



# The Blue Beret

Wednesday

22nd December

Issued by the Public Information Office  
of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

Volume Nine No. 39

1971

## PEACE AND GOODWILL TO ALL

Once a year we are reminded, a little more personally and directly, of one of the noblest of aspirations of mankind, of Peace and Goodwill for all. In Cyprus, where all of us serving with UNFICYP, civilian and military, have been entrusted with the unique assignment of making a personal contribution towards the vital interests of international peace and security, this message is all the more significant.

In looking back over the year we have spent together, may I take this opportunity of expressing my deepest gratitude to each one of you for the very conscientious and devoted manner in which you have carried out the duties assigned to you. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have had you with us in the team, and I would like to add that the very encouraging comments made by the Secretary-General in his reports on Cyprus for the year have been largely as a result of the valuable contribution you have made all along. I am sure that each one of you would like to join me in our hopes and prayers that the new mandate which has just commenced will bring peace and prosperity to this delightful island, and I know that I can count on your fullest support and efforts towards this end.



I wish you all, and your families at home, a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Major General  
D. Prem Chand,  
Force Commander



The extension — for the twentieth time — of UNFICYP's mandate projects the peace-keeping activities well into the New Year of 1972. It is customary when the old year comes to a close to take stocks of what we have done and what we failed to do as well as to re-state our intentions for doing better during the renewed mandate, which is likely to be started under more auspicious conditions.

The Secretary-General has already mentioned in his last report to the Security Council, dated 30 November 1971, on the Force's activities in Cyprus during the period 20 May to 30 November 1971, his deep appreciation to all UNFICYP personnel for carrying out with exemplary efficiency and devotion the important tasks assigned to the Force by the Security Council.

All of you have performed your duties to the full satisfaction of all the parties concerned with the Cyprus conflict and have thus added prestige and renewed confidence to UNFICYP's essential task of preserving peace in the island.



In extending my heartfelt congratulations for the eminent services you rendered during 1971 to the cause of peace in Cyprus, I am pleased to convey to you and your families my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 1972.

B. F. Osorio-Tafall,  
Special Representative of  
the Secretary-General.

# HAPPY

# CHRISTMAS





●En rigtig Viking af den barske slags, shorts og kampjakke. KS Farup kører "mulje" til OPerne.



●Et godt parti "jalla skak" kan der også spilles en gang imellem.

## HVERDAG I KOKKINA

Klokken 0530, da efterårsstørmen er på sit højeste, vækkes de gode Kokkina-krigere med en melding fra OP-Mosquito, at OP-skuret samt den fine, nye lynafleder (i stedet for "Jens Lyn", KS A.M. Nielsen) er blæst ned fra bjerget og ligger smadret i dalbunden.

### DANGON NYT

Med assistance fra pionererne lykkes det, under kamp mod regn og blæst, Kokkina-krigerne i løbet af formiddagen at få stillet skuret nødtørftigt på plads igen, således at den barske og hårde observationstjeneste kan fortsætte.

Imens indløber der stadig meldinger fra de øvrige Kokkina OP'er, som overvåger Cyperns mest urolige område mod vest, til "the King of Kokkina". Således meldes kl. 1035 fra OP Stavromeni, at der falder flere skud ude bag bjergene, antagelig jagtskud.

Kl. 1250 melder OP South om to færehyrder, som er dukket op og går rundt i ingenmandsland med deres får og geder, som om alt var fred og idyl. Kl. 1445 meldes fra



●Resultatet af samtalen med CH blev en lille, nydelig rapport, et væsentlig stykke arbejde for DF. LT Nielsen er ekspert i enfingersystemet.



●Efter normal arbejdstids afslutning er der tid til lidt hygge i messen, hvor dagens høst af friske vittigheder og nyheder studeres og udveksles.



●Telefon fra CH, MAJ K.A. Nielsen. Det ser ud til, at SG Krog er ved at holde auktion på samtalen. PS: Samtalen blev solgt til DF Nielsen, "The King of Kokkina"

OP West, at der graves og regeres i stillinger ved OP'en. Samtidig med, at meldingerne strømmer ind, går den daglige tjeneste sin gang i lejren.

Telefonvagterne har travlt med at holde signalforbindelserne i orden. Snart er det en radio, der

●Slangen er god nok, men KS Kelsen kan på trods af ihærdige forsøg ikke gøre det ud for Anita Ekmann.



