



STAIR AONÁID

**8ú Grúpa Coisithe
Náisiúin Aontuithe
An Chipir**



MÁRTA 1967 – MEÁN-FÓMHAIR 1967

C O N T E N T S

Foreword by O/C 8th Inf Group

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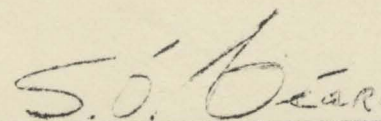
When the 8 Inf Group assembled in the Curragh to prepare for overseas service in March 67, I asked for two things of the Unit - namely co-operation at all levels and dedication to our mission in Cyprus.

I am happy to say that my wishes have been met in measures beyond my expectations and I am deeply grateful to all Officers, NCOs and Men for a fine performance. I think that all ranks may feel assured that we take home with us the esteem and genuine friendship of the people. I have been assured that the Unit has made a worthwhile contribution to peace-keeping and the betterment of conditions in Cyprus.

In this tribute I also include our comrades who served on the staff of HQ UNFICYP and the Officers and Men of the Australian Civilian Police Detachment who gave us such willing co-operation.

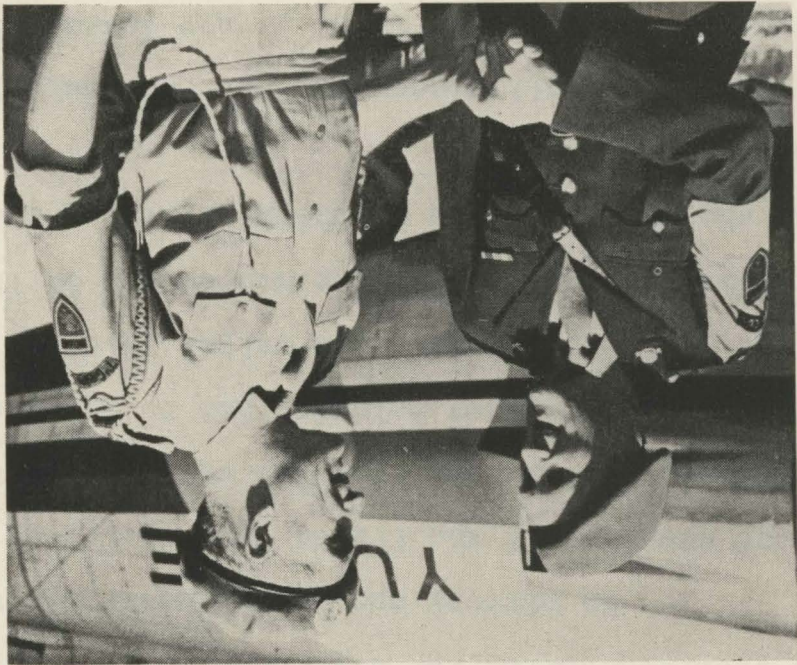
A special tribute is due to Capt Martin Bates who compiled and edited this journal and to his willing assistants, Sgt Kelleher, Sgt Houlihan, and Sgt Kealy.

Beirim buiocas on chroi do gach Oifigeach, ONC agus Saighdiur as uct a seirbhis dilis laochmharach ar feadh na léith bliana ata caithe againn sa Cipir. Ta suil agam go nbeidh rath De oraibh go Deo.


S. O'BEARA LT/CORNAL
(S. O'BEARA)

OIFIGEACH i gCEANNAS 8 GRUPA COISITHE

FAILTE ROIMH AN 8u GRUPA COISITHE



I N T R O D U C T I O N

The expression "Unit History" is used here more as a matter of convenience than strict accuracy. What we set out to do was to record, in narrative form, the events, incidents and occasions that occurred during our six month's tour of duty here.

No history can be produced without a good deal of sweat, toil and frayed tempers. Our thanks then to the chroniclers from the various sub-units of the Group who produced material and to the Operations Staff - Officers and NCOs who helped in every possible way. We include in this our successors in the 9th Group who were roped in on their arrival and willingly lent a helping hand.

To all concerned, but particularly Sergeants Kelleher, Kealy and Houlihan, a very sincere "Thank You".

MARTIN D. BATES. CAPTAIN

OPS (B) 8 INF GROUP

UNIT HISTORY - 8TH IRISH INF GROUP.

APRIL '67 / SEPT '67

CHAPTER 1.

At 11.28 hours on Good Friday, March 24th, 1967 the advance party of 8th Infantry Group arrived at Nicosia Airport. Led by their Commanding Officer, Lt. Colonel James Beary, they disembarked from a Yugoslav Airlines Caravelle, blinking in the glare of a bright Cyprus sun, and were immediately given a warm welcome by Lt. Colonel Hanley and members of the 7th Infantry Group. After a round of hearty welcomes from old friends, and rather confusing introductions to new acquaintances, the new arrivals were conveyed from Nicosia to Xeros.

This was the culmination of some hectic preparations which had commenced a few weeks earlier. The 8th Infantry Group owed its existence to a Government decision to send a unit to Cyprus as a replacement for the 7th Infantry Group. In the last few days of February the names of the officers filling the various appointments were announced and training was intensified in respective commands.

Previous Overseas Service.

Of the 41 Officers in the Group 17 had previously served overseas, 16 in the Congo and 8 in Cyprus. The two chaplains had also served in Cyprus previously. The O.C., Lt. Colonel James Beary had served as Adjutant 36th Bn in the Congo. He had been promoted to his new rank only a few days prior to taking over command of this group. His 2 IC, Comdt Jack Stewart, had previously served in Cyprus with the 40th Bn and

Two overseas veterans, Comdts
J. Flynn (left) and J. Stewart.

in the Congo with 38th Bn. Not only did the unit have a good proportion of UNFICYP veterans, but some of them had actually served in LEFKA

DISTRICT, a factor of considerable advantage to their less experienced colleagues.

D.S.M. Holders.

8th Infantry Group had the singular distinction of containing in its ranks no fewer than nine holders of the newly-awarded Distinguished Service Medal. Of these, 2 were holders of the First Class Medal and the remainder were DSM's Second Class. Two of the Group Company Commanders, Comdt's Nunan and Flynn were DSM Holders.

It was no surprise, then, that a mood of optimism and confidence prevailed during the awkward (and for us very Compressed) period of concentration in CTC.

Group HQ assembled at Plunkett Barracks on Monday, March 13th, and were joined there exactly a week later by the Main Body. The 8th Infantry Group was organised into a Group HQ, HQ Coy, 2 Infantry Coys and an Armoured Car Group. (Nominal Roll of Unit is attached as Annex 'A', with an Alphabetical Roll by ranks as Annex 'B').

Preparatory Training.

From its inception personnel of the Unit had been engaged in training in their respective Commands. The object of this training was to familiarise all ranks with the type of duties and tasks they would be required to carry out in Cyprus. Thus, the syllabus included such subjects as patrols, shot reports, observation training, helicopter procedures, etc. Once again, the experience of our UNFICYP 'veterans' was a great advantage to all newcomers to United Nations service.

A secondary aspect of training during the concentration period was rehearsing for the Easter Parade in Dublin, in which the Main Body of the Group was to participate. This, in turn, was tied in with rehearsals and training for the Review by the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Frank Aiken, which took place in CTC on March

23rd. It had been preceded by the blessing of the unit flag by the H.C.F., Rev. Fr. Duffy, and an address by An t-Aire Cosanta, Mr. Micheal Hilliard. The ceremonies concluded with a March Past. The music for the ceremonial was rendered by the Band of the Curragh Camp under Capt D. Mellerick. Comdt T. O'Hanlon was Chief Marshal and the Colour Party, drawn from the Military College, was commanded by Lieut Frank Hearn.

Reception by An t-Uachtaran.

The previous day, March 22nd, the O.C. and Officers of the 8th Infantry Group were received at Arus an Uachtarain by President de Valera. He referred to the high standards set by our predecessors on overseas service and expressed his confidence in the ability of our group to maintain these standards. The President said he envied us the opportunities for travel and broadening our horizons which overseas service afforded. He suggested that we should take the fullest advantage of meeting people of other nationalities and of familiarising ourselves with their culture, traditions and language.

Briefings were given to the officers of the Group by representatives of A.G. and Q.M.G's Branches, the Directorates of Intelligence and Engineers. These were interesting and useful, though the 'compression' inevitable from trying to get them all in within the space of a couple of days, did tend to make it difficult to absorb their content. There is no doubt, however, but that these talks proved their worth in the first few days in Cyprus, and assisted us greatly in the settling down process.

Advance Party Departs.

At 240235 March, 1967, a Caravelle of Yugoslav Airlines took off from Dublin Airport with a total of all ranks, comprising the Advance Party to Cyprus. Nearly 9 hours later it touched down at Nicosia Airport. A delay of more than an hour at Belgrade Airport afforded us the dual novelties of a stay in Communist territory, which left us unmoved, and a Good Friday breakfast of roast chicken, which we found intriguing and quite palatable. The flight from Belgrade was made in daylight, but although the Balkan landscape appeared quite worthy of inspection, the absence of any

commentary or information which could indicate our whereabouts made us soon desist from sightseeing and it was not until the shores of Cyprus came into view that general interest was reawakened. We found that one of the most easily identified landmarks in Cyprus is the dirty red copper sludge which pours out from the site of Xeros Camp and pollutes the Mediterranean for a considerable distance from Xeros village.

Finally, tired and not a little confused by it all, we stumbled down the steps from the plane and were immediately engulfed in a warm welcome, compounded of relief at our having arrived and delight at seeing us, from the O.C. and Officers of the 7th Inf Gp.

Introduction to Cyprus.

It had been so arranged that the various staffs travelled from Nicosia with their respective counterparts and this had the effect that, from the very first, the process of orienting and briefing the newcomers was put under way. In retrospect, that journey was a remarkable mixture of fatigue and excitement (the party had been travelling all through the night with a prolonged stopover at Belgrade Airport). New sights and scenes presented themselves in a bewildering array, and all the exhortations of our colleagues from the 7th to take things easy and try not to assimilate too much at one go was in vain. We all, but particularly those who were on their first trip to Cyprus or indeed overseas, tried to sort out the kaleidoscope of villages with unpronounceable names, scenic landmarks, passing traffic which consisted mainly of military vehicles, canals, goats, churches and mosques, and most of all, the local inhabitants. Names like Peristeronari, Kato (and Fano) Kopia, CYPOL, DANCON, UNCIVPOL, Nat Guard, Ghaziveran cropped up and recurred, and no amount of reassurances that they would be 'old hat' in a matter of a couple of weeks could reassure us. But, of course, they did, and for this we are deeply indebted to the 7th Group.

A comprehensive and exhaustive programme of briefings and familiarisation with our tasks for the next six months had been carefully prepared and was now put into effect. For some of us it

was a matter of adapting routines and procedures with which we had been long familiar to the particular requirements of the UNFICYP operation. For others, particularly Operations, the requirement was familiarisation with the details of opposing forces in Lefka District, and then the details of reporting incidents and events to HQ UNFICYP. A complete week's programme was drawn up culminating in an opportunity to understudy the Operations Duty Officer for a complete tour of duty.

The same situation applied to all the other staffs, but there is little doubt that the most decisive factor in this week of orientation was the inexhaustible patience and goodwill of the members of the 7th Group. Our most naive and tiresome questions were answered in every case with a cheerful willingness to take pains which warmed our hearts and boosted our sagging confidence.

The next ten days flew by in a welter of social occasions, visits to UNFICYP, attempts to sort some kind of order out of a million names, places, faces and scenes, and our own personal acclimatisation to our new environment. Whatever may or may not have been assimilated by the newcomers in the operational or official line, of one thing they were left in no doubt:- the winter just passed had been Cyprus's worst in living memory. Indeed, so much did the weather feature in our conversations in those early days that any of us could have written quite a fair thesis on the climate of Cyprus.

Main Body.

All the while the airlift of our main body from Ireland was going on, with the corresponding repatriation of the 7th Group. They arrived fresh from their participation in the Easter Parade, where the **only** jarring note was evoked by the fact that while the Group did participate as an entity, we did not wear distinctive UN insignia on parade... Some of these officers were given very little time to 'take-over' from their opposite numbers, but at this stage the early arrivals were beginning to find their feet and were able to give the newcomers some help and assistance. Finally,

April 6th arrived, the last chalk of the 7th Group took off from Nicosia Airport, and we were on our own.

Inevitably, there were moments of confusion and panic. Over and over again we remembered dozens of points which we should have cleared up with our predecessors. The UN S.O.P's were consulted frantically and a couple of minor inaccuracies in Sitreps and Infsums provoked a rocket of blistering criticism from UN watchkeepers and Ops staff. Later, when we got to know these ogres of the scathing remarks and stupid questions, we were surprised, and not a little gratified, to learn that the general consensus at UNFICYP HQ was that we had come through the ordeal quite commendably.

The lessons learned by this experience were put to good account when Ops 'A' and 'B' officers were asked to brief a contingent of UNFICYP Australian Police, who had a mere 24 hours between arrival and taking over duties. Instead of generalities on the island situation, the period was devoted to explaining minor terms and expressions so that the following morning the Australians were able to take over duties at checkpoints and get through their first days without serious mishap. The appreciative remarks of the men from Down Under were eloquent testimony that this slightly unorthodox approach to orientation briefing had proved its worth.

AUSTRALIAN ELEMENT OF UNCIVPOL



First Constable Bruno LUX (left) discusses investigation results with Inspector Bob Stewart, Lefka Zone. Both are members of the Victoria Police Force in Australia, Inspector Bob Stewart being Officer in Charge of the Highway Patrol, so President of the Victoria Branch of the International Police Association. First Constable Lux is attached to the Criminal Investigation Branch, Special Branch, also an active member of the IPA.

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CHAPTER II

LEFKA DISTRICT.

Lefka District extends from PAKHY AMMOS in the West to ASTROMERITIS in the East; from the shores of MORPHOU BAY to TROODOS, which marks the Southern boundary with LIMASSOL ZONE. It is about 500 sq miles in area, comprising mainly mountainous country with winding, treacherous roads and villages perched on the sides of steep hills. The District rises from sea level at Xeros to 6,000 feet at TROODOS.

The biggest town is Lefka, a Turkish community of 3 - 4,000. The dispositions of the Tk Cyp communities in the district are clear and distinct. They are located in three areas; viz LEFKA itself, LIMNITIS and KOKKINA. There are isolated villages around Lefka itself, notably AMBELIKOU and GHAZIVERAN, but the general pattern of confrontation in the district is that of three Turkish enclaves, separated from and independent of each other, each surrounded by Greek Cypriot National Guard positions.

Deployment 8th Inf Gp.

This had the effect of ensuring almost automatic deployment of the elements of the Group. If there were three distinct confrontation areas, obviously a company could be deployed in each. This is precisely what was done and OO No. 1 despatched A Coy to LEFKA, B Coy to KATO PYRGOS and the ICA Gp to LIMNITIS. It was provisionally decided that the companies would be rotated at two-month intervals. This was desirable, not alone from the point of giving the troops variety and experience of different problems, but also to ensure that each sub-unit "got a bite of the Kato Pyrgos cherry". This camp is far more attractive than the others, especially in Summer, when conditions in both Lefka and Limnitis can be extremely trying.

Gp HQ and HQ Company were located permanently in Xeros Camp with a very small element at UNFICYP HQ Nicosia. Thus, the 8th Inf Gp was fortunate in being able to retain most of its sub-units with

their parent units, the only two exceptions being the Hy Mortar Tp which was detached from HQ Coy to the Armd Car Gp and an Infantry Pln which was the 'I' of the ICA Gp. For most of the period, this was number 2 Pln of 'A' Coy commanded by Lieut O.A.K. McDonald, the task being taken over in the final two months by S.P. Pln 'B' Coy (Lieut J. Meenan).

Problems and Tasks.

One of the most remarkable facts about the three confrontation areas was that problems and crises arose in inverse order to what might have been logically expected. Lefka Town, with its large Turkish population and strong force (400 - 500) of well trained fighters, should have been the prime "trouble-spot". In fact, there were practically no incidents at all in the town, and were it not for Ambelikou, with its booby traps and shootings, the Lefka company area would have had a peaceful six months. PERISTERONARI, a confrontation area East of Lefka and manned mainly by fighters from the town, did have a few moments of tension and potential crisis, but they were sporadic and soon died out. Ghaziveran of 'bunkers' fame, made one bid to recapture its former notoriety by threatening to man the bunkers again when the Nat Gd dug a new position, but this too came to nothing.

The main reason for this apparent anomaly is that the immediate environs of Lefka are among the most fertile portions of Cyprus and the standards of affluence and living are quite high. For this reason, both sides tended to "live and let live" and were most amenable to any solution that would enable them to get back to their crops and make more money.

The Same only Different.

Limnitis was in much the same position, but there was one very different factor here. The Turks in the Limnitis enclave were at the mercy of the Greeks for irrigation water and thus this was the main problem with which our successive Limnitis Camp garrisons had to deal. The fact that the main post road runs through this village created its own problems. The Greeks were sometimes subjected to

harassment by the Turks on the barrier, who in turn were hamstrung by the fact that their own vital Red Crescent Convoys to Kokkina, or the movement of sick people to hospital, could be made difficult if the Greeks decided to retaliate for any obstructionist tactics at Limnitis. Finally, it provided UN with the task of maintaining a vigilant supervision of traffic through Limnitis to prevent the smuggling of weapons or warlike stores and also the classification of Limnitis as a "Controlled Area". This gave rise to many instances of members of other contingents either being delayed for considerable periods or in some cases being refused through passage, because they had not arranged clearance as required by UN Regulations.

Isolated Community.

Finally, Kokkina was a different problem altogether. The village was overcrowded with refugees and the morale of the local fighters had been sapped by the decision to allow hundreds of teen-age Turks to go to the mainland to complete their education. This not only depleted the fighter strength, but gave rise to inevitable dissension and envy on the part of those left behind. The Turk Cyp communities in other parts of the island expressed their condemnation of the Kokkina community's "back sliding" in this regard, and as a result the Turks at Kokkina were very much on their own. Their economic and social plight was so pitiable that it soon became obvious that most of their problems would be either economic or medical, and so it turned out. Complicating the matter was the implacable hatred of the Greeks and Turks for one another in this locality, a hatred begotten in the action here in 1964 and nurtured by successive instances of petty tyranny since the Greeks cut off the Kokkina beachhead from the rest of Cyprus.

The remainder of Lefka District presented no confrontation problems, simply because there were no Turks outside the three areas mentioned. On the surface it would appear that the 8th Inf Gp had only to concentrate on its three company areas and leave the rest of the area to get on with its own life. In practice, the peculiar disposition of the opposing forces created considerable

problems. It was known that there were quite sizeable Greek Cyp (and even a suspected Greek National Contingent) camps in the mountains on our southern border. This area was all "Restricted" and the nature of the terrain made it quite feasible that large units could be hidden in the Troodos area. This necessitated constant patrolling and each company was allotted specific tasks in the weekly Patrol Programme in an attempt to identify or establish the strengths of these camps.

