contrabass player for the Corps of Drums? Private Norm Langlands assisting one of the children with his musical career.



Jääkäri Mäkelä Kykon keittiössä urakoit toden teolla paistaessaan kinkkuja ja kalkkunoita.



Alik Pulli ammattimiehenä koristeli sähköpuolen.



Kuusen pystytäminen Kykon palaalle vaati taitoa ja tekniikkaa.

FINCON VOITTI SUUNNISTUKSENKIN

Suomalaiset saapuivat ennakkosuksikkeina juuri joulun alla pidettyihin suunnistuskilpailuihin, eivätkä näitä odotuksia pettäneetkään. Majori Matikainen piti jälleen kiertettä ja voitti henkilökohtaisen kilvan.

Häntä säestti hyvin jäähy Vihervirta sijoittuen neljänneksi. Fincon oli ylivoimainen myös joukkuekilpailussa, jossa laskettiin neljän parhaan aikaa kuudesta suunnistajasta.

Suunnistukset

järjesti Limassolissa Polemidha Campin maastossa englantilainen 3 Queen's pataljoona ja voitto tavoittelivat Cancon, Ircion, Dancon, 1 R Anglian ja

Tuloksia:
Joukkueet

1. Fincon 7.16.5 2. 1.R Anglian 8.07.10, 3. HQCoy/3 Queen's 8.47.24, 4. Town Coy/3 Queen's 8.58.54

Suomalaisille tuotti hieman vaikeuksia kartanluvussa valokopio-kartta, jolta pitäisi määritellä gridien avulla rastipisteet. Lisäksi jaettiin rastimääritelmät, joista erikoisimpina mainittakoon tunneli, lammaskarsina ja ilmoitustaulu.



TAAS OHI

vuoden juhliin, ehkä loppiaiseksikin. Kalkkunoitakin ostettiin 12 tuollaista neljän kilon möhkälettä.

Huollon osuuksia näkyy selvimmästi lihapuolella, mutta mahduton joulupöytään niin OP:lla kuin messessä muutakin. Suomesta oli saatu erikoislähetyksenä näkkileipää, sillia ja puolukkahilloa. Keittiöt venyivät parhaimpaansa valmistesaan peruna—ja porkkanalaatikko. Lantulaatikkoihin pystytettiin teke mään jopa ilman lantua, kun ne korvattiin paikallisilla turnipseilla.

Ja hyvä! Onohtaa ei tieten kään sovi riisipuuroa, rusinasopaa ja piirakoita, eikä tietenkään kotikalja, jota pantiin yli 100 litraa.

Joulu ei ollut tienenkää pelkkää syömistä. Henkistä huoltoa tar-

OP-WEIHNACHT 1972



• Am OP Anadhou gab es sogar ein Hirtenspiel und eine "fast" Mitternachtsmette.

Weihnachten 1972 war für viele Soldaten das erste Weihnachtsfest außerhalb Österreichs. Aber wir passen uns an und so wurde auch dieses Fest, persönlich und mit unverkennbarem österreichischen Akzent gefeiert. Die OP-Besetzungen, seit Oktober 1972 zu einer Schicksalgemeinschaft zusammengeschweißt, fühlten sich zwar ohne Familie allein aber nicht verlassen, denn Kameradschaft, wie sie gerade bei solchen Anlässen deutlich wird, ist ein Erlebnis.