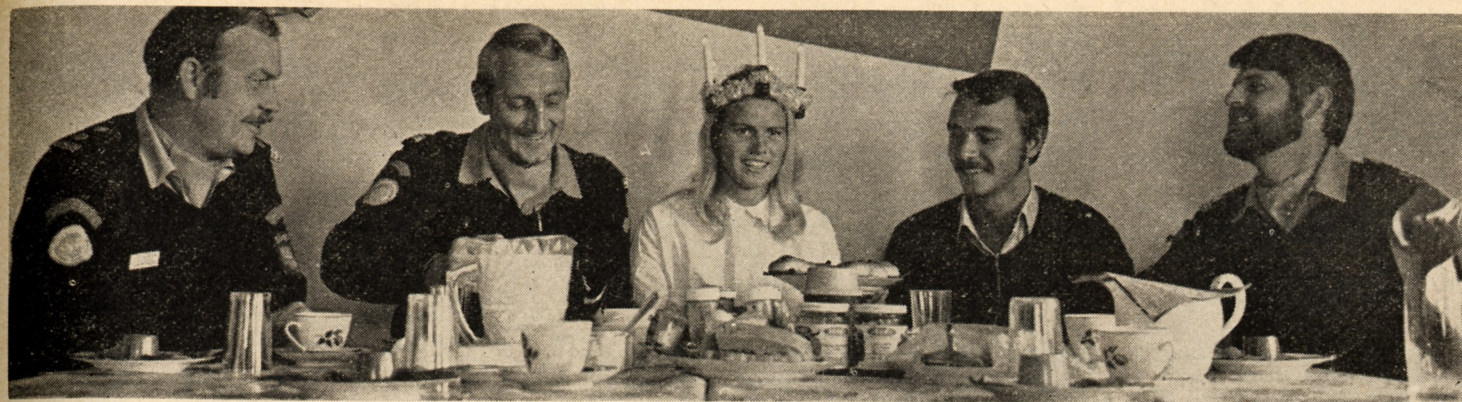
Driverne sørger for gennem den eneste faste forbindelse til den øvrige del af Dancon for mulje, post og andre livsnødvendige opholdsmidler til OP'erne og lejren i Kokkina.

Her ser man forskellige situationer fra Kokkina-lejrens dagligdag. Fotografen morede sig dejligt. Det var en af de dage, hvor der for en gang skyld skete lidt ud over det sædvanlige.

Dancons ønskekoncert på lørdag er flyttet til kl. 13,30-14,00.



●Det var også dagen med afprøvelse af brandslukningsmateriel, senere ordnede regnen det sidste.



## LUCIA SPRED LJUS I VINTERMÖRKRET

Den mulna, vintermörka och kalla Lucia-dagen kom traditionsenligt ljusets drottning och hälsade på den svenska kontingenten. Med sitt blonda och långa Lucia-hår gjorde Ulla Fahlén en stämningsfull entré såväl i manskapsmässen på morgonen som i muskelhallen på kvällen. Och i sitt framträdande backades hon ljudligt upp av stjärngossarna som sjöng "för full hals".

Både manskapsmässen och muskelhallen hade också pryttas så att de blivit hemtrevliga och alla de levande ljusen värmdes. I muskelhallen applåderade sig också åhörarna varma. Och dessutom blåste allsångstonerna bort eventuellt kvarvarande kyla. Rustmästare Fransson är ju säker på sånt.

Efter Lucias framträdande i manskapsmässen på morgonen gav sig hon och stjärngossarna av upp till Villa Oasis där de hälsade på sjuklingarna. På bilden till höger tycks Lars Andersson från Åhus ha roligt värre tillsammans med Ulla Fahlén och doktor Jan Bengtsson.

Lucia-patrullen for sedan till Angastina och sjöng ännu en gång och här för vår civilpolisavdelning. Civpolarna hade självfallet också kaffebordet dukat och på översta bilden njuter sällskapet av bordets frukter. Från vänster Lars Jacobson, Stockholm, Olle Jimyr, Stockholm, Jonni Christensen, Köpenhamn och Claes Persson från Göteborg.