In spite of regular patrols by all companies, very little progress was made in this field, mainly due to the fact that the absence of any Turk Cyps in the mountain districts meant that any time a UN vehicle travelled towards Troodos it could be presumed that it was there for one purpose only and the Greek forces were able to take ample precautions.

Since the rotation of companies meant that the three company camps had different occupants during the six months, it is considered that for convenience and clarity the camps as such should be allotted a chapter each in this narrative instead of dealing with the companies individually. Thus, ^{it} is the "Camp" system ^{which} will be used in subsequent chapters.

CHAPTER III

X E R O S C A M P .

The dictionary tells us that "Xeros" in Greek means "dry, barren, waterless", and it is surely significant that it was known as "Dry Gulch" to most of those who had the ill luck to be stationed there. A sprawling village on the shores of the Mediterranean, its one redeeming feature - proximity to the sea, which was only 200 yards from the camp Main Gate - was negated by the tons of copper sludge spewed daily in the Mediterranean which necessitated a trip of 2 - 3 miles to Blue Beach for a swim.

Xeros Camp was by far the least attractive of our camps. Pitched as it was right slap alongside the CMC copper refining plant, it was a place of permanent dust, smells and noise. A contributory factor to the last-named was a narrow-gauge railway which ran alongside the east perimeter of our camp and along with a noisy diesel roared right round the clock. The driver's playful habit of sounding his hooter "fortissimo sostenuto" in the wee small hours of the morning gave rise to fascinating conjectures about his origins and antecedents which were biologically impossible and morally reprehensible.

Xeros has been a military camp since EOKA days. It has been occupied by British, Swedish and Irish Troops. When HQ 8th Infantry Group was set up there, the accommodation problem was barely adequate with two CMC houses available for officer accommodation. The return of one of those houses to CMC did not improve the situation, and the compensating extension built on to the remaining house was in no way an asset, being unendurable during the summer heat. It will, however, probably justify its existence during the winter months.

Ceremonial.

In the story of the 8th Infantry Group, as indeed in that

of our predecessors, Xeros Camp will always be associated with ceremonial parades, social events, conferences etc. The nearest confrontation location was a couple of miles away, and except for the occasional National Guard representative coming to the barrier with a complaint about the latest example of Turkish perfidy, or the entertainment of some of the local NAT GD Officers, there was rarely a sign of the tension and conflict that reigned such a short distance away.

For Comdt J.J. Ryan, Camp Comdt at Xeros, the immediate task on taking over was to get the camp into a presentable shape (and reduce potential fire hazards) by tidying up the spaces between tents, at that time covered with a thick growth of long straggling scutch grass. It is a tribute to the cooperation he received from all ranks that in a matter of weeks Xeros Camp had received a complete "face lift". A "Tidy Tent" competition showed the resourcefulness of soldiers when they are given good example and incentive.

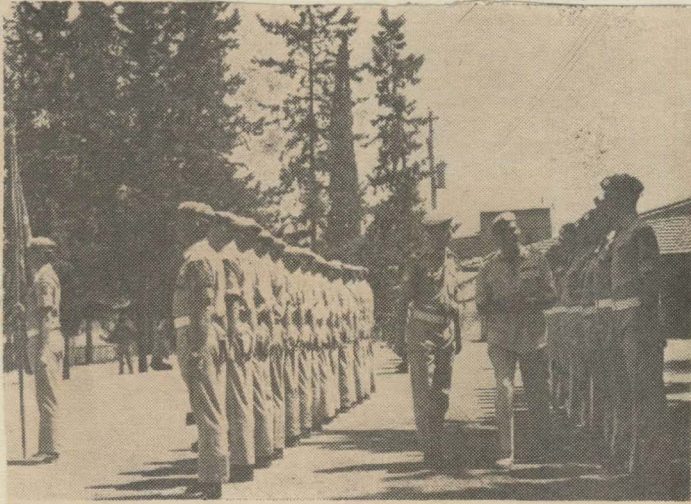
Settling in Problems.

The perimeter defences of the camp were improved by digging new positions, and accomodation, always a problem, was tackled from the very start. A patio added to the Men's Canteen made a wonderful improvement. Work was started on a new Welfare Stores, and a new Canteen. The decision by CMC to take back the Officers' Mess bungalow meant a

reappraisal of officer accomodation. An extension was built on to the remaining bungalow, but it soon became evident that this was the original "White Elephant" and it was rarely used by the 8th Group. Perhaps our successors will bebenefit from it. Work started straight away on new Officers Quarters, but despite the herculean endeavours of Capt Brian Hardwick's Engineer Platoon these were not ready for occupation by the time the first elements of the 9th Group had arrived. The O.C. 8th Infantry Group carried out a complete inspection of Xeros and other camps early in July.

Official Functions.

Xeros Camp was the scene of two ceremonial parades during our tour of duty. On July 11th, the Chief of Staff, Brig-Gen M.N. Harbottle, O.B.E., paid an official visit.



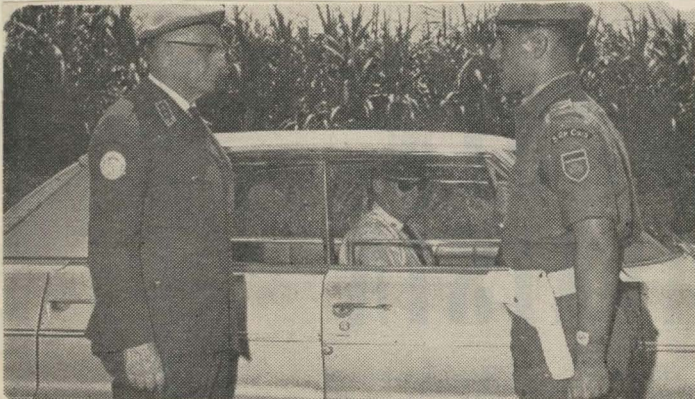
Brig. M.N. Harbottle, OBE, COS, UNFICYP inspecting a Guard of Honour on his arrival at Xeros on 11th July. Accompanying him is Lt. Owen Maloney. Flag Officer is Lt Jack Dwyer.

Brig-Gen Harbottle, OBE, accompanied by Lieut. J.A. Moloney, inspects the Guard of Honour on arrival at Xeros Camp. He is seen here discussing UN Service with C/S Wolverson of IRCON Engineers.

He inspected a Guard of Honour under Lieut J.A. Moloney (Officer i/c Colours Lt. J. Dwyer.) and evinced considerable interest in the members of the Guard, their service, U.N. experience and family backgrounds. He was particularly intrigued by the Pipe Band, and complimented everybody concerned on an excellent turn out.

Medals.

On the last day of July the Force Commander, Lieut-Gen A.E. Martola presented a representative body of the Group with their UNFICYP Medals. The Force Commander was met at



UNFICYP Commander, Lt-Gen A.E. Martola, being met at Ghaziveran by Lieut. Dave Holden, Commander of a Panhard armoured car Troop, which escorted him to Irish HQ. Later Lt Holden, less than a year commissioned, became the first of his Cadet Class to receive a UN service medal.

Ghaziveran by an Escort of Honour drawn from the Armoured Car

Group under 2/Lieut David Holden. On his arrival at Xeros Camp he was met by Lieut Colonel Beary and inspected a Guard



Lt-Gen A.E. Mortola inspecting his Guard of Honour. He is accompanied by Lt Noel Dwyer, officer i/c Gaurd, and by his ADC.

of Honour under Lieut Noel O'Dwyer (Colours Lt. J. Meenan). After presenting the medals the Force Commander addressed the troops on parade. He paid tribute to the contribution made by successive Irish Contingents to the UN effort and expressed his appreciation of the manner in which the 8th Infantry Group had fulfilled its duties. He concluded by wishing every member of the unit every success and happiness, both professional and personal, in the future and a happy and well-earned re-union with their loved ones in Ireland.

Pipe Band.

No account of Xeros Camp would be complete without a reference to the Group Pipe Band.

As had been the case with previous bands overseas, the pipers became a prime attraction and performed at numerous and varied occasions. Their first appearance was at a soccer match in Limnitis and on the following day, the Greek Easter Sunday, they played for the National Guard in their camp at Xeros. May saw a tour of Cyprus by the Arsenal football club, and on two occasions our pipers performed at Nicosia Stadium, earning very appreciative applause from the large crowd, and a front page picture on the "Cyprus Mail".

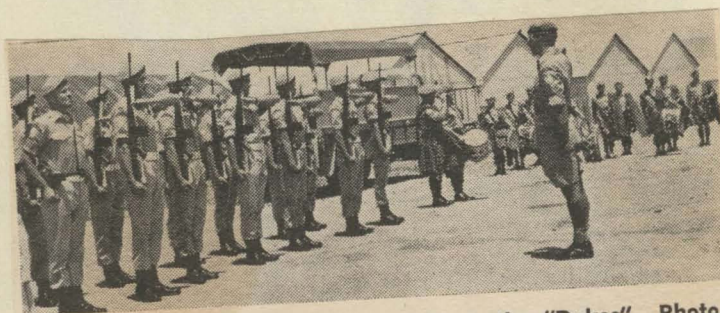
During the months of May and June the companies played a number of soccer matches and the skirl of our pipes was heard in Kato Pyrgos, Lefka and Limnitis. The 2nd of June found them in Akrotiri for the R.A.F. Base Sports. Here they teamed

up with the Pipe Band of the R.A.F. Garrison! This was surely an historic occasion, as it must have been a long time since Irish and British pipers combined to play as one band as a British Military function.

The Pipe Band was also a highlight of our social events in HQ Mess, Xeros. They were, of course, an essential part of any ceremonial parade and indeed their performances in this capacity

led to an invitation from the Commander Famagusta Zone to play at the presentation of UN Medals to SWEDCON at Salamis on August 1st.

The band also performed when it was IRCON's turn to supply the UNFICYP HQ Defence Platoon in Nicosia. Their final appearances were at the Farewell Party in Xeros HQ, a soccer match against the local Nat Guard in Xeros and the Group Sports on September 9th in Lefka. The band was to participate in the All-Army Championships in Ireland and so left Cyprus "en bloc" on the first plane home.



The IRCON Guard taking over from the "Dukes". Photo shows the Guard at the "Present" while the trumpeter and drummer sound the 'General Salute'. On the right Lt Chris Gilbert of the Dukes acknowledges the salute.

Defence Platoon.

One commitment which had to be met was the provision of a Defence Platoon at UNFICYP HQ Nicosia. The tour of duty lasted for one week and each company supplied the platoon in turn, 'B' Company in fact performed this duty twice - 17/24th April and 8/15 May. It was ICA's turn from June 26th to July 3rd, while 'A' Company performed this duty from August 7th to 14th.

The standards of drill, deportment, and dress were extremely high, and the favourable comments from members of all contingents were a source of great satisfaction. For the platoon themselves it was a welcome break in routine and the novelty of serving with representatives of different countries. It is a matter of pride for us all that these representatives of our country and army proved themselves worthy advertisements for both.



Members of the Irish and Dukes guards at UNFICYP HQ chat after parade. (Left to right, Dukes in shorts) Cpl Jack Glasby, Pte Jim Kenny, Cpl John Wardle, Tpr Steve Gahan, Tpr James Byrne, and Sgt Norman Wright.

CHAPTER IV

LEFKA CAMP.

LEFKA Camp is situated just south of the town of LEFKA in a very pleasant location. It is a well planned camp with a fine view of the sea, the mountains and the poplar trees from which the town of Lefka gets its name. When we arrived the renowned Lefka orange groves were at the height of the season.

On March 24th, the advance party of 'A' Coy, comprising Comdt James Flynn and 13 other ranks arrived at Lefka, to be followed by the main body during the period 3 - 7 April. 44 of the coy had previous service in Cyprus so their first view of the island lying in the blue Meditteranean was a familiar one. For the remainder it was a new and exciting experience.

During the first few weeks of the tour the weather was very unsettled with frequent heavy showers, sometimes with spectacular displays of lightening which, at night, lit up MORPHOU BAY. The deep rumbling of the accompanying thunder was louder than any ever heard at home. Between showers the sun shone brilliantly and within a few weeks the coy was taking on a new colour - that TAN, some more than others. More than a month passed before the shrinking snowcap of MT. OLYMPUS dissappeared.

Handover.

A Coy took over LEFKA Camp and the coy area of B Coy, 7 Inf Gp and what would be more appropriate than for Comdt Tom Carroll, O/C B Coy 7th to hand over to his brother-in-law, Comdt Jim Flynn. No. 2 Platoon, commanded by Lieut O.A.K. McDonald was detached to

ICA at LIMNITIS. After the handover was completed A Coy set about the task of settling in and in a short time the coy was quite at home in its new surroundings. Lt. Murray joined us on attachment from the Hy Mor Tp. Operationally, it did not take very long to find our feet and this was accomplished all the more easily by extending the hand of friendship to both Tk Cyp and Greek Cyps. On the Turk Cyp side, we were soon on excellent terms with Inspector Kevass in Lefka, Major and Capt HASSAN in GHAZIVERAN, ALI in KALO KHORIO and HUSSEIN BEY in AMBELIKOU. We were also on the best of terms with the Greek Cyp NAT GUARD Comdrs, LT. COL NIKOLAIDES O/C 236 Bn (later replaced by LT. COL. SOTERLDES) and his staff, MAJ DEMETREOS and CAPT SPIRIDES all at PENDYIA. In XEROS our Greek Cyp friends included LT. COL. DEMETRIADES O/C 266 Bn and his staff MAJ VASSILOU and CAPT ANGELO.

The accommodation in the camp is under canvas except for the Officers' Mess, Dining Hall and Cookhouse, which are permanent buildings. The camp is supplied by water from the town mains, but sanitation is by Field Trench. Electricity is also supplied to the camp from the islands main power lines. There is constant hot water and washing facilities; which include hot and cold showers, are satisfactory. While the camp is small, it is compact. The accommodation while ideal for summer months, would certainly not be suitable for a cold, wet winter and from reports the winter of '66-67 was cold and wet. The Officers' Mess was repainted and redecorated. The NCO's Mess, partly constructed by the 7th Inf Gp was completed. Work commenced on the building of a new Ordnance Store and the foundations were laid before the companies were rotated in June. A Coy tackled the digging of a new cess pit (12 x 12x 12 feet).

Social Events.

There were three films a week with a full house for every show. The films were shown in the dining hall on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Three more nights a week were taken up with Bingo (on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays). Other activities included darts and rings competitions.

GHAZIVERAN.

Ghaziveran (OP 60) GR 633683 is situated on the main NICOSIA - XEROS road at the village of GHAZIVERAN. There are 3 OP's here by day and 2 by night. The main OP called GHAZI HOUSE is in an unfinished disused house. This is manned by 2 NCO's and 8 men. A secondary OP is situated on the side of the road half a mile EAST of GHAZIVERAN. This is manned by 1 man by day and 2 men by night. The third OP is situated just NORTH of GHAZIVERAN beside 3 bunkers which were dug by the Tk/Cyps of GHAZIVERAN. This OP is manned only by day, by 1 man whose duty is to observe N.G. and Tk/Cyp movements NORTH of GHAZIVERAN, and also to ensure that Tk/Cyps do not occupy any of the 3 bunkers. During the night while this OP is unmanned the area is patrolled hourly by night from GHAZI HOUSE. The main duties of the other two OPs are to report and observe on movement or military activity into the Tk/Cyp area, or through it, along the NICOSIA road. The personnel of the OP are rotated fortnightly from LEFKA. The personnel of this OP were sometimes called upon to supply observers for Tk/Cyp villagers working in the fields near NAT GUARD positions. There was constant friction along the NORTH of GHAZIVERAN between NAT GUARD in coastal defence positions and Tk/Cyps working their land near the coast. All incidents or difficulties encountered in this area, were immediately reported to LEFKA and investigated by the NCO i/c the post or the Coy Stand-To officer of the day.



Pte Denis Westman of Tullamore sends in a report from OP 60

PERISTERONARI.

Peristeronari (OP 57) GR 591641. Bordering LEFKA town on the EAST is a ridge of hills at right angles to the coast known as AKINTOU. These hills slope down into a very rich fertile valley (Tk/Cyp). On the far side of this valley (EAST) the terrain rises again to another ridge more dominating than

AKINTOU and called PERISTERONARI HILL. The furthest Tk/Cyp community in the LEFKA (Tk/Cyp) district is a tiny village called GENGIS KOY GR 586643 at the bottom of PERISTERONARI HILL. At the top of the hill and overlooking the AKINTOU valley and ridge is an extended row of Gk/Cyp positions occupied in coy strength, thus ensuring that Tk/Cyps do not move any further EAST than GENGIS KOY. As PERISTERONARI HILL slopes down to the AKINTOU valley it levels into a plateau overlooking GENGIS KOY and it is here that the OP is situated. Tactically speaking the Gk/Cyps have all the advantages in this area.

(1) Only their forward machine gun positions are visible to the Tk/Cyps.

(2) The Gk/Cyps have a new road built on the reverse slope of PERISTERONARI HILL which gives them a supply line to their BN HQ at PENDAYIA (236 BN), and to the Gk/Cyp sector of KALO KHORIO village.

(3) Apart from having unlimited depth rear of their F.D.L's, their strength, positions and equipment remain unknown to the Tk/Cyps.

On the other hand the Tk/Cyps in the AKINTOU valley and GENGIS KOY area are completely exposed.

(1) All the village of GENGIS KOY, while being in the open, is within 500 yds of the Gk/Cyp F.D.L's.

(2) The village itself is almost entirely built of mud houses and would provide only token protection from mortar shelling.

(3) The 2 miles between GENGIS KOY and the Tk/Cyp quarter of KALO KHORIO (GR 598626) is valley land and apart from three Tk/Cyp positions on the side of AKINTOU ridge facing across to PERISTERONARI, any link between these two Tk/Cyp communities could be quite easily eliminated by Gk/Cyp fire power.

However, were the Gk/Cyps to attempt to take LEFKA from the EAST, the village of GENGIS KOY and this valley area, reinforced by fighters from LEFKA, would undoubtedly serve to slow up the Gk/Cyp advance, though not for long.

The OP is manned by 2 NCO's and 4 men. Their main tasks are:-

- (1) To provide protection for Tk/Cyps in the valley.
- (2) To observe and report on any forward movement by either Gk/Cyps or Tk/Cyps.
- (3) Report on shots, diggings, disturbances, or any other activity of note.

The original OP position was on the high ground on PERISTERONARI, but when the Greek Cyps occupied this hill the OP was moved down to a lower position, its present location. During our tour this area was quite peaceful but in the event of a Gk/Cyp advance on LEFKA, this EASTERN boundary of the Tk/Cyp LEFKA enclave appears from a military point of view to be quite vulnerable and it could be an area of intense activity.