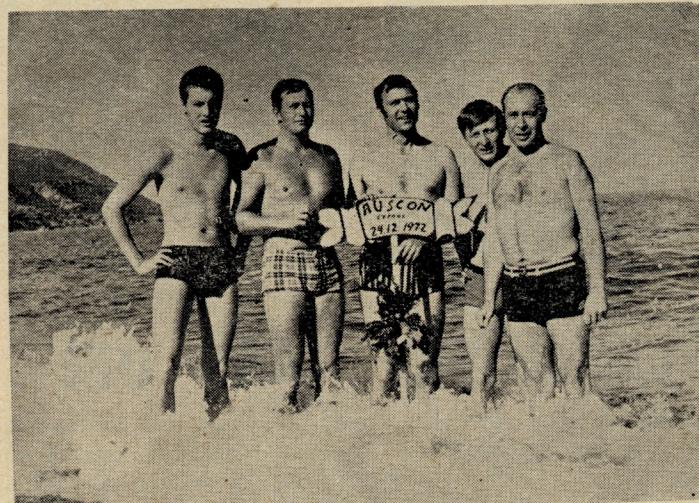
Der Eindruck eines solchen Weihnachtsfestes fern der Heimat, jetzt noch brandneu, wird weiterwirken.

Später einmal, bei anderer Gelegenheit wird noch so mancher sagen: "Erinnerst Du Dich noch, damals...?"

SCHARFSCHIESSEN

Die Ausbildung im scharfen Schuss gehört zur militärischen Ausbildungsroutine und ist eine willkommene Abwechslung im Dienstbetrieb. Tage an denen "Schiessen" am Dienstplan steht, beginnen zeitig am Morgen, denn auch der Weg zur Dhekelia Range erfordert seine Zeit.

Das Schiessprogramm wird laut ASA (Allgemeine Schiessausbildung) nach österreichischen Ausbildungsgrundlagen abgewickelt. Das Ergebnis kann sich sehen lassen: Österreichs Soldaten haben auch im Auslandseinsatz das



• Weihnachten ganz anders: Oblt Dr. Wakolbinger mit seinen "Unerschrockenen".

• Soldatenweihnacht. Auch eine Wellblechbaracke kann Weihnachtsatmosphäre haben.



EINFACH ZUM NACHDENKEN

"Prosit Neujahr, ein glückliches Neues Jahr, ein gutes Neues Jahr!" — diese und ähnliche Floskeln werfen wir uns zu Beginn des neuen Jahres an den Kopf. Ob wir uns dabei auch etwas denken, ist eine andere Sache. Auf jeden Fall wünschen wir uns alles Gute! Was aber ist, wenn das Neue Jahr nicht nur Gutes und Glück bringt — wie wir ja jedes Jahr die Erfahrung machen??

Darum wünsche ich Euch Mut und Kraft für das Neue Jahr, dass Ihr es so bewältigen könnt, wie es kommt. Versuchen wir im Neuen Jahr für einander da zu sein! Freuen wir uns im Glück miteinander und tragen wir auch das Leid mit einander — dann ist niemand allein und braucht nicht zu verzagen.

In diesem Sinn ein gutes Neues Jahr

Euer Kaplan

AUSCON NEWS

STEIN AUF STEIN

Offizierstellvertreter Ernst Böhm, ein bewährter Unteroffizier, der im Jänner 1973 nach Österreich zurückkehrt, hinterlässt auf Zypern einen "bleibenden" Eindruck. In seiner Freizeit, zusammen mit freiwilligen Helfern, hat Böhm auf dem OP der 2. Kompanie in Anadhou eine Stützmauer errichtet, die genausogut irgenwo in Österreich stehen könnte. Vom rohen Stein, bis zur festgefügten Mauer — ein arbeitsreicher Weg.

Die Blumenschalen, die links und rechts des Aufgangs angeordnet sind, entstanden in mühevoller Arbeit. Diese Art von Mauern, in Zypern weitestgehend unbekannt, wird von den Bewohnern Anadhous bewundert. Aber nicht nur von diesen, auch der Kommandant des Auscon sprach Offizierstellvertreter Böhm seine Anerkennung aus.



• Die Waffenkammer ist sein Reich: Offizierstellvertreter Hau und Korporal Kupper nehmen die Waffenpflege ganz genau.



• Offizierstellvertreter Böhm schlägt eine Blumenschale aus dem rohen Stein.