SWEDCON NEWS  
Swedish Forces Photos

### SVENSKA FRAMGÅNGAR VID TERRÄNGLÖPNING

De svenska framgångarna i terränglöpnings Country Cross Race den 13:e december var verkligen strålande. En tredjeplacering individuellt och andraplats i lagtvillingen måste man säga var ett mycket bra resultat.

Banan på 8,5 km var tungsprungen och hal efter allt regnande.

Framför rallt halkan besvärade löparna i sina gymnastikskor. Totalt startade åtta lag. I lagen inräknades de åtta bästa från

varje kontingent. Från Swedcon startade 12 man.

På första och andra plats individuellt kom två engelsmän. Därefter hamnade Sune Palm från Unnaröd. På nionde plats kom sedan Hans-Åke Arnesson från Bottaryd och på fjortonde plats Lars Eriksson från Linköping.

På bilden t.v. tar Sune Palm emot sitt pris efter tävlingen som gick utanför Limmasol och arrangerades av den nordirländska styrkan inom Britcon.

### LJUS-GÅVA TILL KYRKAN

Kyrkan på Carl Gustav Camp har från grabbarna på 1:a pluton mottagit en gåva. Det var Kent Samuelsson och Sven Gustafsson som representanter för plutonen som en dag helt överraskande kom och överlämnade en ljusstake i järnsmide. Den har nu placerats på altaret i kyrkan och vid gudstjänsterna lyser ljusen upp koret i den så ofta fullsatta kyrkan.

### GE 2:A PLUTON BYGGMATERIAL

I nummer 38 av Blue Beret uppgavs att 2:a plutons förläggning var nyrenoverad. Som alla väl vet är detta helt gale. Om det är någon som behöver få sin förläggning upprustad så är det manna på andra pluton. De har också lovat att göra allt arbete själva om de endast får virke och annat material som behövs. Och det bör ju kunna ordnas - tycker man.



The Commander, BRITCON, Colonel D. E. Thornton, wishes all members of the contingent "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year".

### CHRISTMAS IS COMING

According to an old English carol "Christmas is coming and the geese are getting fat". This doesn't quite apply to Limassol Zone — Christmas is definitely coming but there are no geese and certainly nobody is getting fat! However plans for the celebrations are now well advanced.

The Quartermaster Captain Dick Rafferty has been cast in the role of an Administrative Father Christmas. If Santa Claus doesn't call on him first for a full briefing he will be in trouble around Limassol and Paphos.

The Christmas programme will include the following. On 24th December a battalion concert, carol service and midnight service. Christmas Dinner will be served to the battalion by the officers and sergeants on the 25th with film shows in the evening. The battalion draw takes place on the 26th — First prize is a return ticket to Germany or the UK.

Admin Father Christmas has made arrangements for the traditional Christmas Dinner to be sent around all the outposts for Christmas Day provided the MT can meet the indent for reindeer. A Happy Christmas to you all!



The BLUE BERET is published by the Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, (UNFICYP).

Communications, articles or enquiries should be addressed to:- The Editor

THE BLUE BERET  
HQ UNFICYP  
NICOSIA Cyprus



● The Pipes and Drums of the 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers on parade at Polemedhia



### KITCHENER'S HUT BURNT DOWN!

The fire picquet of the Royal Irish Rangers are pictured fighting a fire which broke out in their PRI Shop at Polemedhia Camp.

The hut is thought to be one of the original ones built by Lord Kitchener in the late 1880s when he surveyed the site for a British unit. The hut