AMBELIKOU.

This OP is situated on the summit of Ambelikou Hill 1,000 ft. above sea level. It has the most commanding view of the company area. Its main function is the reporting of unusual movements, shots or explosions, seen or heard in the area.

LIMEKILN.

It is situated on the NORTHERN slopes of a hill overlooking the small isolated Tk/Cyp village of Ambelikou. Further up on this hill are the Gk/Cyp lines and below our OP are the Tk/Cyp lines. At this OP confrontation between both sides is very close. This leads to trouble and during our stay in LEFKA area, LIMEKILN was a constant source of trouble, which culminated in the shooting of a Tk/Cyp fighter on the 18th July.

ROTATION OF COMPANIES.

Early in June came the news that the companies of the 8th Inf Gp were to be rotated and that 'A' Coy would move to LIMNITIS. For the next few days LEFKA camp was a hive of activity preparing for the move and bidding adieu to our friends in the area. On the 6th June an advance party was sent to LIMNITIS and one arrived from KATO PYRGOS. These advance

parties were briefed on all relevant matters, operational and administrative, pertaining to the new area. The move, scheduled for completion by 1400 hours on JUNE 13th, went to smoothly that 'A' Coy became operational at LIMNITIS 24 hours earlier.

Thus we completed our first two months of UNFICYP service, relieved, and perhaps a little surprised that we had managed so well. We had met one of the worst spots in Cyprus and certainly the worst in our area - AMBELIKOU - and after handling things there, we were confident that we could tackle any problems.

As we thought or reminisced about those exciting first few weeks there were so many memories. Two British tourists injured by a booby trap at AMBELIKOU on April 5th had been our violent introduction to the troubles in LEFKA area. Exactly three weeks later another booby trap went off in the same area - this time killing a Tk Cyp shepherd. The road to KAMBOS was blocked by a landslide just as we were taking over from the 7th Group, but we felt that this was more a boon than a nuisance; the Greeks obviously wanted it there and the Turks were not greatly concerned. We felt that the best thing to do was to forget about it, but UNFICYP policy thought differently and the matter was pressed all the time.



Inspections are due and Coy-Sgt Smith of A Coy (at rear) is in a hurry. So, many hands make the work light.

Another booby trap injured three stone masons, one of them seriously on May 13th.

We learned too, that even the highest and most idealistic motives are no guarantee of success in Cyprus. We had started off with the highest hopes of solving the LIMEKILN impasse. Our efforts had the blessing and support of our Group O/C who himself devoted a great deal of time and effort to solving this problem. We were now in LIMNITIS and LIMEKILN was still the same. Perhaps it was a measure of our maturity and experience that we now felt that LIMEKILN would still be the same old problem when we handed over to the 9th Group. (It was!)

These, then, were our thoughts on leaving LEFKA Camp. We handed over to Comdt Eamonn Young and 'B' Company and devoted our energies to LIMNITIS.

B Company

The codeword "Weekend", meaning that the move to LEFKA Camp by 'B' Company was completed, was passed to Group HQ on June 13th. The move went very smoothly and 'B' Company quickly set about tackling the new problems posed by the situation at LEFKA, PERISTERONARI, GHAZIVERAN and AMBELIKOU.

The new area was much larger than LIMNITIS and there was greater variety in the problems to be dealt with, but generally speaking, all ranks welcomed the change of scenery and settled down quite well. Patrols were carried out as instructed by Group Ops 'B' in the TROODOS area. In addition, there were two local patrols to the outlying villages in our area. This was to show the UN presence in those localities.

Escorts

These proved to be our biggest headache. Forestry workers require daily escorts. Outbreaks of

fire also involved escorts as did water supplies, repair works. We also provided an escort for Greek and Turkish health officials involved in the vital work of eradicating mosquitoes around LEFKA town.

Incidents

There were 230 incidents in all during our eight week stay in LEFKA Camp. These mainly consisted of shots, mines, new positions and complaints - all of which had to be investigated. Shotreps amounted to 39, involving 116 rounds.

A great stride forward was made on 13th June when the KAMBOS road block was removed. The situation in the district was generally quiet and we were thinking in terms of our final move to LIMNITIS when one of the worst incidents of our time in Cyprus occurred.

APLIKI BOOBY TRAP

A Tk Cyp truck collecting sand near APLIKI Dam had its front wheel shattered by an explosion on the morning of August 4th. The routine procedure of calling for a British bomb disposal expert was put into operation and Major 'Mike' Pritchard-Davies arrived on the scene. While searching for other suspected booby traps, he detonated a mine which blew his left leg off completely. Prompt first-aid rendered by two Australian Civilian Police on the scene and a snap decision by Comdt Young to take the injured man to PENDAYIA Hospital probably saved his life. He was operated on immediately and in a few days was removed to B.M.H. DHEKELIA from which he was flown to England early in September.

This incident was a blow to us all and cast a shadow over our last days in LEFKA, days when our minds were very occupied with stays in the FAMAGUSTA Rest Centre (where 95 all ranks from 'B' Company spent a week) or even trips to LEBANON. We had no time to brood over

things, however, as we were in the throes of moving to LIMNITIS. We left the booby traps and problems of LEFKA to ICA Company and moved for our final few weeks to LIMNITIS.

Before we left we had a series of social functions at which we entertained our local friends, Greeks and Turks in Turn. We also were their guests at functions in LEFKA, KALOKHORIO, GHAZIVERAN and ELEA. On the 6th and 26th of July we entertained the Group O/C and 2 i/c respectively, and made presentations to each of them. But perhaps the one social event of which we have fondest memories during our stay in LEFKA was a Children's Party in AMBELIKOU followed by a film show. The appreciation of our young guests in this distressed village was ample reward for our efforts.

ICA Company, commanded by Comdt Kevin Nunan left the sandy shores of KATO PYRGOS and moved into LEFKA early in August. Straight away they were involved in the aftermath of the APLIKI mine incident. After the explosion the area had to be cordoned off and patrolled to protect the local population from any further mines that might be still unexploded in the vicinity. This patrol was taken over by the ICA Company who moved into the area shortly after the first explosion. A bomb disposal expert was requested to clear the area and Major M. Pritchard-Davies arrived to carry out this task. His unfortunate accident will have already been recorded by 'B' Company so I will not deal with it here. For approx two weeks the mine field, as it can now be termed, remained uncleared. During this period another mine was discovered by Trooper Gerard Slevin, a member of the patrol which we maintained here during all of this period. The area was finally cleared by a Major Easterby of the bomb disposal squad. In all five mines were found in the area.

Social Events

Our main social event during this period was the final round-up party in the Officers Mess. Although we did not get the numbers we were expecting, this turned out to be a very successful function. Shortly after this we had a similiar party for the NCOs and men in the Company. They handled the guest list for this function themselves and we had a substancial number of guests from Group HQ and from the other Coys.

Operational Tasks

Apart from the manning of the four OPs there were a number of other operational tasks which had to be carried out. Added to these was the APLIKI patrol which has already been dealt with. Other tasks consisted of harvesting and water patrols. These arose fairly frequently but did not demand a great number of NCOs or men to carry them out. Our busiest day was the day that a forest fire broke out in the APLIKI area. A large number from this camp assisted in the extinguishing of this fire.

So we come to the end of our stay in Cyprus. It is especially gratifying to be able to express our appreciation of the contribution made by Capt Tom Boyle and his Heavy Mortar Troop to our efforts. We were sorry to lose Lt Oliver McDonald's Platoon, but we found that Lt John Meenan and his men very quickly fitted into our system and ensured that our "ad hoc" ICA organisation functioned as smoothly as it had all through our period of service with UNFICYP.

CHAPTER V

L I M N I T I S C A M P .

As has been remarked in an earlier chapter, the presence of second-term UNFICYP personnel in a company was a definite asset to a unit taking over a locality. In this respect the ICA Group who took over Limnitis Camp from their 7th Gp counterparts were exceptionally fortunate. Not only did they have 41 holders of the UNFICYP medal among their 85 all ranks, but many of them had served previously in Limnitis itself, the Company Commander Comdt Kevin Nunan having been there with the 5th Infantry Group. In some cases NCO's at OPs took over with a hearty greeting, a look around and the simple query "any changes around here?". Very often the reply was "None". It was hardly to be wondered at that this sub-unit was more quickly into its stride than any other in the Group.

The Lake.

The village of Limnitis derives its name from the Greek word for a "lake". Originally the area was inundated and it is still a marshy location under the fertile topsoil. Limnitis itself is a straggled-out village sprawled astride the "coast road" from Xeros to Kato Pyrgos. It has a school, harbour (without pier) and an agricultural co-operative. The Turks who hold the village and the 6 - 7 sq. miles that make up the complete enclave, call the place YESILIRMAK. The land in the area is poor, except for a small alluvial running along the banks of the Limnitis river. It is on this plot that the cash crops - oranges, lemons, nuts and bananas - are grown.

History of Camp and previous occupants.

The first UN troops to occupy Limnitis Camp were soldiers of the Swedish Contingent. They were relieved of control of the area by Comdt Madden's Coy of the 42nd Irish Bn. It was Comdt Madden who lent his name to the popular bathing place in the area "Major Madden's Beach". When the 42nd Bn. were moved to Ktima

Limnitis was taken over by the British who were later relieved by a company of the Canadian Guards. On the arrival of the 5th Inf Gp in Cyprus the first ICA Coy was formed under the command of Comdt K. Nunan and they became the new incumbents in Limnitis. It was during this period that the camp received its name - Camp Knockanure. Towards the end of the 5th Gps tour it was virtually certain that the Irish Contingent would not be replaced in Cyprus. Operational control of the Limnitis area was taken over by a company of the Canadian Black Watch Regt. They held control for about one month until the ICA Coy of the 6th Inf Gp under Comdt P. Lavelle arrived. He was followed by the third ICA Coy under Comdt G. Delaney who handed over in April of this year to Comdt K. Nunan.

Problems and Tasks.

The operational situation in the close confrontation area that is Limnitis beachhead, is always potentially explosive. It is a fact, however, that very few incidents between the fighters and National Guard actually occurred, and those that did were very minor. The problems that required our attention in Limnitis were mainly economic - provision of materials for construction work, harvesting, water supplies for irrigation and drinking purposes to the village, water supply to the camp, supply of fuel oils etc. Another running sore was the tendency for Gk Cyps at road barriers to cause unnecessary delay and sometimes damage to market garden produce en route to Nicosia. When handling these problems, we found ourselves working in cooperation with, or under the direction of the Lefka District OPs (E) Officer, Comdt Bill Ahern.

Limnitis Road Agreement.

The Limnitis Road Agreement, which governs the use of the Tk/Cyp held stretch of road between Limnitis check-point and Foxtrot Barrier, needed constant attention and vigilance during the two months that the ICA Coy was responsible for the Limnitis area. During this period there were ^{many}/small, but potentially dangerous incidents which were caused by breaches or alleged

breaches of the terms of this agreement. It came to our attention on numerous occasions that the restrictions, though light, which were put on the Gk/Cyps as a result of this agreement, were extremely annoying to many of them. Consequently a large number of incidents were caused by Gk/Cyps who, because they were obstreperous in one way or another, were delayed by the Tk/Cyps at one or the other of the barriers. The Tk/Cyps generally kept their part of the agreement and only on a very small number of occasions did they attempt to contravene any of its terms. These contraventions were due more to indiscipline among some of the Tk/Cyp fighters than to the policy of the leaders.

The supervision of the agreement entailed, among other things, the detailing of a road-patrol. This consisted of two NCO's and two drivers and also necessitated the use of two land-rovers. Their function was to check on any irregularities between OP FOXTROT and base camp. As the road must be cleared of unescorted traffic by 1900 hrs, two patrols were done each night to facilitate late-comers. The first patrol at 1900 hrs travels from WEST to EAST and brings any waiting vehicles clear of the area. The second, from EAST to WEST starts at 2000 hrs.

In May of this year the agreement came up for review and was redrafted and signed by the OC A/Car Group at Limnitis.

The Bridge.

The Limnitis bridge was in a precarious state of repair when the ICA Coy arrived in the area in the beginning of April. Many requests were received from the Tk/Cyps for cement to repair it. Most of the negotiations on this matter were done by the Ops Economic Officer, 8th Inf Gp. Up to the time that the Coy left the area no definite steps had been taken by either side to resolve the situation. The Tk/Cyps were unwilling to allow Gk/Cyp engineers into the area to supervise the repair work. Negotiations, which later proved successful, were in progress at the time of the first company rotations.

Irrigation.

In all the records of previous companies in Limnitis there is frequent mention of Irrigation problems. All these problems are very much the same and are caused mainly by the fact that the source of irrigation water for the Limnitis valley is in a Gk/Cyp held area and can be tampered with very easily. When this happens, as it did on a considerable number of occasions, escorts had to be supplied from the UN Camp to accompany the Tk/Cyp workers into the trouble area. This was a tiresome and time-consuming detail for the NCO's and men. Irrigation water was supplied by a system of dams spread over an area of approx 20 miles along the Limnitis river bed. When one dam had become in-effective as a source of supply, the Tk/Cyps would ask for permission to go to allow water from the next dam into the channels which ran down both sides of the river. This always involved a cumbersome system of obtaining permission from both the military and the civil powers. Attempts were made to shortcut this system but no satisfactory solution had been reached by the time the coy rotation had taken place. On a few occasions during our period there the Tk/Cyps alleged that the Gk/Cyps had tampered with their water supply and escorts were supplied to relieve these problems.

'A' Coy take over.

Early in June the planned rotation of companies was smoothly effected, and 'A' Coy became the new tenants of Limnitis Camp, the ICA moving westwards to Kato Pyrgos. It only took a few days for 'A' Coy to fit into their new location. Their period there was uneventful as can be gathered from the following paragraphs.

During our two month stay at LIMNITIS (Camp Knockamure), apart from manning of OP's and patrolling of the Company area, our main efforts were directed towards the obtaining of clearances for Tk/Cyps to harvest Tk/Cyp lands which were near, or on the Gk/Cyp side of the "GREEN LINE". In this work both

sides cooperated well and there was never any major difficulties. Clearances were also sought and obtained for Tk/Cyp workmen to repair irrigation dams on the LIMNITI River, in Gk/Cyp territory, and Gk/Cyp engineers were granted clearances into LIMNITIS to repair the LIMNITIS bridge, damaged by last winters abnormally heavy rains.

The terms of the LIMNITIS ROAD AGREEMENT were successfully implemented. Unlike LEFKA Camp area, we were seldom called upon to investigate shooting incidents. During this period a number of personnel of the company availed of the week's leave at IRISH REST CENTRE at FAMAGUSTA. At £2-10-0 for the week it was well worthwhile and all who availed of it, reported a most enjoyable time. Around the 3rd week in July talk of moving to KATO PYRGOS began and a few weeks later it became fact. Once again, the move to the new camp was carried out smoothly and with a minimum of fuss or bother. Though our time at Limnitis had been quiet and generally pleasant, we were not sorry to hand over the camp to 'B' Company.

'B' Company move In.

By Tuesday 8th August, 'B' Company had taken over in Limnitis Camp. By this stage practice and experience had made the mechanics of moving and settling in almost a drill movement which was carried out with a calm efficiency. The Company took over the operational duties, and as it had done in previous locations, set about establishing good relations with both sides. This was made easier by the fact that some

old friends were now in this area, and new friends were quickly made.

The area generally was very quiet. The duties of the OP's are as in other areas. They are the eyes and ears of the company. In this way, such warlike activities as the digging of trenches and the shaking of fists, straying of animals and women picking fruit off the wrong trees are reported immediately in LIMNITIS. The main problem is to prevent laxity creeping into the routine of OP duties thus ensuring a completion of our operational duties on a high note.

At the moment we are principally employed in the improving of OP's and the camp at Limnitis. Attention goes also to the purchase of "mingies" and the composition of



Installing a new water main at Limnitis. IRCON Engineers Sgt Michael Ahearne of Cork City (left) and Pte Gerry Walsh of Cappagh, Co Waterford will be glad to get the water flowing, 100°F makes piping hard to handle.

"Chalks" for the airlift home.

We were very honoured that during our stay here Limnitis was graced with the presence of Dr. Kuchuk, the Tk/Cyp leader on the island. He arrived by UN helicopter on 10th August and was met by Capt Bernie O'Donovan, Acting Coy Comdr; Comdt Young being in Beirut. On Wednesday a dinner was held in his honour;; again Capt O'Donovan was in charge of proceedings and it proved to be a most pleasant night. On Friday Dr. Kuchuk returned the compliment by giving a dinner at the Casino in Limnitis. This was attended by a representative body of Officers from the Group.

CHAPTER VI

K A T O P Y R G O S .

The Greek word "PYRGOS" means a "castle or fortress" and our troops quickly learned that where one found a "Kato", there was bound to be a "Pano" somewhere in the vicinity, the two terms meaning simply "Lower" and "Upper" respectively. Kato Pyrgos Camp had no contenders for the title of the most attractive station in our area. Situated right on the sea shore, it was a very nice place in which to spend the hot summer months. Accomodation was reasonable, though one of the first problems tackled by 'B' Company on takeover was to improve living conditions, a task which they fulfilled quite well. The Men's canteen and the Officer's Mess were both painted and decorated. A total of 4, 000 sandbags were used to strengthen our camp defence system. The Ops tent was improved by adding a sand-table model of our area, a great boon when briefing visiting V.I.P's. Finally, we started work on a new Officer's Mess, and though we were not to remain at Kato Pyrgos long enough to enjoy this new amenity, we can be satisfied that we set the ball rolling in this important connection, important not alone by reason of the fact that it provided a new Officer's Mess, but also because this new building meant that the former Officer's Mess was now made available to the NCO's of the Kato Pyrgos garrison.

Kokkina.

Kato Pyrgos was unique in that it had a subsidiary camp at KOKKINA. Here the strength was I Officer and 20 O/Ranks. Accommodation at Kokkina Camp was in a Nissen hut and was quite satisfactory. The main tasks of this Kokkina element were relief of certain of the company OPs and the provision of a reserve for the Kokkina area.

'B' Company, 8th Infantry Group took over from 'A' Company of the 7th Group. An intriguing aspect of the hand-over was that the outgoing Company Commander and the incoming 2 IC were brothers - Comdt Kevin and Capt Bernie O'Donovan. The take-over went very well and 'A' Company played their part.

'B' Company's task was to main observation over the ceasefire line at KOKKINA Beachhead. This task was fulfilled by the manning of 6 day-and-night OPs. 'B' Coy performed these tasks for about nine weeks. During that time the general situation was quiet. A total of 150 incidents took place. All of these were investigated and brought to a satisfactory conclusion. A serious out-break

of shooting occurred on the 16th April, when the Nat/Gd fired approx 500 rounds at a UN helicopter taking a sick fighter from KOKKINA village.

