

GOLAN

THE UNDOF JOURNAL



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Welcome everyone to the 157th edition of the Golan Journal! I am both honoured and privileged to take over the role of Editor-in-Chief from my predecessor, Comdt (OF-3) Scanlon. The Media & PR team are thrilled to continue the publication of the magazine, with a focus this month on WPS, Engineer construction and specialist clearance operations as well as the waste management operations conducted to support the mission. Much has happened over the last few months, but it is impossible to fully capture the wealth and breath of all the hard work carried out by the TCCs and Staff Officers in a limited space – however, please follow us on Twitter on our page @UNDOF for more information. For every issue, we ask the TCC PIOs for content support with articles, pictures and events – and again we have been inundated with support for which I would like to thank you all!

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In this issue we highlight the difficult task faced by our troops during operations to fulfil the mandate of our mission. COVID-19 is still a risk which must be mitigated in the mission area so remember, just because you are done with COVID-19, doesn't mean that COVID-19 is done with you! The booster vaccine programme is beginning to be rolled out and is a welcome addition; which will assist us to achieve our mission.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mission Leadership and Section Heads for their support in making this publication possible. I would like to thank my excellent Nepali colleague Maj. Shanta THAPA for his continued support and collaboration.

I wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and we look forward to engaging with you in 2022!

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It gives me immense pleasure to write this message for the quarterly professional publication and a mouthpiece of UNDOF, “Golan–the UNDOF Journal.” I am extremely happy in releasing the 157th edition of this journal, which projects the activities of the UNDOF. The UNDOF as an integral part of Golan has always played a crucial role in maintaining the ceasefire between Israel and Syrian Arab Republic and continuously devote to bring stability in the region. The endeavour of all the peacekeeper from last 47 years is admirable.

The full return of UNDOF to bravo side has been completed with the occupation of dedicated UN positions in the area of responsibility. The last position we have occupied was 86B in the sector south. This was possible through the untiring efforts of all the civilian and uniformed personnel serving in the mission. This very event will surely increase the peacekeepers footprint on the ground in implementing the mission mandate impartially with great manoeuvrability.

The mission has numerous challenges spreading from security to incremental weather condition, even in such a difficult situation women and men from different countries under UN flag has performed in an outstanding manner. I commend your professionalism, dedication and hard work to implement the mission’s mandate.

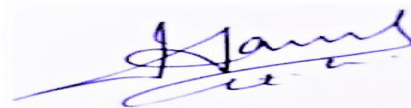
Although, the mission suffered two COVID-19 outbreaks, we were able to contain it successfully. Furthermore, we have been able to keep the mission, generally, free from the pandemic. This is all possible due to our joint effort and self-discipline as well as well laid down Covid-19 prevention and control mechanism. I am pleased to share that 99.5% of our International and Uniformed staffs, and 61% of national staffs have been fully vaccinated. Similarly, approximately 20% of UNDOF personnel have taken booster dose. I urge all colleagues who has not been vaccinated, please take vaccine.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to newly arrived contingents and staff officers to UNDOF. I wish you all a fruitful, peaceful, and healthy stay here on the Golan. Similarly, I would also like to thank all those who have departed from the mission recently and about to leave. I wish them for all success in their future endeavour. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to compliment the members of the editorial board and all concerned staff for publishing this journal and providing the space to mission members to project their experiences and views on several activities in the mission. I wish the success of this edition and hope that next edition will also reach on time to the readers. May peace and stability prevail in Golan!

Thank you.

**I wish you all a Merry Christmas
and a Prosperous New Year.**



**Lt General Ishwar Hamal
Head of Mission and Force Commander
UNDOF**





UNDOF MANDATE

The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was established by Security Council resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974 to maintain the ceasefire between Israel and Syria, supervise the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian force and supervise the areas of separation and limitation, as provided in May 1974 Agreement on Disengagement.

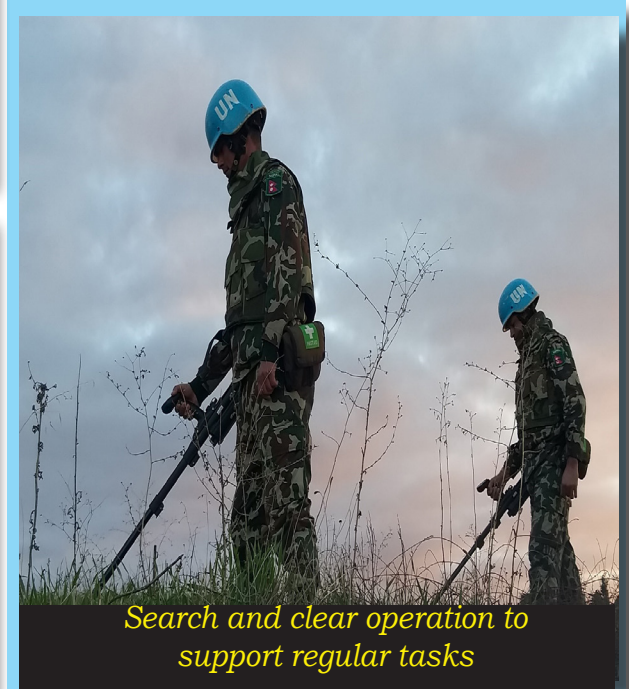
Since then, the mandate of UNDOF has been renewed every six months. Over the years, while recommending the next extension of the mandate, the Secretary-General has repeatedly observed that, despite the present quiet in the Israeli-Syrian sector, the situation in the Middle East is very tense and was likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem will be reached. In the prevailing circumstances, he considered the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential.