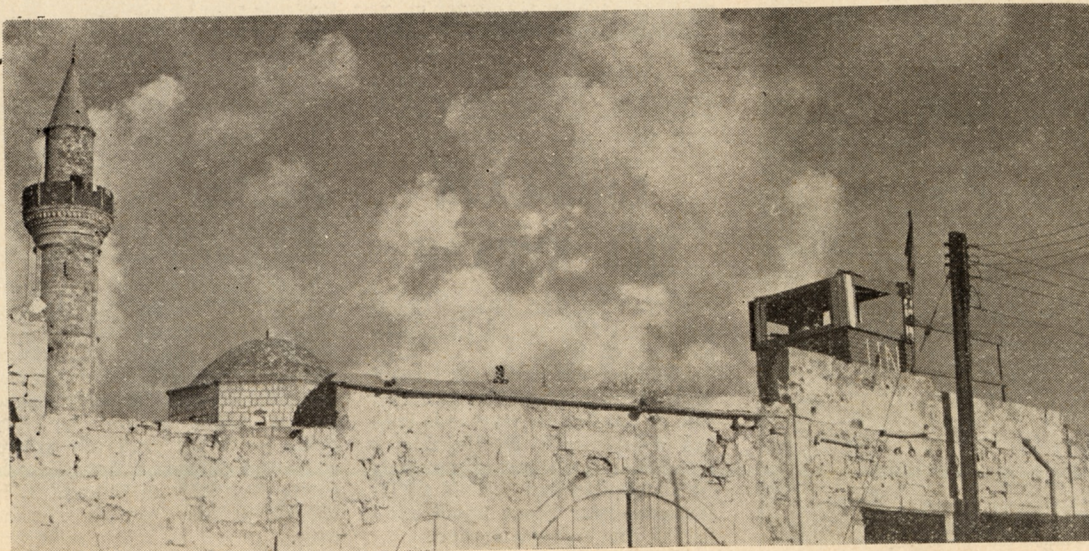
and its contents were a total write off — overheard at the scene was a Rangers' comment "Pity it wasn't the circuit training hut!"

### PROBLEM SOLVED!!



Lifting a full jerrican to refuel a car with the use of a funnel is a tricky enough operation. Imagine then doing the same thing balanced on the wing of a landrover re-fueling a Sioux helicopter. This is what UNFICYP aviation flight did until they put their "heads together" with members of UNFICYP Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Workshop's and produced the apparatus shown above in the picture. Problem solved!

Know your Outposts No 2 — Mosque OP in Paphos manned by C (Paphos) Company, 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers.



### BRITCON NEWS

### BUSY POSTMASTER

Like Scrooge in Dicken's "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" Sergeant Frank Moran is one gentleman who is glad that Christmas comes but once a year!

As the Unit's post NCO he has to bear the responsibility for collecting and despatching the myriad of letters, cards and parcels which are now synonymous with the celebration of Christmas.

Needless to say; when the expected post is late in arriving, the man who bears the brunt of all complaints is the post sergeant and when the post arrives punctually, (as it usually does), the last man to receive any praise is the said post sergeant. However, we can assure Frank that his hard work and thoroughness of approach are fully appreciated by all members of the Group and we thank him for his many 'deliveries' in 1971 and look forward with anticipation to what his mailbag has in store for us in 1972.



NOLLAIG FAOI SHÉAN IS FAOI MHAISE DHÍBH Ó 21 GRÚPA COISITHE.



● Sergeant Frank Moran seen sorting Ircon's Christmas mail in the office of the Irish liaison Officer at Headquarters UNFICYP.

### ... THEN ADD SOME FLAVOURING

Corporal John Vickers applies his skill to the making of Christmas fare for 'A' Company whilst his staff carry out the more mundane task of cooking dinner for the 90 diners of the mens Dining Hall, Wolfe Tone Camp, Larnaca.

As he is a well known connoisseur of good whisky, we were surprised to see him using Scotch in preference to Irish in the making of his cakes. However, with the true open-mindedness of all Irishmen, Corporal Vickers replied that "real whisky is too valuable to be buried like this in a cake batter". Which whisky he was alluding to by "real whisky" we do not really know and wouldnt like to hazard a guess.



### NIGHT CASEVAC EXERCISE

The Austrian Field Hospital authorities recently held a night casevac exercise from Larnaca to the BMH Dhekalia. Capt Frank Rossat and the Medical Section of 'A' Coy had the "patients" suitably laid out on stretchers when the helicopters arrived to evacuate them to the hospital.

Photographed here is Capt Rossat with members of the Field Hospital getting ready for lift off; other photo shows some of the "patients" ready for removal, with their stretcher bearers in attendance.

### IRCON NEWS



# JOYEUX NOËL

## CANCON NEWS

Canadian Forces Photos



## ACHATS DE NOËL—STYLE CHYPRIOTE

Peu importe où vous allez, vous devez toujours faire vos emplettes de Noël comme s'en sont rendu compte deux membres de la Compagnie B du 2 R22eR. Le Caporal Marcel Marcoux et le Soldat Jean-Pierre Cyr essaient de choisir l'anneau qui ferait le meilleur cadeau.