Socialising played a very important part in the company plan. Relations at all times were very good with both Gk/Cyps and Tk/Cyps. On the 21st April the company entertained the Tk/Cyps in Kokkina. On the 30th April the President of Kato Pyrgos, Mr. Kristakis invited all 'B' Coy officers to dinner in the village. On the same date, the first of many trips around the island was put on. On this occasion a truck load of troops visited Polis, Paphos and Ktima. On the 7th May, the company entertained the Gk/Cyp leadership in Kato Pyrgos to dinner in Kato Pyrgos Camp.

On the night of 14th May it was the turn of the NCO's, and we had an NCO's night. This was attended by the Group O/C and an enjoyable night was had by all. On the 20th May personnel of the company travelled to Nicosia for the first of Arsenal's soccer matches. They again travelled on the 27th May.



The Support platoon of "B" Coy 8th INF GROUP. It's Commander, Lieut John Meenan, is fifth from right, front.

ICA Take over from 'B' Coy.

In early June the takeover from 'B' Company in Kato Pyrgos was smoothly and successfully completed. A great deal of the credit for this must go to the operations staff who made out the Operation Order for the move. This cut red-tape to the minimum so avoiding a lot of arguments which might otherwise have taken place. After two months in Limnitis most of the ICA Coy were looking forward to the yellow sands and blue seas of Kato Pyrgos, which was a welcome relief from the dusty atmosphere of their first location. The days before, during and after the changeover passed very quickly and before long the ICA Coy was firmly established in Kato Pyrgos.

Accommodation and Improvements.

Accommodation in the new location was adequate. The average number per tent was six which, though a little crowded did not draw any complaints from the men. By virtue of the fact that Kato Pyrgos is such an attractive location we had a very large number of visitors while we were there. There was a marked shortage of accommodation for visitors and but for the fact that the new Mess was almost completed and some

of the rooms in it could be used in an emergency we would have had to turn a number of people away.

The main improvement that was being carried out during our stay was the erection of the new Officer's Mess. Unfortunately it was not completed before we left so we never had a chance to inhabit it. The completion of this building would have meant that the NCO's could have moved into the old Officer's Mess and the men into the NCO's Mess. This was very much to be desired as the messing facilities available to the OR's was far from satisfactory.



Sqn QMS Nick Lambert (left) and Bty QMS Gus Jones, both of ICA, at an NCO's Party in Kato Pyrgos.

Operational Tasks.

Our main operational task was the manning of the OP's in the Kokkina area. We found that, because of the large numbers required for this, our manpower in camp was sadly depleted. The situation was further aggravated by the necessity to supply a fatigue party to Group HQ and a camp guard to HQ UNFICYP, Nicosia. On investigation of the operational requirements of the Kokkina area it was found that it was possible to cut down on the number of men required in the area without endangering the situation. Up to our arrival in the area the Kokkina OP, O.P. 6, was manned by 4 NCO's and 22 men. O.P. 5, the post at the Tk/Cyp barrier at Mansoura which was manned only at night, was supplied from Kokkina. This required one NCO and one man each night. Our solution to the problem was to supply O.P. 5 from the base

camp at Kato Pyrgos and to cut down the numbers in the Kokkina Camp as we considered them excessive. It was also decided to withdraw the officer who had, up to that time, been resident in and operating from Kokkina. The final result was that the strength in Kokkina was cut from 27 to 11. Instead of having one officer, four NCO's and twenty-two men we had six NCO's and five men.

This new situation proved to be extremely satisfactory. It was found that many of the tasks which had previously been carried out by the officer, could be carried out just as effectively by an NCO. As a result the post became a very popular one among the NCO's and a very high standard of efficiency was reached in the running of it.

Shortly before we left the area the situation at OP 5 (see above) came under review. The post did not seem to be serving any useful purpose as the factors which necessitated it's erection no longer appertained. Also the area which could be observed from the OP could be adequately covered from another of our OP's, O.P. 7. It was decided therefore to close the OP altogether. After negotiations with the Gk/Cyps and the Tk/Cyps it was agreed that the OP would be closed as a static OP but that nightly patrols would be done to the area for a trial period. Shortly afterwards the building at the OP was levelled to ensure that the Tk/Cyps would not occupy it. Up to the time that we left the area the nightly patrols were continued.

Sports & Socials.

Most of the social events during our stay in Kato Pyrgos were bound up with sport, particularly swimming. Two

very successful swimming galas were held during the period, one a group gala and the other between ICA Coy and the Gk/Cyp Battalion at Kato Pyrgos. The group gala/^{which}was organised by Lieut. Jack Dwyer, drew a very large number of competitors from all companies in the group. 'B' Company, who won most of the individual prizes and the team prize produced an excellent team for the occasion. Rivalry was high and great

spirit was shown by all competitors. A big number of spectators showed up and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves very much.

On the following Sunday a gala was held between ICA and the Gk/Cyps. The Gk/Cyps won by a narrow margin. There was very enthusiastic support for the home team from the inhabitants of the village who turned out in strength for the occasion.

The visit of COS UNFICYP could also be considered as a social event. By far the biggest and best party during the period was the farewell party for the 'D' Company Pln which had been with us for four months. Everybody was dis-appointed that the original ICA Company was being broken up. Also the men of Lieut Oliver McDonald's platoon had become very popular in the company so there were many sad

farewells and sorrows were drowned in true Irish fashion. Presentations were swapped and speeches made, and after that the singing began. All in all, the 'A' Company platoon got a rousing send-off.

Our stay in Kato Pyrgos had been most enjoyable, and it seems certain that for all of us it will be our happiest memory of Cyprus. Early in August we made our final move - this time to Lefka Camp. Our natural regret at leaving "Kato P" was enhanced by the sombre thought that we were moving into an area where a booby trap had disabled a British Officer and where many more of these deadly devices might be awaiting further victims. We left our beloved sea and sand to 'A' Company and moved westwards to Lefka.

New Tenants.

During the first week in August 'A' Company moved to Kato Pyrgos, a switch the company had been looking forward to. Ideally located beside a beautiful sandy beach the camp's swimming facilities were fully availed of. With our

arrival at Kato Pyrgos we were rejoined by No. 2 Platoon and for the first time since we left Ireland, 'A' Company was complete. Living in Gk/Cyp territory among Gk/Cyps was a new experience for us as we had been among Tk/Cyps for the previous four months.

Operationally, there was little new to learn and in a few days orientation was completed. The operational situation remained quiet and we continued to deal with clearances, this time mostly for Tk/Cyps to leave the KOKKINA ENCLAVE. Occasionally, clearances were sought and granted for Tk/Cyps to visit Kokkina. A pleasant relationship was maintained between the Tk/Cyp leaders in Kokkina through the NCO i/c KOKKINA Camp and by daily visits to Kokkina by officers from our Company HQ. BURHAN, the new Tk/Cyp in charge of Tk/Cyp Information Office, we found pleasant to deal with and genuinely interested in the solution of all problems of Tk/Cyp and Gk/Cyps. Again, investigation of shots was a rarity, and generally they were accidental. There were no casualties inflicted on either side.

Going Home.

Soon talks began of going home with tentative dates of September 11th set for the advance party. Preparations began for weighing of baggage and "MINGY" buying was completed. Platoon parties were organised with No. 2 Pln starting the ball rolling on Friday September 1st. This was followed by No. 3 Platoon on Sunday 3rd September, SP Platoon on Tuesday 5th and No. 1 Platoon on Thursday 7th. Finally,

Company HQ held their party on Sunday 10th September.

'A' Company held a farewell party at Officer's Mess, Kato Pyrgos on Tuesday 12th September which was attended by almost all the officers of the group and by officers of the advance elements of the 9th Infantry Group. A most enjoyable night was had by all as many "heads" of the morning of the 13th could, no doubt, testify! No 2 Platoon left for Ireland on September 18th and the balance was repatriated between 25th - 29th September and on the latter day 'A' Company, 8th Inf Gp became history.

CHAPTER VII

UNFICYP HQ STAFF AND 8 GROUP SUB - UNITS

of the basic essentials of a successful and pleasant tour of duty in Cyprus is the establishment and maintenance of good relations with UNFICYP Headquarters Staff. We were greatly assisted in this by having friends in court, both those who were here to greet us on arrival, and officers who travelled out from Ireland with us and took up assignments at UNFICYP HQ.

Comdt. J.E. Reynolds was Liaison Officer for IRCON and the one with whom we had most dealings in Nicosia.

Comdt. Bill Ahern was Economics officer for Lefka District and worked in close co-operation with 8th Group Staff and Company Commanders. Capt. John J. Barry was unfortunately repatriated on compassionate grounds and replaced in "Logs" by Capt. Enda Ryan.

Force Engineer is a very useful friend to have on your side and we were fortunate that Comdt. Bill White was followed by Lieut. Colonel Rooney. Both of these were helpful and obliging in the extreme. We did not, perhaps, have as many direct dealings with the other Irishmen in HQ, but Comdt. Bill McDonnell (replaced by Comdt. E.D. Doyle) and Capt. Kevin McCarthy whose replacement was Capt. Frank Dunne were always ready and willing to use their good offices for us if and when required them.

Two UNFICYP people who became well known in Lefka
district were Comdt. Tom McDunphy and his photographer Cpl Jerry
O'Leahan.

The variety and volume of their
efforts to record in pictures
the life of the 8th Inf Group
is readily evident from the
illustrations on these pages.
Our N.C.O's in Nicosia served
with distinction and earned the
N.C.O's of the Irish Defence
Forces a high reputation by
their efficiency and courtesy. They were invariably helpful to any of
the 8th Group who found themselves in the capital of Cyprus on duty
or recreation.

SIGNAL PLATOON.

The Signal Platoon assumed responsibility for communications in LEFKA DISTRICT at 042400 April, 1967. The problems involved were minimised by the fact that 8 members of the platoon had already served with 7th Inf Gp and were familiar with communications systems, both at Gp and Coy HQs. In addition, a number of other members of the platoon had previously served in the LEFKA DISTRICT.

These advantages were enhanced by the fact that the duties and tasks of the platoon in no way differed from those of previous units. Wireless and Switchboard operators had to be provided at Group HQ. Our wireless and line equipment was in continuous need of maintenance and repairs. The highly vulnerable telephone lines to camps and OP's were, as always, a constant headache. Incidentally, they provided us with one moment of light relief when we found that loss of telephone communication with O.P. 58 (Linekiln) was found to be the sabotage efforts of a goat (nationality not definitely established) who supplemented iron deficiencies in his diet by consuming a considerable portion of our line.

Batteries were kept charged; workshops were manned and personnel for S.D.S. to UNFICYP HQ; all from our slender resources. The task of selecting, collecting and projecting films in the four camps fell to us also. We worked in harmony with CYTA in repairing and replacing their equipment. Normally, a message from us to CYTA was enough to bring a repair

crew, but there were the occasions when we had to carry out temporary repairs on switchboards etc. so as to keep the system working until CYTA technicians were available.

Helicopter flights, particularly at night, necessitated providing a "homing signal" at Pendaya Air Strip. The insatiable demand for spare parts and batteries at OPs and Camps had to be satisfied, and, of course, all these tasks involved accounting for, storing and stocktaking the multitude of items on charge.

Wireless.

Wireless commitments at Gp HQ consisted of manning UNFICYP Comd Rear VHF link which was equipped with a C.43 set. This net was backed up by a HF net using C.11s. Regular spot checks were made on this HF net, and one hours morse practice was done each morning in addition to complete working each Sunday. No difficulties were experienced on either net and operators were well up to standard on both nets.

Gp HQ also provided the control station for the Gp Comd HF net using C.12s. Substations consisted of each coy HQ, Coy Comdrs rovers, stand-to pl at HQ Coy and CO's rover. Other stations joining the net were the Panhard Armd Cars when on patrol. The net was not used to any great extent as most of routine traffic was passed by telephone.

The CO's rover was also equipped with a C.42 set for use on UNFICYP VHF Comd Net. In addition a Motorola was fitted to CO's staff car and worked on UNCIVPOL net. Each District HQ and HQ UNFICYP, in addition to police landrover, were equipped with motorolas and this also acted as a back-up to the military nets.

Shortly after arriving the new voice procedure was introduced and operators had no difficulty in converting to this procedure.

Each Coy had a net using A.41 sets for comm with OPs.

LINE.

There is a comprehensive line system laid to serve the

the district. Each Coy HQ is in line comm with Gp HQ. In addition each OP has line laid to its Coy HQ. Gp HQ can be connected with any of the OP's in the District.

There are two direct lines in addition to a teleprinter circuit to HQ UNFICYP. Gp HQ also has two lines to the local automatic civilian exchange at LEFKA.

Initially there were some breakdowns due to insulation faults, broken cables and outside interference by Tk/Cyps and Gk/Cyps with lines. After a comprehensive maintenance programme these were completely eliminated.

There were 5 switchboards and 60 telephones in constant use in the district. A total of 60 miles of D.10 cable is laid.

SPORT.

Members of the platoon participated in all unit sporting activities. In addition, the platoon entered a volleyball team in the C.S.O's Cup Competition. The team visited each contingent as well as entertaining each contingent team at home. This competition proved very enjoyable and our NCO's and Sgm got to know signallers of the other contingents which helped in normal day to day duties.

MILITARY POLICE SECTION.

The M.P. Section, totalling 12 all ranks, was commanded by Capt John MacLachlainn. The section was located at Xeros Camp throughout the whole six months tour. Compared with other sub-units of the Group, this section was remarkable in that 5 of them had no previous overseas service, and none of the section had previous Cyprus experience. This meant that on taking over from 7th Inf Gp, it was a case of 'starting from scratch'. However, the pattern of police duties did not change.

There was an additional chore which fell by default to this section viz. the collection and distribution of mail. This meant that an N.C.O. of this section had to make two runs daily to Nicosia. Otherwise the duties were normal routine type, traffic accidents, investigation of petty thefts, escort duties etc.

The overall record of 8th Inf Gp was good. There was no crime of a serious nature and the job of the M.P. Section was, by and large, made easy by the high standards of discipline and conduct which prevailed.

The M.P. Section supervised parking duties at Mess Functions, ceremonials and on one occasion relieved the Australian UNCIVPOL during their rotation period, and protection duty was carried out at the Helicopter pad at Xeros Camp.

In addition to the 8 Inf Gp M.P. Section, 5 NCO's of the MPC were attached directly from Ireland to UNFICYP HQ Police Detachment. It became necessary to withdraw two of these and substitute two members of 8 Inf Gp Section, who proved to be extremely satisfactory replacements. It is felt that the UNFICYP contingent could profitably be included in the Group MP Section and sent on temporary duty to Nicosia as required. This would mean that the Group MP Officer had greater control over selection of personnel, and also that experience could be gained by spreading UNFICYP HQ military duties over a larger number.

M.T. PLATOON.

The total strength of the Transport Platoon was 28 all ranks, including 3 NCO and 2 Pte fitters on the workshops staff. The original O.C. Tpt Pln was Capt Pat Scannell, but he was unfortunately repatriated on compassionate grounds and Lieut. Vincent P. Whelan (later promoted Captain) moved from Asst Adjutant to Transport Officer.

The tasks confronting drivers in Cyprus are of a startling magnitude. Bad roads, dangerous conditions and a standard of local driving so bad that it was hard to believe, all combined to make a drivers' nightmare. Bearing this in mind, a total of 9 accidents (7 of them minor) out of a total of 469,947 miles is a truly remarkable record, and adequate testimony to the skill and devotion of our drivers. Traffic offences totalled 8, an excellent record, particularly when compared with that of other contingents in the same six months.

Vehicle State.

The figures quoted are even more remarkable when it is borne in mind that the vehicles on charge to the group were mainly old and were subject to constant maintenance and repair problems. The feat of Sgt Willy Ferris and his workshops staff in keeping vehicles on the road is worthy of special mention. Major repairs were carried out by REME Workshops at UNFICYP HQ and excellent relations existed between the Group and the most obliging and willing staff there.

Spare parts were a constant headache, being in short supply, with long delays in delivery, particularly in the case of tyres. A combination of resourcefulness, hard work and enthusiasm overcame most snags.

It would be a lot less than justice not to express our acknowledgement of the manner in which the willingness of all drivers to play their part in driving, maintaining and caring for their vehicles kept us mobile for our six months here.

The two serious accidents were, happily, not accompanied by serious injuries though the escape of Pte Marlowe when the water truck he was driving toppled nearly 200 feet into a ravine was little short of miraculous.

A system of Safe Driving Awards was instituted. Any driver who had 1,000 miles free of accident or traffic offence was awarded a medal. In all, 82 of these medals were given to drivers in the 8th Infantry Group, out of a total of 103 drivers.

'Q' REPORT.

All any Quartermaster who is a realist - and all QM's have to be realists - can hope for during a six-month tour of duty is that problems, disputes and snags will be kept to a minimum. Cynics would maintain that if the QM and his staff are still on speaking terms with the other officers of the Group, this is adequate testimony to the fact that the 'Q' side of things was handled smoothly and efficiently during the period in question.

Judged by these standards, the 'Q' staff of 8th Inf Gp can be quite satisfied with their contribution to our six months overseas. Of course there were times when tempers became frayed, when a little patience would have saved lost tempers and heated arguments, but these things are the common coin of any QM's life, and in fact were rare occurrences in the 8th Inf Gp.

The problems confronting us were the same as those with which our predecessors had to deal, and, as a result, we make our observations and recommendations with more hope than real expectations. It is a case of "seems to me 've heard that song before", but another principle of 'Q' life is that you have to be prepared to "crib" for a long time before anything is done about it.

Clothing.

Material of a very inferior quality, which shrank after only 3 - 4 launderings. This uniform compares so unfavourably with those of other contingents that some officers went to the expense of purchasing good quality slacks and shirts to improve their own dress.

"Ireland" and Group designation flashes should be made in a washable material, so that they can be laundered, and kept clean.

The issue of greens is satisfactory, despite the fact that the greater percentage of those issued were large sizes and had to be altered by the tailor. Re-issues were made to Cooks, fitters and engineer personnel and others, whose employment demanded it.

Boots.

The combat boots proved very satisfactory, but of course they were not tested under harsh conditions, so this is not a true reflection of their suitability and durability.

Supply.

Generally speaking, the supply of replacement Bk Services, Ordnance and General Stores was very slow. The situation in this regard is liable to disimprove even further, due to the run-down at Dhekelia Base.

Rations.

We were on the British Ration Scale, which is varied and adequate, with a few minor exceptions. The meat ration of 8 ozs is small and this has to be supplemented by commuting a certain amount of rations weekly. The issue of vegetables could be better if one type per day could be issued, instead of small amounts of a number of different vegetables.

Cooking within the Group was generally satisfactory. Cooking facilities were as good as could be expected, but equipment leaves a certain amount to be desired. The provision

of food mixers, slicers, mincers, pastry cutters and flan tins would improve the standard. Quite a lot of baking of white and brown bread was done very satisfactorily. The brown flour was "manufactured" by grinding Corn Flakes and mixing in Oatmeal.

CQMS Micheal Roche (far left) seen issuing rations at the Group Stores.

The provision of proper wholemeal flour would again improve this situation.

A reserve stock of Combat Rations is held by the Group, but may not be used without the permission of HQ UNFICYP. The menu sheet of those rations indicates that they are quite varied and should be satisfactory if ever required.

Laundry, Shoemaker & UN Tailor.

Three satisfactory services were provided. A number of small losses and complaints with the laundry service were ironed out within the period.

General.

Our main problems for the period were:-

1. Refrigerators for camps are inadequate and some are so old that they are no longer fully efficient. Refrigerators for OP's were indented, but NOT received. These would add immensely to the comfort of the troops on OP duties.
2. The issue scale of 30 fans for the Group was very inadequate in this warm climate.
3. Tented sleeping accommodation was overcrowded, and on the advice of the M.O., extra tentage was indented for. This matter has not yet been finalised, as a complete physical check of all contingents is now being carried out by HQ UNFICYP.

ORDNANCE DETACHMENT.

The R.O.C. detachment was commanded by Condt Pat Russell M.Sc., and consisted of 7 all ranks. There were no privates in the detachments and of the six NCO's, 5 had previous overseas service. The 2 IC, Sergeant Paul O'Connell had served in LEFKA District with the 41st Bn, while Sgt Jim Maguire had been in Ktima and Dhekelia when serving with the 3rd Inf Gp.

This meant that one of the initial problems of Ordnance personnel on UNFICYP duties - familiarisation with the location of supply depots and the procedure for indenting and accounting for stores $\frac{3}{4}$ was solved from the very outset. Indeed, Sgt Maguire had so many "old friends" in Dhekelia that in a matter of days we all felt ourselves completely at home with our opposite numbers in R.O.C, the source and lifeline of all our supplies.

Condt P. Russell (centre)
photographed with the 6
members of his staff.

In addition, our duties were exactly the same as those of our predecessors in other Irish Contingents. Weapons had to be inspected regularly; ammunition had to be checked and tested; instruments went out of order just as regularly and inevitably as they had with our predecessors. We had to keep lamps lighting, cookers burning, refrigerators cooling and rafts floating. Altar rails were made for the camp church; hot plates and shelves for cook-houses and we worked in close cooperation with the Engineers in fitting out a variety of installations.

Weapon Inspections.

The inspection of weapons was started in April and completed in approx one month. The general condition of the weapons was

satisfactory. It was noted during the inspection that the companies allotted a certain amount of weapons to the OPs and it was intended that they remain there on location. Subsequent to the inspection it was recommended that weapons at OPs be changed monthly as it was evident that the weapons in a number of cases were not receiving the attention they should.

Ammunition.

The ammunition inspection was carried out in conjunction with the arms inspection. The company holdings of SAA were found to be in an unsatisfactory condition and quite an appreciable quantity of ammunition was found to be unserviceable and was dumped at sea. The main reasons for the unserviceable condition of ammunition were

- a. Removal of protective linings from ammunition boxes by previous units.
- b. Removal from boxes and storage in sandbags.
- c. Steeping of ammo in oil baths in an effort to remove corrosion.

The Gp ammunition was replenished and replaced to 100% First Line holding for the weapons held.

Tentage.

Tentage accommodation was inadequate, particularly for Summer conditions. In some cases there were 5 - 6 men in the MUGS modified, an asset in cold weather, but a definite liability in the heat of a Cyprus Summer. The condition of the tentage in all camps was satisfactory, and replacements were made for tents found unserviceable. The new tentage arrived, as we had intended, before the 9th Group over from us.

ENGINEER PLATOON.

Capt Brian Hardwick, B.E. commanded a total of 26 NCO's and men. His engineer section consisted of 1 Officer, 1 C/S, 3 Sgts, 5 Cpls and 3 Ptes. The trades were represented as follows:- 2 fitters, 2 electricians, 6 carpenters, 1 bricklayer and 1 plumber. This section was supplemented in June, by 1 NCO and 4 men from 'A' Coy, 1 NCO and 4 men from 'B' Coy and 1 NCO and 3 men from ICA Coy.

Pte P. O'Neill (left)
and Sgt J.J. Hoey seen
preparing another site
for building.

There is little doubt that they earned unreservedly the title of "the hardest working bunch in 8th Inf Gp". Even in the real hot weather the engineers paraded at 7.30 a.m. and worked up to 10 o'clock at night, with only a short siesta in the afternoons. A group of experienced overseas veterans, notably the Pln 2 i/c, Coy Sgt Harry Wolverson, ensured that

they got "stuck in" to their work from the very first. Perhaps the greatest lesson that this small unit learned (and taught) was that the time flies when you're really working and morale consequently will be at its highest. Certainly, a

more cheerful and willing bunch would be hard to find.

It is a mark of their devotion to duty that subsequent groups will benefit more from their labours than we did. Certainly, the plight of the 9th, facing a Cyprus winter with minimal protection from the harsh elements in OP's and Camps, would be a lot more uncomfortable had it not been for the magnificent flying start given to their winterization programme by "McAlpines Men", as they became affectionately known.

The additional men had to be equipped and trained in elementary carpentry. To achieve increased output and a satisfactory job, all new buildings were pre-fabricated using 10 ft X 10 ft timber panels as the unit of construction. These units were bolted together to form external walls and partitions. The buildings were sheeted externally in corrugated iron and internally with soft board. The buildings were bolted to a 4" thick mass concrete floor. The output was further increased, in July, by the use of a power saw supplied by U.N.

Over 700 minor maintainance works were completed in the six months. 3 Major maintainance works were undertaken. These consisted of alterations and additions to the existing sewerage systems in KATO PYRGOS, LIMNITIS and LEFKA Camps. These systems end in effluent collection pits 20'x10'x10' deep. These pits were revetted and covered with corrugated iron

supported on dwarf walls. The new works completed were:-

- a. NCO's Mess Lefka Camp - 40'x20'x8' high.
- b. OFFR's Mess Kato Pyrgos Camp - 50'x20'x10' high.
- c. Ration Stores Xeros Camp - 40'x20'x10' high.
- d. Canteen Stores Xeros Camp - 40'x20'x10' high.
- e. Officers' Quarters Xeros Camp - 70'x20'x10' high.
- f. New Water Supply to Linmitis Camp - 400 yards long.
- g. I No. OP Building 20'x16'x10' high at PERISTERONARI.
- h. I No. OP Building 20'x16'x10' high at AMBELIKOU.
- i. 3 No. OP Nissen Huts 14'x8'x10' high at LIMEKILN.

The cost of the materials used on Engineer works was over £5,000. This group used more than 40,000 ft of timber, 1,000

sheets of corrugated iron and laid more than 300 tons of concrete. A unique feature of these engineer operations was the airlift of materials and plant to the OP's. This operation was carried out using WESSEX helicopters. This craft is capable of carrying a load of 1 ton on each lift. It was the first occasion that helicopters were used on an engineer works programme.

MEDICAL PLATOON

The Medical Platoon comprised 14 all ranks, including two officers, but for the first 2½ months, Comdt E. D. Daly was on his own as M.O. He was joined on 19th June by Comdt Henry O'Shea from whom, in fact, he had taken over in March. This gives Comdt O'Shea the distinction of serving with three successive Irish contingents, as his new tour of duty meant that he stayed on as M.O. to the 9th Inf Group.

Supplies taken over from the 7th Group, were augmented by others sent from Ireland. In general, these were sufficient and suitable items but some, requisitioned by the 7th for use of the 8th, were not supplied. Some items became scarce towards the end of the tour.

Transport was the same as for the 7th Group, i.e. two Landrovers FFS and one Ford 3 ton 4 berth Ambulance. In August the big Ambulance was returned as unsuitable and unsatisfactory. Two additional Landrovers FFS are awaited to replace it. Two of the medical orderlies, Privates Mullen and Meegan, were employed as drivers during the tour. They each drove between 12,000 and 13,000 miles in the period - accident free.

Two of the Medical Platoon, Privates Connolly and Purcell were employed as barmen in the Officers Mess, where their efficient and courteous services were greatly appreciated by visitors and "natives" alike. Cpl Bartley blossomed out as a cook during a stay at the Famagusta Rest Centre, proving so satisfactory that his services were sought again at a later date.

Special Deliveries

There were the inevitable crop of "Landrover babies" delivered en route from KOKKINA to

LEFKA Hospital. Three of the births were normal but one was stillborn. The Medical NCOs also helped many sick Cypriots - Greek and Turk alike - in the remote villages of our District. Most of the time was devoted to routine medical duties, advising and helping in Camp sanitation and providing a Medical Orderly at the Rest Centre in FAMAGUSTA.

Mosquito Control

Liaison was effected between Greeks and Turks to deal with the mosquito menace, which assumed serious proportions during this Summer of 1967. A surprising degree of co-operation and mutual goodwill was achieved on these occasions. Cpl Porter attended and passed a Sanitation Course at the Hygiene Wing, B.M.H. DHEKELIA from 4 - 9th June. An interesting demonstration of the Stokes Litter for heli evacuations was given to the Platoon on June 7th. Liaison with other Contingents was maintained by a series of monthly conferences, presided over by the C.M.O. Col 'Jimmy' Cole, RAMC.

Sick rates were well within normal limits and there were no outbreaks of epidemic disease among Irish troops. The policy of rotating Platoon personnel between the different Companies made for variety and established good relations and mutual help and respect.

CHAPTER VIII

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

The first function we attended in XEROS Officers Mess was the dinner given by the 7th Group Officers to the newly arrived 8th Group Officers. On 17th April the 8th Group held its first social function. Mr P. O'Beirne, Chief Administrative Officer, UNFICYP, who was leaving Cyprus to take up another UN appointment, and his wife, were the guests of honour and were the recipients of a present from the 8th Inf Group.

The next "big night" was a function for local CMC officials and National Guard Officers on May 11th, our first opportunity to meet on a social basis our "opposite numbers" in XEROS area, and indeed of returning the hospitality they had shown us. There were several luncheon guests - the Australian Ambassador to Greece, Mr Gullet, Mr Fabian the American writer, representatives from other contingents, particularly Operations staffs who visited Lefka District for an operational "look-see", and who reciprocated the hospitality when our officers went to their areas. The Chief Signals Officer, Lt Col Robert Wythe on his inspection visit was also our guest for lunch.

On June 21st we had our biggest function so far, a reception for members of all contingents and HQ UNFICYP. Nearly 200 guests enjoyed what was noted "the best party on the island", and both personal and written messages of thanks and appreciation were showered on Lt Col Beary for the next few days. Perhaps the best testimonial was the prompt requests from all present for an invitation to "the next party" and the sometimes blatant angling by those who hadn't been but had heard all about it.

Irish Visitors

Only 4 days later a most welcome function was a dinner in honour of a Board Baine delegation headed by Condt Joe McGough. The new Board Baine coat of arms was presented to the Mess, the first time it had been presented to anybody. A most enjoyable time was had by hosts and visitors, though it has to be admitted that about the only beverage not consumed was "Baine".

The O/C 8th Group

showed his

appreciation of the

efforts put into the

function on the 21st

by holding a C/Os

dinner on June 27th,

which was attended

by all available

officers from HQ and

the Companies.

The 6th of July saw our first guest from behind the Iron Curtain when the Rumanian Military Attache, accompanied by his wife and son, was the guest at lunch in the Officers Mess. The 11th of July, an Army Holiday, was the occasion of the Chief of Staff's visit. His speech after lunch in the Mess was voted one of the best of its kind.

The month of July was to see more distinguished guests, culminating on the last day of the month with a lunch for the Force Commander who had presented UN medals that day. In between we had three Revenue Commissioners from Ireland, a group of Austrian doctors from the UN Field Hospital and a most enjoyable lunch for two British bomb disposal experts, Majors Phil Easterby and Mike Pritchard-Davies, the latter's obvious enjoyment giving

no inkling of the tragedy that was to be within a matter of ten days.

August was a month of casual visitors with a welcome visit from Mrs Beary, wife of our C/O. Another honoured guest this month was the Commercial Secretary of the German Embassy, his wife and three children. The two big functions were a dinner for National Guard officers on August 21st and our Farewell party for all contingents, with more than 200 guests, on the 29th. Perhaps it can best be summed up in the words of a guest "I didn't think there could have been a better party than your June effort, but there was - and this is it". One major contribution to the success was the Group Showband and Ballad Group, a scratch collection of musicians who went from strength to strength and were a great success at numerous functions in different contingents. They played at the UNFICYP HQ Mess Dance on August, 19th and were generally noted the best of the Groups which had performed there.

NCOs and Men

It should not be thought that social occasions were confined to the Officers Mess. Far from it, indeed. In fact the list of functions in the NCOs Mess and Mens Canteen is so long that it is not feasible to reproduce it in full.

On 8th May, Sgt Mick Lacey of the Signals Platoon (who had stayed on from the 7th Group) celebrated his birthday with a tremendous party in the NCOs Mess. He contributed an equal amount to that collected by the NCOs and the Group Commander, 2 i/c, O/C HQ Coy and Mess President were guests at the function. A few days later a busload of RAF personnel with their wives and families were entertained by the NCOs of 8th Group. On 24th May

the Australian Civilian Police were guests at a Farewell Party, a wonderful evening in tribute to the men from Down Under with whom the Irish have always had such good relations.

On June 1st it was the turn of the Privates who played host to the Group O/C and a number of officers. Pte Paddy Ward our ebullient barber, did the honours in great style. On the last day of this month the Group Commander showed his appreciation of the contribution made by the NCOs and Privates of the Mess staff by holding a special function for them in the NCOs Mess.

The month of August saw a series of parties, many of them of a "Farewell" nature. On the 14th the NCOs took over the "Seagull" Bar in XEROS village and entertained the Officers of the Group, representatives of Britcon and all the members of the NCOs Mess. The Engineers held their party on September 1st, when Capt Brian Hardwick was the recipient of a number of presentations. Saturday September 9th saw the NCOs farewell dinner; the Privates having had theirs on the 6th and a pleasant function on the 7th saw the distribution of Safe Driving Medals to members of the Transport Platoon. The arrival of the advance elements of the 9th Group was the signal for an outbreak of parties and get-togethers, most of them spontaneous and unrehearsed, and all of them enjoyable.

CHAPTER IX

SPORTS AND WELFARE

The story of sport in the Unit is a success story for 'B' Company who captured Group Championships in Soccer, Basketball, Swimming and Volleyball. Other sports officially catered for were Athletics.

Soccer

The Soccer was played on a knock-out basis decided on goal aggregate home and away. In the event of a tie after two games, away goals counted for the purpose of deciding the tie. The semi-finals resulted in wins for ICA and 'B' Company over 'A' Company and HQ Company respectively. ICA had an easy passage to the final but 'B' Company only got through thanks to a missed penalty by HQ in the last few minutes. The final, played at LIMNITIS was an interesting affair until 'B' Company took the lead. At this stage ICA wilted and 'B' Company eventually won more easily than the 2 - 0 scoreline would suggest.

Group teams were in action on two occasions against Turkish selections from LEFKA. The first game was lost 3 - 2 but a few weeks later a brilliant Group team beat the Turks by 7 - 1.

Swimming

Swimming

competitions were

held in KATO,

PYRGOS which is by

far the most

suitable beach in

the area. For this

reason, all swimming competitions have been mentioned in the KATO PYRGOS Chapter.

Basketball & Volleyball

Both these competitions were on a home and away league basis and both resulted in easy victories for 'B' Company. Many of the teams taking part enjoyed far more the social gatherings in the home Mess after the games than they did the actual playing time. It was even suggested that the teams should all include at least one good singer - a practice which is believed to have succeeded for the Lions Rugby Team.

Athletics

September 8th a very successful Group Athletics Meeting was organised by ICA Company and held at MAVROVOUNI Stadium. The occasion was not without its pageantry. The Armoured Car Group provided an escort of honour for the Commanding Officer; there was an "Olympic Torch" and a march past of the teams all adding up to an enjoyable afternoon.

Results

100 yds	-	1.	Sgt Leahy	-	ICA
		2.	Lt Carolan	-	B Coy
220 yds	-	1.	Lt Fleming	-	B Coy
		2.	Pte Gleason	-	ICA
440 yds	-	1.	Pte Hogan	-	HQ Coy
		2.	Lt Fleming	-	B Coy
Inter Coy - Relay		1.	ICA		
		2.	A Coy		
880 yds	-	1.	Pte Carroll	-	HQ Coy
		2.	Cpl Mannion	-	HQ Coy
High Jump	-	1.	Cpl O'Grady	-	ICA
		2.	Pte O'Riordan	-	A Coy

Long Jump	-	1. Sgt Leahy	-	ICA
		2. Pte Cleary	-	A Coy
Hop, Step and Jump	-	1. Pte Gleason	-	ICA
		2. Pte Burke	-	HQ Coy
Novelty Events 3 Legged Race		1. Tpr Murphy & Tpr Cullen	-	ICA ICA
Egg & Spoon	-	1. Tpr Murphy	-	ICA
		2. Pte Murphy	-	B Coy
Sack Race	-	1. Pte Carmody	-	HQ Coy
Reveille Race	-	1. Pte Brogan	-	B Coy
Veterans Race	-	1. Sgt Lynam	-	ICA
		2. Cpl Bartley	-	ICA
Relay	-	1. 8 Inf Group		
		2. LEFKA Turks		

Team Championship

ICA Company	-	13 points
A Company	-	6 points
HQ Company	-	4 points
B Company	-	4 points

GAA

The "GAA ban" worked in reverse for the Group as the competition was not held on medical advice. It was felt that the ground was too hard to risk limbs. It was noticed that of the many gaelic players taking part in the Soccer Championships, very few were injured. For the same reason, Hurling was "out". Indeed, the small band of hardy enthusiasts who bared the heat and rock-hard grounds to "have a few pucks" were unanimous that competitive games under these conditions would have been a real hazard. One can only regret that a Group which included so many top-class exponents of both our native games - though some did win their laurels in the rather distant past - did not have the opportunity of

showing the locals how **our** games are played. One officer of the Group, Lieut Larry Coughlan, had the distinction of being specially flown home to Ireland to help his native county in the Championships. His inability to travel for the Leinster Final is cited as a big contributing factor to Offaly's elimination. Honesty compels us to record that certain Meath elements in the Group do not at all subscribe to this conjecture.

CHAPLAINS

The two Chaplains with the Group were Rev Fr Denis Killian, Custume Bks, Athlone, and Rev Fr Gerald Keohane, Collins Bks, Cork. Both had previous service in Cyprus.

They divided the District, one taking care of HQ and LEFKA Camps, the other LIMNITIS and KATO PYRGOS. They changed places at six week intervals and thus got to know the personnel in all the Camps.