● Même si les membres du Contingent Canadien sont éloignés de leurs familles cette année ils vont fêter la Noël quand même. Ils auront l'occasion de se retremper dans l'atmosphère des fêtes lors du dîner traditionnel qui a lieu le jour de Noël. Le "MESS" des hommes du Camp des Bérets Bleus a déjà fait ses décorations dans le but de donner aux hommes l'esprit des fêtes.



● Partout dans le monde les bureaux de postes envisagent Noël comme une dure période; si c'est le temps des bonnes dispositions; c'est aussi une période où ils sentent la pression de travail. Le bureau de poste du Contingent Canadien n'est pas différent des autres comme nous pouvons le voir par la montagne de lettres sur laquelle travaillent présentement le Caporal Tom Rafuse (Gauche) et le Caporal RA "Suds" Sutherland.

## SPORTS

Les ligues inter-compagnies de balle-molle et de ballon-volant suscitent beaucoup d'intérêt parmi les participants et recrutent même un bon nombre de spectateurs. Les parties sont chaudement disputées et il faut dire que l'arbitre a beaucoup à faire pour garder son impertubabilité avec tout les "conseils" qui lui sont gratuitement offerts.

Le classement des équipes au 9 décembre est le suivant:

### BALLE MOLLE

Equipes	P.J.	P.G.	P.P.	Points
SOUTIEN	4	4	0	8
RESERVE	4	3	1	6
VILLE	4	2	2	4
BANLIEU	4	0	4	0

### BALLON VOLANT

Equipes	P.J.	P.G.	P.P.	Points
VILLE	12	8	4	8
RESERVE	12	7	5	7
BANLIEU	15	7	8	7
SOUTIEN	15	5	10	5

## Kuntorakilpailu

Pataljoonan kuntokomppania-kilpailun ensimmäinen osakilpailu, kuntoratakilpailu pidettiin perjantaina 17.12. Omorphytan kuntoradalla. Sää ei ollut paras mahdollinen, sillä koko kilpailun ajan satoi vettä kaatamalla. Tämän vuoksi eräät kilpailijat eivät yltäneet parhaaseen tulokseen. Olosuhteista huolimatta ajat olivat suhteellisen hyviä, kuten tulostaulukko osoittaa. Pataljoonan joukkue kontingenttien väliseen kuntoratakilpailuun valitaan karsintojen perusteella, johon ottavat osaa 25 parasta plus ne, jotka kukin komppania erikseen vielä haluaa ilmoittaa. Tästä karsinnasta ilmoitetaan erikseen. Sitten hieman tulossataoa:



Ylik Erkkilä voimakkaassa lopukirissä.

1. Jääk Kemppainen R  
IJK 2.28
2. Jääk Haanjoki J  
IJK 2.37
3. Jääk Asikainen L  
IJK 2.49
4. Jääk Pohjanen S  
IJK 3.01
5. Jääk Röntynen P  
IJK 3.02
6. Jääk Helander  
2JK 3.05
7. Ylik Erkkilä  
EK 3.06
8. Alik Härkönen  
IJK 3.06
9. Alik Pylsy  
EK 3.07
10. Jääk Kuikka  
IJK 3.08

Ensimmäinen jääkärikomppania saavutti parhaan keskiajan ja sai siten ensimmäisen kiinnityksen ikuisesti kiertävään kuntokomppaniaplaattiin. Joukkue tulokset muodostuivat seuraaviksi:

1. IJK 3.19
2. EK 3.40
3. 2.JK 3.47

Minä ilmoitan teille suuren ilon, joka on tuleva kaikelle kansalle. Teille on tänä päivänä syntynyt Vapahtaja, joka on Kristus, Herra, Daa-vidin kaupungissa.

Juudean erämaassa on pieni Beetlehemin kaupunki.

Nimi on suomeksi leipähuone. Turisti erottaa jo kaukaa Jeesuksen syntymäkirkon kapean tornin, joka hallitsee koko kaupungin maisemaa. Kedot kaupungin ympärillä ovat kivikkoisuudestaan huolimatta hedelmällisiä. Öljypuut suovat varjoa lepoa etsiville lammaslau- moille.

Konstantinus Suuri rakennutti Jeesuksen syntymäkirkon merkiksi siitä, että hänestä oli tullut kristitty. Se on maailman vanhin

käytössä oleva kirkko. Tämän komean roomalaisen basilikan pääovi on niin matala, että siitä täytyy kumartuen astua sisään.