They each said three Masses on Sundays and Holy Days, five in the Company Camps and one in St. Barnabas Church, XEROS. This Church was attended by the Catholics of the neighbourhood, both Maronite and Latin Rite. On week-days the Chaplains said Mass in the morning and Rosary in the evening in one of the Camps. They visited the OPs regularly. Twice during the tour of duty, Rev Fr Hubert Le Duc of CANCON visited the Camps and heard confessions.

Both Chaplains attended a conference of all UN Chaplains at UNFICYP HQ and an Ecumenical Meeting in NICOSIA at which ten Christian Churches were represented.

WELFARE

Overall, nothing of great import or of a different nature to the experiences of the Welfare Section of other overseas Units occurred during 8 Inf Groups tour of duty. On formation in the Curragh, the Welfare Staff was 1 Officer and 1 NCO. Such things as Unit Flashes, Rank Markings, Underlays, Unit Lanyard etc., were procured and issued on repayment. The distribution of "Canteen Board Special Offer" in cameras, shavers, films, etc., was arranged.

Early in April the staff was supplemented by one Sgt and one Private. Gifts of cigs, whiskey, Guinness, chocolate, sweets, books, electric irons and hurleys were received from various Irish firms and were distributed to Companies on strength basis.

Sports Equipment

A large consignment of Welfare and Sports equipment was received from Army Welfare and distributed to Companies, enabling them, in turn, to equip Messes, Camps and OPs and to provide for all types of games in their Camps.

Normal purchases and sales of duty free goods and souvenirs were made. Films were shown three times weekly in each Camp.

The swimming season started in May and from this on swimming became very popular to the detriment of other organised sports, though a Group Soccer Competition was run off during the month. Rafts and boats were provided for the various beaches, while sales of swimming trunks and sun-tan lotion increased rapidly. A basketball competition was begun in May and finished in June.

Rest Centre

On June 22nd the Rest Centre at FAMAGUSTA was opened for the troops. Twenty five O/Ranks holiday makers

and three officers were "in residence" each week and were looked after by a small staff of cooks, waiters etc.,. This holiday camp was very popular and much appreciated by all ranks.

Middle East war "shot down" any ideas of holidays in ISRAEL, JORDAN or EGYPT, but an abbreviated tour of LEBANON was arranged and availed of by 23 all ranks, including the Group Commander.

The hot days of August kept us busy maintaining supplies of minerals and soft drinks to the Canteen and Messes.

On August 27th the Rest Centre closed. All agreed that the venture was highly successful.

Relieved

On September 6th, the Recce Party arrived and the welcome sight of new faces spelt "Gate Fever" as one Coy Commander called it. Welfare Staff were up to their ears as sales soared. Spirits, cigs and mingi turned over like lighting and bottles and packets, radios, coffee sets and camel stools thudded into mingy boxes at all times of day and night. The fact that all Welfare Stores had been transferred from the village to XEROS Camp was both a blessing and a hindrance to the staff. The Advance Party arrived on 11th and the secrets of Welfare were passed in huddled, whispering sessions of serious faced "Mingy Men".

Morale

In general it can be said that Welfare in the 8th Group fared no better or no worse than that of other Units. The cribs and the bouquets have a peculiar consistency. As for general morale among all ranks, I can only say that it was in my opinion normal for a Unit such as the 8th Group.

ANNEX 'A' TO UNIT HISTORY.8TH INFANTRY GROUP.NOMINAL ROLL - 8TH INFANTRY GROUP.GROUP HEADQUARTERS.

OC	0.4939	Lt.Col	Beary, James.
2 i/c	0.5181	Comdt	Stewart, John, M.
Adjnt.	0.6 932	Capt	Leyden, Micheal, J.
QM	0.7486	Capt	Nugent, Patrick, L.
Ops Offr.	0.7440	Capt	Donnelly, William, G.
Int Offr.	0.7323	Capt	Bates, Martin, D.
Welfare Officer.	0.7550	Capt	Buckley, Laurence, E.R.
Legal Officer.	0.6183	Comdt	O'Shea, Timothy.
Ass t Ops Offr.	0.8035	Lieut.	O'Dwyer, Noel, W.
Asst Int Offr.	0.8076	Lieut.	Moloney, John, A.
BSM.	87182	B SM	Norris, Patrick.

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY.Company Headquarters.

Coy Comdr.	0.6376	Comdt	Ryan, John.
Coy Sgt.	433647	C/S	Kelly, P.
CQMS	87488	CQMS	Quinn, M.
Clerk (Telep)	808726	Pte	Manley, M.
Storeman/Dvr.	813452	Cpl	McGrath, T.

1st PLATOON.

Asst Adjnt & Pln Comdr	0.7852	Lieut.	Whelan, Vincent, P.
MP Officer.	0.5754	Capt.	McLaughlin, John, J.
CS (MP)	800253	Sgt	Cahill, K.
Band (& Mess Duties)	89979	Sgt	Hall, J.
Sgt Clerk (Ord Room)	94978	Sgt	Thompson, J.
Sgt Clerk (Int)	805700	Sgt	Buckley, P.
Sgt Clerk (Ops)	806634	Sgt	Kelleher, T.G.
Sgt Clerk (Telep Op)	805790	Sgt	Houlihan, C.D.
Sgt (Int)	804909	Sgt	Gartland, W.
Sgt (Int)	801568	Sgt	Kealy, T.P.T.
Sgt (MP)	807182	Cpl	Power, J.

Sgt (MP)	809683	Cpl	Brennan, M.
Sgt (MP)	805890	Cpl	Dillon, J.
Sgt (Ofprs Mess)	433819	Cpl	Furlong, J.
Sgt (Post)	802920	Sgt	Thompson, T.
Band (& Mess Duties)	810040	Cpl	Curran, P.
Band (& Mess Duties)	97480	Cpl	O'Connor, C.
Band (& Mess Duties)	801338	Cpl	Ryan, J.
Cpl Clerk (Telep)	807213	Cpl	Watson, F.
Cpl Int (Photographer)	809928	Pte	Sheehan, J.
Cpl (MP)	815430	Cpl	Smith, J.
Cpl (MP)	815066	Cpl	Hartnett, J.
Cpl (MP)	812609	Cpl	Curran, T.
Cpl (MP)	816592	Cpl	Farrell, R.J.
Cpl (MP)	816527	Cpl	Murdock, P.J.
Cpl (MP)	813358	Cpl	O'Connor, T.
Cpl (MP)	816874	Cpl	Byrne, P.F.
Band (& Mess Duties)	808816	Pte	Behan, M.
Band (& Mess Duties)	804904	Pte	Hussey, J.
Band (& Mess Duties)	98747	Pte	Massey, P.
Band (& Mess Duties)	810969	Pte	McGrath, W.
Band (& Mess Duties)	815681	Pte	O'Sullivan, J.
Band (& Mess Duties)	802484	Pte	Sheehan, D.
Band (& Mess Duties)	815154	Pte	Stephenson, W.
Band (& Mess Duties)	815586	Pte	Troy, N.
Band (& Mess Duties)	816207	Pte	Butler, J.T.
Band (& Mess Duties)	814914	Pte	Massey, W.

101 PLATOON.

Asst QM & Pln Comdr.	0.7990	Lieut.	McDonough, Matthias.
Engr Officer.	0.7869	Capt.	Hardwick, Charles, J.B.
Ord Officer.	0.7538	Comdt.	Russell, Patrick J.
BQMS	80502	BQMS	Everan, J.J.
CQMS	91403	CQMS	Roche, M.
CQMS (Welfare)	800849	CQMS	McCafferty, G.
Ammo Exam	90328	Sgt	McGuire, J.

Arm Art	86128	Sgt	O'Connell, P.
Armourer.	803969	Sgt	O'Shea, A.
Cook.	90298	Sgt	Loftus, C.
Engr Tech.	407968	C/S	Wolverson, H.
Engr Tech.	804717	Sgt	Heffernan, T.
Engr Tech.	804718	Sgt	Johnson, A.
Engr Tech.	808846	Cpl	Sherne, M.
Storeman.	99625	Sgt	Murray, T.
Storeman/Dvr	802841	Sgt	Kent, G.
Tent Repairer.	815985	Cpl	Dowler, J.
Armourer.	811936	Cpl	Kinsella, J.
Armourer .	804685	Pte	Dunne, M.
Clerk (Telep Op)	812446	Cpl	O'Boyle, P.
Cook.	95716	Cpl	Kavanagh, P.
Cook.	81154	Cpl	Allen, W.
Cook.	88570	Sgt	Dooner, P.
Engr Tech.	810823	Cpl	Brady, J.
Engr Tech.	811938	Cpl	Mannion, P.
Engr Tech.	809593	Cpl	Morrissey, D.
Storeman/Dvr.	93746	Cpl	Delaney, A.
Barber.	85450	Pte	Ward, P.
Cook.	816433	Pte	O'Brien, A.
Cook.	91593	Pte	Rochford, P.
Cook.	815231	Pte	O'Neill, G.
Cook.	815833	Pte	Koogh, T.
Engr Tech.	805184	Cpl	O'Callaghan, J.
Engr Tech.	809575	Cpl	Nolan, J.
Engr Tech.	813415	Pte	Walsh, T.
Engr Tech.	813138	Pte	Grant, F.
Engr Tech.	813100	Pte	Burke, T.
Tailor.	812573	Pte	Moylan, L.

SIGNAL PLATOON.

Pln Comdr.	0.7369	Capt.	Jones, Noel, C.
Linesman.	802424	Sgt	Prouse, R.
Op W & L.	89937	C/S	Gallagher, J.
Op W & L.	811137	Cpl	Lacey, M.
Op W & L.	813603	Cpl	Kilmartin, B .
Radio Mech.	809565	Cpl	Grottan, W.
Op W & L.	811604	Sgm	Mulvey, R.
Op W & L.	813773	Cpl	Lafferty, J.
Op W & L.	814175	Cpl	Kilmartin, J.
Op W & L.	814405	Sgm	Dugan, M.
Radio Mech.	813134	Sgm	Prior, P.
Op W & L.	816059	Sgm	Murray, D.
Op W & L.	816060	Sgm	Doherty, M.
Op W & L.	816188	Sgm	Gallagher, P.
Op W & L.	814932	Sgm	O'Donnell, S.
Op W & L.	814990	Sgm	O'Shea, C.
Op W & L.	816157	Sgm	Buckley, W.
Op W & L.	816925	Sgm	Quinn, F.
Op W & L.	816069	Sgm	O'Shea, T.
Storeman/Dvr.	811757	Sgm	Doyle, E.

TRANSPORT PLATOON.

Pln Comdr.	0.7465	Capt	Seannell, Patrick.
Tech Stores Offr.	0.7948	Lieut.	Coughlan, Laurence.
Driver, MT	96855	Sgt	Gannon, .
Fitter MT	408203	Sgt	Ferris, W.
Driver MT	811355	Cpl	Griffin, A.
Driver MT	92447	Cpl	McGivern, D.
Driver MT	99246	Cpl	Daly, T.
Fitter MT	811959	Cpl	Walsh, W.
Fitter MT	811972	Cpl	Joyce, P.
Storeman/Dvr.	807609	Cpl	Lawlor, J.
Driver MT	805019	Pte	Buckley, E.
Driver MT	812 677	Pte	Cambridge, D.

Driver MT	815499	Pte	O'Connell, J.
Driver MT	812618	Pte	O'Mahoney, J.
Driver MT	817127	Pte	Croash, T.
Driver MT	815477	Pte	Harrison, G.
Driver MT	816146	Pte	Hogan, J.
Driver MT	816934	Pte	Robinson, J.
Driver MT	815583	Pte	Cahill, B.
Driver MT	815784	Pte	McKervey, J.
Driver MT	815270	Pte	McLysaght, L.
Driver MT	815503	Pte	Keneghan, J.
Driver MT		Pte	Carroll, T.
Driver MT	815085	Pte	Murphy, J.
Driver MT	815458	Pte	Doyle, M.
Driver MT	809832	Pte	Dempsey, L.
Driver MT	813935	Pte	Howard, B.
Fitter MT	809580	Pte	Wilson, M.
Fitter MT	811954	Pte	Sherry, P.

MEDICAL PL TOCN.

Pln Comdr	0.6745	Comdt	O'Shea, Henry, P.
Pln Offr.	0.7829	Comdt	Daly, Edward, D.
Coy Sgt.	89816	Sgt	Hennesy, L.
Med Ord.	809360	Sgt	Creaton, P.
Med Ord.	801172	Cpl	Durney, J.
Med Ord.	804413	Cpl	Murphy, D.
Med Ord.	805385	Cpl	Bartley, C.
Med Ord.	813435	Cpl	Porter, T.
Med Ord.	810313	Pte	Mullen, D.
Med Ord.	810758	Pte	Purcell, M.
Med Ord.	812386	Pte	Meegan, J.
Med Ord.	813064	Pte	O'Donnell, M.
Med Ord.	815159	Pte	Connolly, P.
Med Ord.	816200	Pte	Woods, M.

HEAVY MORTAR TROOP.

Troop HQ.

Troop Comd.	0.7275	Capt	Boyle, T.
Troop Sgt.	9I063	CQMS	Jones, F.
Penciller OPA	94970	Sgt	Earley, W.
Penciller GPOA	814236	Cpl	Dollard, M.
Signaller.	814015	Gnr	Kennedy, K.
Storeman/Dvr.	91803	Cpl	Gibney, E.
Penciller.	815502	Gnr	Fahy, M.
Signaller.	815414	Gnr	Macken, O.
Signaller.	815492	Gnr	Cassidy, W.
Signaller.	815700	Gnr	Leonard, T.
Cook.	815368	Gnr	Cleary, J.

NO. 1 SECTION.

Sec. Comd.	0.8082	Lieut	Murray, J.
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'A' Sub-Section.

Mortar No.	807753	Cpl	Gavin, T.
Mortar No.	815758	Gnr	Lyons, P.
Mortar No.	815346	Gnr	Clyne, W.
Mortar No.	94664	Gnr	Clinton, J.

'B' Sub-Section.

Mortar No.	89954	Sgt	Watson, W.
Mortar No.	316578	Gnr	McAnaney, A.
Mortar No.	811526	Gnr	Connolly, P.
Mortar No.	813483	Gnr	Johnson, M.

NO. 2 SECTION.

Sec. Comd.	0.8084	Lieut	Dwyer, J.
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'A' Sub-Section.

Mortar No.	805494	Cpl	Lynam, K.
Mortar No.	815107	Gnr	Devaney, J.
Mortar No.	815699	Gnr	Heffernan, M.
Mortar No.	815455	Gnr	O'Brien, M.

'B' Sub-Section.

Mortar No.	211637	Sgt	Hoey, J.
Mortar No.	815501	Gnr	Darby, W.
Mortar No.	815721	Gnr	McEntee, J.
Mortar No.	812482	Gnr	O'Keefe, L.

Attachments.

Chaplains (2)	Rev. Fr. D. Killian.
	Rev. Fr. G. Keohane.

'A' COMPANY.

Company Headquarters.

Coy Comd.	0.7107	Comdt	Flynn, J.
2 IC	0.7501	Capt	Keyes, G.
Coy Sgt.	86861	CS	Smith, M.
CQMS.	93288	CQMS	Freeman, E.
Clerk.	811512	Cpl	Kavanagh, B.
Cook.	89828	Cpl	O'Rourke, K.
Driver MT	95223	Cpl	Byrne, P.
OP W & L.	815873	Cpl	Buckley, D.
Signaller.	806043	Cpl	Broe, W.N.
Storeman/Dvr.	811893	Cpl	Fogarty, G.
Cook.	814540	Pte	Swords, M.
Cook.	815757	Pte	Sutton, J.
Cook.	815640	Pte	Frederiksen, C.
Cook.	807727	Pte	Floody, C.
Driver MT	803545	Pte	Walsh, J.
Driver MT.	809316	Pte	Higgins, J.
OP W & L.	816161	Pte	Rochford, M.
OP W & L.	815755	Pte	Kelly, B.
OP W & L.	815811	Pte	McEvoy, W.
Storeman/Dvr.	811726	Pte	Bradley, M.

NO. I RIFLE PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Platoon Comd.	0.7957	Lieut	Fallon, J.
Platoon Sgt.	90244	Sgt	Tiernan, G.
Signaller.	816401	Pte	Gushen, T.

No. 1 Section.

Sec Comd.	807828	Cpl	Curtin, M.
LMG No.	81440I	Cpl	O'Connor, E.
Rifleman.	806794	Pte	Corrigan, P.
Rifleman.	816028	Pte	Cleary, J.
Rifleman.	815610	Pte	O'Neill, J.
Rifleman.	815427	Pte	O'Brien, J.
Rifleman.	814662	Pte	Burke, S.
LMG No.	816118	Pte	Westman, D.
LMG No.	816409	Pte	Kelly, J.
Rifleman/Dvr.	810006	Pte	Donnelly, P.

No. 2 Section.

Sec Comd.	813522	Cpl	Dowler, M.
LMG No.	813453	Cpl	Joyce, P.
Rifleman.	815806	Pte	Nealis, H.
Rifleman.	816117	Pte	Berrigan, L.
Rifleman.	816265	Pte	Walsh, J.
Rifleman.	816271	Pte	Dowler, P.
Rifleman.	816002	Pte	McCormack, B.
LMG No.	816215	Pte	Kelly, W.
LMG No.	808575	Pte	Stephens, B.
Rifleman/Dvr.	815910	Pte	Marlow, P.

No. 3 Section.

Sec. Comd.	815879	Cpl	O'Donnell, J.
LMG No.	815218	Cpl	Eakins, J.
Rifleman.	816803	Pte	Mahon, J.
Rifleman.	816000	Pte	Kelly, P.
Rifleman.	816829	Pte	Geoghegan, M.
Rifleman.	815727	Pte	Scanlon, M.
Rifleman.	815431	Pte	McCaffery, J.
LMG No.	816337	Pte	O'Sullivan, P.
LMG No.	815674	Pte	O'Riordan, M.
Rifleman/Dvr.	814079	Pte	McDonagh, J.

No. 2 RIFLE PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Platoon Comd.	0.8018	Lieut	MacDonald, O.
Platoon Sgt.	92572	Sgt	Mooney, P.
Signaller.	814492	Sgm	Coakley, P.

No. 1 Section.

Sec Comd.	87234	Sgt	McCabe, P.
LMG No.	816025	Cpl	Tracey, J.
Rifleman.	816023	Pte	Barry, J.
Rifleman.	815604	Pte	Cullen, W.
Rifleman.	816834	Pte	Kenny, J.
Rifleman.	817166	Pte	Bonner, W.
Rifleman.	814051	Pte	Ward, P.
LMG No.	815233	Pte	Callinan, F.
LMG No.	816877	Pte	Doherty, F.
Rifleman/Dvr.	817162	Pte	Manifold, J.

No. 2 Section.

Sec Comd.	811061	Cpl	McGivern, B.
LMG No.	92963	Cpl	Kelly, S.
Rifleman.	815892	Pte	Byrne, M.
Rifleman.	816313	Pte	Geraghty, S.
Rifleman.	814833	Pte	Hurley, J.
Rifleman.	815863	A/Man	Murray, F.
Rifleman.	816355	Pte	Smith, J.
LMG No.	813966	Pte	Manson, E.
LMG No.	816348	Pte	Kelly, M.
Rifleman/Dvr.	817061	Gnr	Brennan, H.

No. 3 Section.

Sec Comd.	813080	Cpl	Reid, J.
LMG No.	808757	Cpl	Fitzpatrick, J.
Rifleman.	816241	Tpr	Newport, P.
Rifleman.	815578	Pte	McMuley, J.
Rifleman.	816255	Tpr	Daly, G.
Rifleman.	814920	Tpr	Byrne, J.
Rifleman.	815805	Pte	Moore, G.

LMG No.	815142	Tpr	Murphy, B.
LMG No.	816860	Pte	McBride, P.
Rifleman/Dvr.	806929	Pte	Leech, G.

No. 3 RIFLE PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Pln Comd.	0.8135	Lieut	McNamara, J.M.
Pln Sgt.	807546	Sgt	Leigh, W.
Signaller.	817350	Tpr	Keogh, T.

No. 1 Section.

Sec. Comd.	809295	Sgt	Redmond, P.
LMG No.	809222	Cpl	O'Brien, P.
Rifleman.	815763	Pte	Slattery, P.
Rifleman.	816964	Pte	O'Neill, P.
Rifleman.	815092	Pte	Kinsella, P.
Rifleman.	813623	Pte	Redmond, J.
Rifleman.	815454	Pte	O'Connell, D.
LMG No.	815461	Pte	O'Connor, P.
LMG No.	816866	Tpr	O'Leary, C.
Rifleman/Dvr.	816111	Tpr	Doran, J.

No. 2 Section.

Sec. Comd.	805250	Cpl	Sweeney, T.
LMG No.	99384	Cpl	Sweeney, R.
Rifleman.	814268	Sgn	Kehoc, J.
Rifleman.	815767	Pte	Murphy, J.
Rifleman.	811872	Pte	Reilly, K.
Rifleman.	815194	Pte	Cahill, K.
Rifleman.	815545	Pte	Higgins, J.
LMG No.	813568	Pte	Coogan, E.
LMG No.	815952	Pte	Gannon, C.
Rifleman/Dvr.	816110	Tpr	Moran, R.

No. 3 Section.

Sec. Comd.	91178	Cpl	Geraghty, M.
LMG No.	813633	Cpl	Mullins, S.
Rifleman.	815462	Pte	Higgins, L.

Rifleman.	814518	ite	Dorey, W.
Rifleman.	814816	Pte	Flynn, F.
Rifleman.	814945	ite	Hanlon, M.
Rifleman.	813634	Pte	Coady, C.
LMG No.	816114	Tpr	Noblett, T.
LMG No.	815942	Tpr	McGlynn, A.
Rifleman/Dvr.	816112	Tpr	Rogers, J.

SUPPORT PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Pln Comdr.	0.8133	Lieut.	McCourt, B.
Pln Sgt.	95482	Sgt	O'Toole, L.
Signaller.	816633	Pte	O'Brien, A.

Anti-Tank Section.

Atk No.	94611	Cpl	McLaurence, J.
Atk No.	816696	Cpl	Cowman, F.
Atk No.	812078	Pte	McDermott, G.
Atk No.	803541	Pte	Dingley, M.
Atk No.	816099	Pte	Carroll, T.
Atk No.	801104	Pte	Radford, M.

Mortar Section.

Sec. Comdr.	90927	Sgt	McCann, A.
Mor No.	813005	Cpl	O'Connor, R.
Mor No.	812642	Cpl	Houlihan, W.
Mor No.	814941	Pte	Russell, J.
Mor No.	814937	ite	White, D.
Mor No.	813484	Pte	Farrell, J.
Mor No.	801821	ite	Canning, M.
Mor No.	816896	Pte	Kearns, W.
Mor No.	815555	Pte	Gibney, B.
Mor No.	814563	Pte	Duffy, L.
Mor No.	815653	Pte	Kinsella, J.
Signaller.	815943	Pte	Bowes, T.

'B' COMPANY.

Company Headquarters.

Coy Comd.	0.6399	Comdt	Young, E.
2 IC	0.7581	Capt	O'Donovan, F.B.
Coy Sgt.	81911	CQMS	O'Brien, N.
CQMS.	417074	CQMS	McEvoy, M.
Clerk.	805738	Pte	Tobin, J.
Cook.	93185	Pte	Ryan, P.
Driver MT.	813997	Cpl	Mullane, M.
Of W & L.	813155	Cpl	Byrne, J.
Signaller.	814074	Cpl	Moore, G.
Storeman/Dvr.	803850	Cpl	Fitzgerald, M.
Cook.	95491	Pte	Dempsey, I.
Cook	95024	Pte	Ryall, E.
Cook.	811611	Pte	O'Flynn, P.
Cook.	810766	Pte	O'Regan, F.
Driver MT.	813099	Pte	Brogan, P.
Driver MT.	813611	Pte	O'Gorman, C.
Of W & L.	814966	Pte	Clifford, W.
Of W & L.	815146	Pte	McElligott, M.
Of W & L.	816018	Pte	Maher, R.
Storeman/Dvr.	816195	Pte	Moynihan, M.

No. 1 RIFLE PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Platoon Comd.	0.8144	Lieut	Fleming, T.
Platoon Sgt.	93910	CQMS	Pearse, N.
Signaller.	808478	Sgn.	McMahon, J.

No. 1 Section.

Sec. Comd.	81802	Cpl	O'Keefe, D.
LMG No.	809137	Cpl	Flynn, P.
Rifleman.	813952	Pte	Butterfield, J.
Rifleman.	816981	Pte	Clancy, J.
Rifleman.	802200	Pte	Considine, J.
Rifleman.	817589	Pte	Naughton, J.
Rifleman.	808906	Pte	Mullins, J.

LMG No.	804353	Pte	McInerney, P.
LMG No.	815948	Pte	Mcade, J.
Rifleman/Dvr.	816744	Pte	Fitzgerald, W.

No. 2 Section.

Sec. Comd.	808284	Cpl	Byrnes, M.
LMG No.	808621	Cpl	Roche, M.
Rifleman.	808995	Pte	Thompson, G.
Rifleman.	817587	Pte	Doyle, J.
Rifleman.	808286	Pte	Ledger, G.
Rifleman.	803951	Pte	Noonan, V.
Rifleman.	810157	Pte	Ryan, M.
LMG No.	809520	Pte	Buggy, G.
LMG No.	808817	Pte	Meagher, J.
Rifleman/Dvr.	807652	Pte	Naughton, H.

No. 3 Section.

Sec. Comd.	88384	Sgt	Rouine, M.
LMG No.	805189	Cpl	Kenneally, T.
Rifleman.	815682	Pte	Fitzgerald, T.
Rifleman.	808815	Pte	Doherty, I.
Rifleman.	814776	Pte	Wall, J.
Rifleman.	813048	Pte	Ryan, ..
Rifleman.	816074	Pte	Hartigan, W.
LMG No.	813993	Pte	Kelly, N.
LMG No.	814848	Pte	Lynch, C.
Rifleman/Dvr.	807282	Pte	Higgins, I.

NO. 2 RIFLE PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Platoon Comdr.	808092	Lieut.	Hodson, T.
Platoon Sgt.	86750	Sgt	Ryan, M.
Signaller.	813021	Sgm	Maher, J.

No. 1 Section.

Sec. Comdr.	803825	Cpl	Barry, P.K.
LMG No.	91113	Cpl	Barry, J.
Rifleman.	816091	Pte	Whelan, T.
Rifleman.	816738	Pte	Walsh, E.

Rifleman.	811795	Pte	Carmody, W.
Rifleman.	816924	Pte	Donoghue, I.
Rifleman.	817033	Pte	O'Driscoll, M.
LMG No.	815921	Pte	McKell, J.
LMG No.	812656	Pte	Cosgrove, J.
Rifleman/Dvr.	814214	Pte	Goldsboro, J.

No. 2 Section.

Sec. Comd.	91296	Sgt	Hunt, I.
LMG No.	808872	Cpl	Laste, J.J.
Rifleman.	805487	Pte	Fitzgerald, J.
Rifleman.	801419	Pte	Kennedy, N.
Rifleman.	812585	Pte	O'Meara, W.
Rifleman.	815335	Pte	O'Mahony, A.
Rifleman.	815453	Pte	O'Grady, P.
LMG No.	815906	Pte	McGarry, P.
LMG No.	817094	Pte	Tierce, D.
Rifleman/Dvr.	817432	Pte	O'Brien, G.

No. 3 Section.

Sec. Comd.	96336	Cpl	Butler, J.
LMG No.	800128	Cpl	Barnes, E.C.
Rifleman.	815922	Pte	Morahan, T.
Rifleman.	811609	Pte	Boles, D.
Rifleman.	805609	Pte	Ward, M.
Rifleman.	815974	Pte	Whelan, P.
Rifleman.	807032	Pte	Greene, P.
LMG No.	814116	Pte	Sweeney, P.
LMG No.	815444	Pte	Kenneally, M.
Rifleman/Dvr.	810558	Pte	Kelly, J.

NO. 3 RIFLE PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Platoon Comd.	0.8154	Lt.	Carolan, J.
Platoon Sgt.	94764	Sgt.	Goggins, D.
Signaller.	815693	Sgn	McCormack, J.

No. 1 Section.

Sec. Comd.	806303	Sgt	Geary, M.
LMG No.	809515	Cpl	Foley, J.
Rifleman.	813949	Pte	Flynn, P.
Rifleman.	815691	Pte	Barry, M.
Rifleman.	815624	Pte	Wensley, G.
Rifleman.	815309	Pte	Mahony, M.
Rifleman.	816047	Pte	Glanton, M.
LMG No.	808060	Pte	Walsh, T.
LMG No.	801694	Pte	Broe, T.
Rifleman/Dvr.	812508	Pte	Ryan, J.

No. 2 Section.

Sec. Comd.	814152	Cpl	Cullen, R.
LMG No.	815888	Cpl	Cusack, D.
Rifleman.	816840	Pte	Murphy, L.
Rifleman.	816868	Pte	Coughlan, D.
Rifleman.	814054	Pte	O'Hara, J.
Rifleman.	809705	Pte	Cremin, P.
Rifleman.	812817	Pte	McKenna, J.
LMG No.	816833	Pte	Hallahan, M.
LMG No.	812069	Pte	Hughes, L.
Rifleman/Dvr.	815977	Pte	Crosby, J.

No. 3 Section.

Sec Comd.	808148	Cpl	O'Regan, E.
LMG No.	804374	Cpl	O'Brien, D.
Rifleman.	815566	Pte	Dunne, G.
Rifleman.	813752	Pte	Harrington, T.
Rifleman.	813791	Pte	Hayes, J.
Rifleman.	814823	Pte	Woods, R.
Rifleman.	812063	Pte	Whelan, M.
LMG No.	816045	Pte	O'Donoghue, I.
LMG No.	813767	Pte	Coleman, T.
Rifleman/Dvr.	813096	Pte	Barron, J.A.

SUPPORT PLATOON.

Platoon HQ.

Pln Comdr.	0.8148	Lieut	Meenan, J.
Pln Sgt.	802646	Sgt	Higgins, M.
Signaller.	815677	Pte	Ahern, W.I.

Anti-Tank Section.

Atk No.	99729	Sgt	Doyle, P.
Atk No.	807250	Cpl	Sharpe, E.D.
Atk No.	816671	Pte	Howey, H.
Atk No.	816394	Pte	O'Dwyer, M.
Atk No.	816151	Pte	O'Sullivan, C.
Atk No.	816760	Pte	Gleeson, T.

Mortar Section.

Sec Comdr.	807688	Sgt	Leahy, D.
Mor No.	810752	Cpl	Grady, J.
Mor No.	803253	Cpl	Moroney, J.
Mor No.	815808	Pte	Dower, T.
Mor No.	812758	Pte	Foley, B.
Mor No.	815835	Pte	O'Keefe, D.
Mor No.	815832	Pte	Flavin, J.
Mor No.	815780	Pte	Grunbridge, J.
Mor No.	807986	Pte	Malone, J.
Mor No.	816260	Pte	Stapleton, C.
Mor No.	815809	Pte	Heaphy, P.
Signaller.	303061	Pte	Buckley, T.

ARMoured CAV GROUP.

Group Headquarters.

Gp Comd.	0.5165	Comdt	Nunan, K.
2 IC	0.6510	Capt	Magennis, A.
Tech.	0.7942	Lieut	Freeman, P.
CS.	94542	Sgt	O'Keefe, J.
CQMS.	805055	CQMS	Lambert, N.
Cond A/Car.	801232	Sgt	Rowland, M.
Fitter MT.	804643	Sgt	McCafferty, J.

Fitter MT	94523	Cpl	McCarthy, P.
Cook.	96306	Cpl	Phelan, P.
Fitter MT	807449	Cpl	Mason, J.
Fitter MT.	807447	Tpr	Lambe, J.
Gunner/OP	807154	Cpl	Baird, T.
Driver APC	94759	Cpl	Barry, R.
Driver APC	802518	Cpl	Hayes, G.
Cook.	815839	Tpr	Dunne, J.
Driver A/Car.	812051	Tpr	Toher, G.
Driver MT	813929	Tpr	Cullen, F.
Storeman/Dvr.	88226	Tpr	Fenlon, W.

No. 1 Section.

Sec Cond.	0.8038	Lt.	Kelly, K.T.
Cond A/Car	88419	Sgt	Tennyson, J.
Gunner O/P.	805124	Cpl	Nolan, W.
Dvr A/Car.	804087	Tpr	Roche, D.
Dvr A/Car.	813904	Tpr	Gahan, S.
Gunner O/P.	813869	Tpr	McDonagh, P.

No. 2 Section.

Sec Cond.	804636	Sgt	Bradley, V.
Cond A/Car.	812388	Cpl	Cunningham, J.
Gunner O/P.	808217	Cpl	McGarr, W.
Dvr A/Car.	808149	Tpr	Roche, D.
Dvr A/Car.	810753	Tpr	Murphy, J.
Gunner O/P.	816251	Tpr	Slavin, G.

No. 3 Section.

Sec Cond.	0.8167	Lieut	Holden, D.
Cond A/Car.	96588	Sgt	Mulvey, V.
Gunner O/P.	812650	Cpl	Whyte, J.
Dvr A/Car.	813163	Tpr	Burke, T.
Dvr A/Car.	809171	Tpr	O'Brien, M.
Gunner O/P.	816242	Tpr	Cleary, E.

No. 4 Section.

Sec Comd.	97060	Sgt	Byrne, J.
Comd A/Car.	807265	Cpl	Hamilton, E.
Gunner O/P.	813141	Cpl	Ryan, J.
Dvr A/Car.	815792	Tpr	Kelly, J.
Dvr A/Car.	813165	Tpr	O'Hara, E.
Gunner O/P.	816243	Tpr	Cleary, P.

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ANNEX 'B' TO UNIT HISTORY.

8TH INFANTRY GROUP.

ALPHABETICAL NOMINAL ROLL BY RANKS.

* UNFICYP HQ.

LIEUT-COLONELS.

Beary, J. A.H.Q.
+ Cooney, J.J. Directorate COE.

COMMANDANTS.

+ hern, W. HQ 3 Bde.
Daly, E.D. I Fd Hosp Coy.
+ Doyle, E.D. Observer Corps.
Flynn, J. HQ S/Comd.
Nunan, K. I Tk Sqn.
+ McDonnell, W. II Fd Sigs.
McDunphy, T. 2 F.A.R.
O'Shea, T. HQ W/Comd.
O'Shea, H. Depot AMC.
Russell, P.J. HQ S/Comd.
+ Reynolds, J.E. HQ S/Comd.
Ryan, J. 16th Bn.
Stewart, J. 7th Bn.
+ White, W. Depot COE.
Young, E. 4th Bn.

CAPTAINS.

+ Barry, J.J. 2 Garr S&T.
Bates, M.D. A.H.Q.
Boyle, T. 4 F.A.R.
Buckley, L.E.R. Observer Corps.
Donnelly, W. 4 F.A.R.
Donovan, F. 22nd Bn.
+ Dunne, F.J. A.H.Q.
Hardwick, C. 2 Main COE.
Jones, N.C. 2 Fd Sigs.
Keyes, G. 4 Garr LOC.
Leyden, M. 16th Bn.

CAPTAINS.

+	McCarthy,	K.C.	4 F.A.R.
	McLoughlin,	J.	I Fd MPC.
	Magennis,	A.J.	4 Motor Sqn.
	Nugent,	P.	Adm Wing, Air Corps.
+	Ryan,	E.A.	A.H.Q.
	Scannell,	P.	3 Garr S&T.

LIEUTENANTS.

	Coughlan,	L.	I Armd Sqn.
	Dwyer,	J.	Depot & School Arty.
	Fallon,	J.A.	17th Bn.
	Freeman,	P.	I Armd Car Sqn.
	Hodson,	T.A.	12th Bn.
	Kelly,	K.	I Tk Sqn.
	Maloney,	J.	6th Bn.
	Murray,	J.	4 F.A.R.
	McDonagh,	M.	3 Garr LOC.
	McDonald,	O.A.K.	2nd Bn.
	McNamara,	J.M.	3rd Bn.
	O'Dwyer,	N.	TTS Air Corps.
	Whelan,	V.P.	4 Garr S&T.

2/LIEUTENANTS.

	Carolan,	J.	4th Bn.
	Flemming,	T.F.	12th Bn.
	Holden,	D.	4 Motor Sqn.
	Meenan,	J.P.	4th Bn.
	McCourt,	P.A.	3rd Bn.

CHAPLAINS.

	Keohane,	G.	HQ S/Comd.
	Killian,	D.	HQ W/Comd.

B.S.M.

	Norris,	P.	2nd Bn.
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BQMS.

	Everan,	J.	A.A. School.
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COY SGTS.

+	Conlon,	J.	17th Bn.
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COY SGTS.