Kirkon alttarin alla on Jeesuksen syntymäluola. Viisikymmentäkolme hopealampua valaisee marmorilaattaa, jossa on kirjoitettu: Tässä Neitsyt Maria synnytti Jeesuksen Kristuksen. Paikan historiallisuudesta ei ole epäilyksiä, sillä jo vuonna 100 syntynyt Justinus Marttyyri kertoo sitä paikkaa kauan kunnioitetun Jeesuksen syntymäpaikkana.

## Joulunvietto pataljoonassa

Ensimmäinen joulukirkko vietettiin jo viime viikon perjantaina St. Paulin kirkossa. Tiistaina oli kaikkien kontingenttien yhteinen joulujuhla Dhekeliaassa St. Georgen kirkossa. Pataljoonastamme osallistui 40 sotilasta.

Jouluaattona pataljoonan komentaja ja pastori vierailivat vartiopaikoilla. Iltapäivällä he vierailivat kaikissa yksiköissä. Aattona klo 20 on radiossa kaikkien kontingenttien jouluohjelmaa ja siinä ohjelmassa komentaja ja pastori esittävät joulutervehdyksensä.

Joulupäivänä on jumalanpalvelus St. Paulin kirkossa klo 11, jonka jälkeen on yksiköissä kahvitarjoilu. Tapaninpäivänä klo 10 lähdetään ajelulle Salamiiseen ja Famagustaan. Tapaninpäivänä klo

20 on myös radiossa suomenkielistä ohjelmaa. Silloin kuulemme terveisiä ja joululauluja.

Voittajakolmikko saa plakaatit kapt Turusen kädestä.



# "THE QUEEN OF LIGHT"

Ulla Fahlén is seen as Santa Lucia — "the Queen of Light" — for the Swedish Contingent carrying out the 12th century tradition, of offering cake and coffee, to Privates Mat Hansson and Kenneth Larsson. This custom which heralds the Christmas season for many people in Scandinavia takes place on 13th December. Young girls dress in white and place candles on their heads wake the members of their families with coffee, a traditional cake and singing.



MP NOTEBOOK		
Week Ending	—	6
Same Period		
Last Year	—	8
Total This Year	—	311
Same Period		
Last Year	—	338
Main Cause Of Accidents This Week:		
<b>CARELESS DRIVING</b>		

### CHRISTMAS RADIO PROGRAMME

There will be a Christmas Eve (24th Dec.) programme at 2000 hrs on Cyprus Radio for members of the Austrian Field Hospital, Dancon, Fincon and Swedcon.



### MESS PRESENTATION

The Force Commander, Major General D. Prem Chand, made a presentation on behalf of all members of HQ UNFICYP Officers' Mess to Colour Sergeant Jack Swan, who, for the last two years, has been Mess Manager. During his time with the mess he has completed a

series of pictures for the anti-room, depicting the countries of the contingents serving with UNFICYP (see background in picture). His next tour will be at the Parachute Regimental Depot at Aldershot. A keen fisherman who knew the dams of Cyprus well, we wish him and his family the best in the future.

## IN MEMORY



A memorial meeting was held on 15th December at HQ UNFICYP to commemorate the memory of the late Dr. Ralph Bunche. The speakers were Mr. Osorio-Tafall, Major General Prem Chand and Mr. J. Miles. Senior representatives from all contingents and the Secretariat

attended. A photographic montage of Dr. Bunche's work, with particular reference to Cyprus, was displayed.

## CROSS COUNTRY RACE

This years Intercontingent Cross Country Race took place at Polemedhia Camp. There had been rain earlier in the day, however, this did not affect the course. Forty eight runners took part.

The individual winner was Corporal Donovan of HQ UNFICYP who finished 1 minute 58 seconds ahead of the field.

The Force Commander watched the runners from two vantage points on the course and presented the prizes.

The results were:-

#### Individual

1st Cpl Donovan 29.45, 2nd Cpl Robinson 31.03, 3rd Cpl Palm 31.51.

#### Contingent

1st Britcon 59 pts, 2nd Swedcon 131 pts, 3rd HQ UNFICYP 190 pts.

● Corporal Donovan, HQ UNFICYP, the winner of the race.