	Gallagher,	J.	2 Fd Sigs
	Kelly,	P.	Military Coll.
+	Kirwan,	L.	BWS S&T
+	O'Neill,	P.	1 Grn AOC
	Smith,	M.	3 Bn
	Wolverson,	H.	2 Fd COE

COMS

	Freeman,	E.	3 Bn
	Jones,	F.	4 FAR
	Lambert,	N.	5 Mot Sqn
	McCafferty,	G.	16 Bn
	McEvoy,	M.	1 Fd MPC
	O'Brien,	M.	4 Bn
	Pearse,	C.	12 Bn
	Quinn,	M.	19 Bn
	Roche,	M.	5 Bn

SERGEANTS

	Bradley,	V.	Depot Cav
	Buckley,	P.	H. 5 Bde
	Byrne,	J.	Depot Cav
	Cahill,	K.	2 Grn MPC
	Creaton,	T.	1 Hosp Coy
	Dooner,	P.	2 FAR
	Doyle,	P.	1 AA Rgt
	Earley,	W.	4 FAR
	Ferris,	W.	2 Fd S&T —
	Furlong,	J.	GTD, CTC
	Gannon,	A.	2 Grn S&T
	Gartland,	W.	7 Bn
	Geary,	M.	4 Bn
	Goggins,	D.	4 Bn
	Hall,	J.	12 Bn
	Heffernan,	T.	3 Maint COE

SERGEANTS

Hennessy,	L.	2 Hosp Coy
Higgins,	M.	4 Bn
Houlihan,	C.D.	Depot S&T
Hoey,	J.	4 FAR
Hunt,	I.	12 Bn
Johnson,	A.	Depot COE.
Kealy,	T.	CTD E/Comd
Kelleher,	T.G.	HQ S/Comd
Kent,	G.	4 Bn
Leahy,	D.	4 Bn
Leigh,	W.	GTD, CTC
Loftus,	C.	M. School
Mooney,	P.	2 Bn
Murray,	T.	4 Bn
Mulvey,	V.	2 Mot Sqn
McCann,	J.	Depot Arty
McCabe,	J.	5 Bn
McCafferty,	J.	4 Mot Sqn
McGuire,	J.	1 Grn AOC
McQuaid,	M.	2 Grn MPC
O'Connell,	P.	1 Grn AOC
O'Keefe,	J.	1 Mot Sqn
O'Shea,	A.	1 Grn AOC
O'Toole,	L.	3 Bn
Prouse,	R.	2 Fd Sigs
Redmond,	P.	5 Bn
Rouane,	M.	14 Bn
Rowland,	M.	1 Mot Sqn
Ryan,	M.	12 Bn
Tennyson,	J.J.	4 Mot Sqn
Thompson,	J.	16 Bn
Thompson,	T.	McKee Bks Coy (Records CTC)
Tiernan,	J.	19 Bn
Watson,	W.	Depot Arty

CORPORALS.

	Aherne,	M.	I Fd COE.
+	Allen,	J.	Depot MPC.
	Allen,	W.	4 F.A.R.
	Bartley,	C.	I Hsp Coy.
	Baird,	T.	4 Motor Sqn.
	Barry,	R.	I Motor Sqn.
	Barry,	J.	12th Bn.
	Barry,	P.	12th Bn.
	Barnes,	E.	12th Bn.
	Brady,	J.	2 Fd COE.
	Brennan,	M.	4 Garr MPC.
	Broe,	N.	4 Motor Sqn.
	Buckley,	D.	4 Fd Sigs.
	Butler,	J.	3 F.A.R.
	Byrne,	P.	Depot MPC.
	Byrne,	P.	2nd Bn.
	Byrne,	J.	Depot Sigs.
	Byrnes,	M.	HQ 3 Bde.
+	Casey,	J.	2 Fd Sigs.
	Curran,	P.	12th Bn.
	Curran,	T.	3 Garr MPC.
	Curtin,	M.	6th Bn.
	Cowman,	P.	3rd Bn.
	Cunningham,	J.	2 Motor Sqn.
	Cullen,	R.	4th Bn.
	Cusack,	D.	Depot AOC.
	Daly,	T.	6th Bn.
	Delaney,	A.	I Garr AOC.
	Dillon,	J.	Depot MPC.
	Dowler,	J.	4 Garr AOC.
	Dowler,	M.	6th Bn.
	Dollard,	N.	4 Garr MPC.
	Durney,	J.	I Hosp AMC.

CORPORALS.

Eakins,	J.	19th Bn.
Farrell,	R.	3 Garr MPC.
Fitzpatrick,	J.	10th Bn.
Fitzgerald,	M.	23rd Bn.
Flynn,	P.	15th Bn.
Fogarty,	G.	Depot S&T.
Foley,	J.	4th Bn.
Gavin,	T.	5 F.A.R.
Geraghty,	M.	7th Bn.
Gibney,	E.	4 Garr MPC.
Griffin,	A.	Depot S&T.
Grady,	J.	4th Bn.
Grattan,	W.	Depot Sigs.
Hartnett,	J.	2 Garr MPC.
Hayes,	G.	2 Motor Sqn.
Hamilton,	E.	2 Motor Sqn.
Houlihan,	W.	3rd Bn.
Joyce,	P.	6th Bn.
Joyce,	P.	CTD W/Comd.
Kavanagh,	P.	2 F.A.R.
Kavanagh,	B.	Depot Sigs.
Kevany,	P.	3 Garr MPC.
Kelly,	S.	5th Bn.
Kenneally,	T.	4th Bn.
Keogh,	S.	2 Garr MPC.
Kielty,	M.	McKee Bks Coy (Records E/Comd).
Kinsella,	J.	3 Garr AOC.
Kilmartin,	J.	Air Sqn Sigs, Air Corps.
Kilmartin,	J.	I Fd Sigs.
Lafferty,	J.	4 Fd Sigs.
Lawlor,	J.	Depot S&T.
Laste,	J.	12th Bn.
Lacey,	M.	Depot Sigs.

CORPORALS.

Lynam,	K.	4 F.A.R.
Mason,	M.	3 Motor Sqn.
Mannion,	P.	2 Fd COE.
Morrissey,	D.	1 Fd COE.
Moore,	G.	HQ S/Comd.
Moroney,	J.	4th Bn.
Murdock,	P.J.	3 Garr MPC.
Murphy,	D.	Depot AMC.
Mullins,	S.	Depot Arty.
Mullane,	M.	4th Bn.
McCarthy,	P.	11 Motor Sqn.
McGarr,	W.	4 Motor Sqn.
McGivern,	D.	2 Fd S&T.
McGivern,	B.	5th Bn.
McGrath,	T.	4 Garr S&T.
McLawrence,	J.	3rd Bn.
McSweeney,	R.	Depot COE.
Nolan,	J.	2 Fd COE.
Nolan,	W.	1 Motor Sqn.
O'Boyle,	P.	HQ W/Comd.
O'Brien,	D.	4th Bn.
O'Brien,	T.	A.A. School.
O'Callaghan,	J.	1 Fd COE.
O'Connor,	C.	4th Bn.
O'Connor,	T.	4 Garr MPC.
O'Connor,	R.	3rd Bn.
O'Connor,	E.	HQ W/Comd.
O'Donnell,	J.	1st Bn.
O'Keefe,	D.	14th Bn.
O'Regan,	F.	13th Bn.
O'Rourke,	K.	GTD, CTC.
Phelan,	P.	Mil. College.
Power,	J.	2 Garr MPC.

CORPORALS.

Porter,	T.	4 Hosp Coy.
Reid,	J.	9th Bn.
Roche,	M.	3 F...R.
Ryan,	J.	4 Motor Sqn.
Ryan,	J.	12 th Bn.
Ryan,	R.	4 Garr MPC.
Sharpe,	E.	4th Bn.
Smith,	J.	2 Garr MPC.
Sweeney,	T.	GTD, CTC.
Tracey,	J.	5th Bn.
Watson,	P.	McKee Bks Coy.
Walsh,	W.	Depot S&T.
Whyte,	J.	Depot Cav.

PRIVATES.

Aherne,	W.	4th Bn.
Barry,	J.	2nd Bn.
Barron,	J.	I Fd S&T.
Barry,	M.	4th Bn.
Behan,	M.	12th Bn.
Berigan,	R.	6th Bn.
Bonner,	W.	2nd Bn.
Bowes,	T.	3rd Bn.
Boles,	D.	12th Bn.
Bradley,	M.	Depot S&T.
Brennan,	M.	2 F...R.
Broe,	T.	4th Bn.
Brogan,	P.	I Fd S&T.
Buckley,	E.	3 Garr S&T.
Buckley,	T.	4th Bn.
Bugsy,	G.	3 F...R.
Bugsy,	B.	HQ W/Comd.
Burke,	S.	6th Bn.
Burke,	T.	I Mot Sqn.

PRIVATES.

Burke,	T.	Depot COE.
Butler,	J.	12th Bn.
Butterfield,	J.	12th Bn.
Buckley,	W.	2 Fd Sigs.
Byrne,	M.	5th Inf Bn.
Byrne,	J.	2 Motor Sqn.
Cambridge,	D.	3 Garr S&T.
Cahill,	B.	2 Fd S&T.
Carmody,	W.	I Fd COE.
Cassidy,	W.	4 F.A.R.
Callinan,	D.	2nd Bn.
Cahill,	K.	HQ CTC.
Carroll,	T.	3rd Bn.
Canning,	K.	3rd Bn.
Carroll,	P.J.	4 Fd S&T.
Cleary,	J.	CTD W/Comd.
Clyne,	W.	4 F.A.R.
Clinton,	J.	4 F.A.R.
Cleary,	J.	6th Bn.
Clancy,	J.	12th Bn.
Cleary,	E.	2 Motor Sqn.
Clifford,	M.	I Fd Sigs.
Cleary,	P.	2 Motor Sqn.
Connolly,	P.	4 Hosp Coy.
Coleman,	T.	I Fd COE.
Connolly,	P.	4 F.A.R.
Considine,	J.	12th Bn.
Corrigan,	P.	6th Bn.
Cosgrave,	S.	3 Garr S&T.
Coakley,	P.	2 F.A.R.
Coogan,	E.	Depot S&T.
Coughlan,	D.	I F.A.R.
Coady,	C.	Depot COE.

PRIVATES.

Cremin,	P.	4th Bn.
Croach,	T.	2 Garr S&T.
Crosby,	J.	I Fd Sigs.
Cushen,	T.	6th Bn.
Cullen,	W.	2nd Bn.
Cullen,	P.	11 Motor Sqn.
Darby,	W.	4 F.A.R.
Daly,	G.	2 Motor Sqn.
Dempsey,	P.	3 Hosp Coy.
Dempsey,	L.	Depot S&T.
Devaney,	J.	4 F.A.R.
Dingley,	M.	3rd Bn.
Doherty,	M.	2 Fd Sigs.
Doyle,	E.	2 Fd Sigs.
Doyle,	M.	Depot S&T.
Donnelly,	P.	4 Fd S&T.
Dowler,	P.	6th Bn.
Doherty,	P.	2 F.A.R.
Doran,	J.	I Tk Sqn.
Dorey,	M.	Mil. College.
Doherty,	P.	12 th Bn.
Donoghue,	P.	4th Bn.
Dower,	T.	4th Bn.
Doyle,	J.	12th Bn.
Dunne,	M.	2 Garr AOC.
Dunne,	S.	I Armd Car Sqn.
Duffy,	L.	Depot Arty.
Dunne,	G.	I Fd COE.
Duggan,	M.	I Fd Sigs.
Fahy,	M.	4 F.A.R.
Farrell,	J.	3rd Bn.
Fenlon,	W.	3 Motor Sqn.
Flynn,	F.	Mil. College.

PRIVATES.

Annex 'B'
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Howard, A. Depot S&T.
Howey, M. 4th Bn.
Hussey, A. 12th B n.
Hurley, M. 5th Bn.
Hughes, L. 4th Bn.
Johnson, M. Depot Arty.
Kealy, H. 2 Garr S&T.
Keogh, T. CTD W/Comd.
Keneghan, J. 4 Fd S&T.
Kennedy, K. 4 F.A.R.
Kelly, B. 2 Fd Sigs.
Kelly, J. 6th Bn.
Kelly, P. 1st B n.
Kelly, W. 6th Bn.
Kenny, J. 2nd Bn.
Kelly, M. 5th B n.
Keogh, T. 4 Motor Sqn.
Kehoe, J. Depot Sigs.
Kearns, W. 3rd B n.
Kelly, J. 2 Motor Sqn.
Kelly, J. 15th Bn.
Kelly, N . 12th Bn.
Kenn eally, M. 4th Bn.
Kennedy, N. 12 Bn.
Kinsella, J. GTD, CTC.
Kinsella, J. Depot arty.
Lambe, J. I Tk Sqn.
Leach, G. 20 Bn.
Ledger, G. 3 Bde HQ.
Leonard, J. 4 F.A.R.
Lyons, P. Depot Arty.
Lynch, C. 12th Bn.
Massey, P. 12th B n.
Manley, M. HQ 6 Bde.

PRIVATES.

Mansey,	W.	12th Bn.
Macken,	O.	4 F.A.R.
Marlow,	P.	4 Garr S&T.
Mahon,	J.	1st Bn.
Manifold,	J.	2nd Bn.
Manson,	E.	5th Bn.
Maher,	J.	12th Bn.
Maher,	R.	I Fd Sigs.
Mahoney,	M.	HQ S/Comd.
Malone,	J.	4 Bn.
Meegan,	J.	2 Hosp AMC.
Meade,	J.	12th Bn.
Meagher,	J.	12th B n.
Moylan,	L.	4th B n.
Moore,	G.	HQ E/Comd.
Moran,	R.	I Tk Sqn.
Morahan,	T.	12th B n.
Moynihan,	M.	CTD S/Comd.
Murray,	D.	2 Fd Sigs.
Murphy,	J.	Depot S&T.
Mullen,	D.	Depot AMC.
Murray,	F.	Air Corps.
Murphy,	J.	GTD, CTC.
Murphy,	B.	2 Mot S n.
Murphy,	J.	I Motor Sqn.
Mullins,	J.	12th Bn.
Murphy,	L.	I F.A.R.
Mulvey,	R.	4 Fd Sigs.
McAnnancy,	A.	4 F.A.R.
McAuley,	J.	Clancy Bks Coy.
McBride,	P.	CTD E/Comd.
McCaffery,	J.	1st B n.
McCormack,	B.	6th Bn.

PRIVATES.

Annex 'B'
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McCormack,	J.	I Motor Sqn.
McDermott,	G.	3rd Bn.
McDonagh,	J.	1st Bn.
McDonagh,	P.	I Motor Sqn.
McElligott,	M.	I Fd Sigs.
McEntee,	J.	4 P.A.R.
McEvoy,	W.	4 Fd Sigs.
McGarry,	P.	12th Bn.
McGlynn,	A.	I Arm'd Car Sqn.
McGrath,	W.	12th Bn.
McInerney,	P.	HQ 3 Bde.
McKervey,	J.	4 Garr S&T.
McKell,	J.	12th Bn.
McKenna,	J.	4th Bn.
McLysaght,	L.	4 Garr S&T.
McMahon,	J.	12th Bn.
Naughton,	H.	12th Bn.
Naughton,	J.	12th Bn.
Newport,	P.	2 Motor Sqn.
Neelis,	H.	McKee Bks Coy.
Noblett,	T.	I Tk Sqn.
Noonan,	V.	HQ I Bde.
O'Brien,	A.	4th Bde HQ.
O'Brien,	M.	4 P.A.R.
O'Brien,	G.	4th Bn.
O'Brien,	H.	I Mot Sqn.
O'Brien,	A.	3rd Bn.
O'Brien,	J.	HQ 4 Bde.
O'Connor,	P.	Depot S&T.
O'Connell,	T.	Mil. College.
O'Connell,	J.	3 Garr S&T.
O'Donnell,	S.	I Fd Sigs.
O'Donnell,	M.	2 Hosp Coy.
O'Donoghue,	P.	HQ S/Comd.

PRIVATES.

O'Driscoll,	M.	4th Bn.
O'Dwyer,	M.	4th Bn.
O'Flynn,	P.	4th Bn.
O'Gorman,	C.	4th Bn.
O'Grady,	P.	4th Bn.
O'Hara,	J.	I Motor Sqn.
O'Hara,	E.	I Motor Sqn.
O'Keeffe,	L.	4 F.L.R.
O'Keeffe,	D.	4th Bn.
O'Leary,	C.	I Arm'd Car Sqn.
O'Mahoney,	J.	I Fd S&T.
O'Mahoney,	.	I Fd S&T.
O'Neera,	W.	12th Bn.
O'Neill,	G.	4th Bn.
O'Neill,	P. School.
O'Neill,	J.	6th Bn.
O'Regan,	F.	12th Bn.
O' Shea,	C.	I Fd Sigs.
O' Shea,	T.	I Fd Sigs.
O'Sullivan,	C.	4th Bn.
O'Sullivan,	J.	12th Bn.
O'Sullivan,	M.	Ist Bn.
Pierce,	D.	12 th Bn.
Prior,	P.	Depot Sigs.
Purcell,	N.	3 Hosp Coy.
Quinn,	F.	Air Sqn Sigs, Air Corps.
Redford,	M.	3rd Bn.
Redmond,	J.	HQ CTC.
Reilly,	K. School.
Riordan,	M.	Ist B n.
Rochford,	P.	2 Hosp Coy.
Robinson,	J.	2 Fd S&T.
Rogers,	D.	I Tk Sqn.

PRIVATES.

Rochford,	M.	2 Fd Sigs.
Roche,	D.	I Motor Sqn.
Roche,	D.	I Motor Sqn.
Russell,	J.	3rd Bn.
Ryall,	E.	I Fd COE.
Ryan,	L.	12th Bn.
Ryan,	J.	I Fd S&T.
Ryan,	M.	12th B n.
Ryan,	P.	I Fd S&T.
Scanlon,	M.	Ist Bn.
Sheehan,	J.	Flying Wing, Air Corps.
Sheehan,	D.	12th Bn.
Sherry,	P.	Depot S&T.
Slavin,	G.	2 Motor Sqn.
Slattery,	P.	Depot Sigs.
Stephenson,	W.	12th Bn.
Stevens,	B.	6th Bn.
Stapleton,	C.	4th Bn.
Stutton,	J.	HQ CTC.
Swords,	M.	GTD, CTC.
Smith,	J.	2 Fd S&T.
Sweeney,	P.	12th Bn.
Thompson,	G.	12th Bn.
Taher,	G.	I Motor Sqn.
Tobin,	J.	CTD, S/Comd.
Troy,	N.	12th Bn.
Ward,	P.	2 Hosp Coy.
Walsh,	T.	I Fd COE.
Walsh,	J.	Depot Cav.
Walsh,	J.	Depot S&T.
Walsh,	J.	6th B n.
Ward,	P.	2nd B n.
Wall,	J.	12th Bn.

PRIVATES.

Walsh,	E.	12th Bn.
Walsh,	T.	4th B n.
Ward,	N.	12th Bn.
Westman,	D.	6th Bn.
Wensley,	G.	4th Bn.
Whelan,	M.	I Fd COE.
Whelan,	P.	12th Bn.
Whelan,	T.	12th Bn.
White,	D.	3rd Bn.
Wilson,	N.	2 Garr S&T.
Woods,	M.	4 Hosp Coy.
Woods,	R.	I Fd COE.

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