Repair and maintenance of barrels



Observe, monitor, and report on Area of Separation (AoS)



Search and clear operation to support regular tasks



Force protection task at United Nation position (UNP)



Regular patrol at Mount Hermon Complex (AoS)



Providing primary trauma care



Route clearance of Mount Hermon Complex



Operation in inclement weather condition



Coordination between UNDOF and UNTSO



Visit to UNDOF AOR



Coordination with delegates



TRAINING



Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System (CPAS) Training team



Field Technology Services(FTS) orientation training at Hermon South



FRC Live Fire Tactical Training



Level 1+ Basic Life Saving Training



FIJI Batt's training to UNTSO's UNMOs



FRC Mass Casulty Care Exercise



UNDOF MEDAL

The UN medal was established by the Secretary-General in 1966 for award, subject to the Regulations for the United Nations Medal (ST/SGB/119/Rev.1), to military personnel and civilian police who are or have been in the service of the United Nations. The Secretary-General has also defined the specifications of the medal and the ribbon on which it is suspended.

The ribbon contains a central stripe of UN blue with a red line down the middle representing the UN patrolled Area of Separation; two narrow stripes of black, representing the volcanic rock of the Golan region appear on either side with two narrow bands of white, symbolic of the snow on Mt. Hermon, outside these. At either end are wide bands of burgundy, symbolizing the purple haze at sunset and the native thistles of the Golan. Ninety days service is the qualifying time for award of the medal.



NEPALI CONTINGENT MEDAL PARADE

On 10th September 2021, the Nepali Contingent (NEPCON-IX), Nepali Mechanized Company (NMC-IV), Nepali Engineer Platoon (NEP ENGR-V) and the Level 1+ Hospital (NEP MED-II) held a joint medal parade ceremony at UNDOF HQ, Camp Faouar. During the ceremony, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal presented the UN Medal to all the officers and troops on parade.



Major Surendra Karki leading the medal parade



HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal receiving a Guard of honour during the Medal Parade of NEPCON



DFC Brig Gen Anita Asmah pinning the UN medals to NEPCON's peacekeepers

IRISH CONTINGENT MEDAL PARADE

The Irish Contingent conducted a medal parade ceremony at UNDOF HQ, Camp Faouar on 13th September 2021. During the ceremony, COS Colonel Timothy Daly presented the UN Medal to all the officers and troops of the force reserve company(FRC).



COS, Colonel Timothy Daly pinning the UN medals to IRECON's peacekeepers



FRC APR-OCT 2021



INDIAN CONTINGENT MEDAL PARADE

Indian Contingent conducted a medal parade ceremony at UNDOF HQ, Camp Faouar on 18th August 2021. During the ceremony, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal presented the UN Medal to all the officers and troops of the Indian logistics Coy.



INDCON's peacekeepers during medal parade



HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal pinning the UN medals to INDCON peacekeepers

UMIC MEDAL PARADE

URUGUAYAN MECH COMPANY (UMIC) conducted a medal parade ceremony on 1st September 2021. During the ceremony, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal presented UN Medal to all the officers and parade Team.



HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal congratulates to UMIC peacekeepers for their Service to the mission



UMIC on medal parade



FIJI BATT 8/ TASK FORCE DAIMANI II's MEDALS PARADE

Fiji Batt 8/ Task Force DAIMANI II conducted a medal parade ceremony at Camp Ziouani On 26th November 2021, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal reviewed Fiji Batt medals and thanked the troops for their dedication, loyalty, and commitment in the AOR.



HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal pinning the UN Mmedals to FIJI peacekeepers



CMS Bernard Lee pinning the UN medals to FIJI peacekeepers



OGG-T Chief Lt Col Christopher McKay awarded UN medals to FIJI peacekeepers

ACTION FOR PEACE



The first unit of Nepali Engineer Platoon was deployed on 10th August 2016 at Camp Zuwani. The unit was deployed at Camp Faour on 14th November 2016. The fifth engineer unit (NEPENG PL V) was deployed in mission on 7th November 2020. As per the Statement of Unit Requirement (SUR) NEPENG PL V platoon render the engineering services in coordination and support of the Chief Engineer's Mission Engineering Plan including construction, electricals and plumbing repairs, welding, carpentry, building maintenance, support of utility system and generator maintenance.



OC NEPENG V with Troops

ranks (all are engineering trade manpower). It comprises of 1x Command Element, 2x Construction Section and 1x Support Section. The two Task Force (TF) can be concurrently work at two different locations-within UNDOF AOR/AOO. Project Manager, Major Suryakanta Ghimire was the OC of the unit.



Concrete Bblocks perimeter AT UNP 60

The major mandated task of the unit is Force Protection work, the platoon is also known as Force Protection Engineer Platoon. In order to accomplish the mandated task, the unit regularly conduct the training activities as per the Mission Training Directives and Engineering Sections requirements. The small unit has 30 individuals including 3 officers, 1x Warrant officers and 27 other



Repair and maintenance of barrels of B side



Final stage of force protection work at UNP 86 B



Minor engineering works



Construction of Ballistic tower at UNP 10 A



Preparation of screening room



Road opening at Al Quinetra



The implementation of QIPs in UNDOF is aimed at improving the perception of the local population towards the Mission. The project aimed at focusing the benefit to local population. This has also helped to promote the acceptance, connection and credibility of the mission with the locals.



Renovated class room



HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal providing educational material to the school

On 31st October 2021, Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal, Head of Mission and Force Commander UNDOF in a small ceremony handed over educational material to a local elementary school after being renovated and upgraded through UNDOF quick-impact project (QIP) funds. “Supporting education means supporting a peaceful sustainable future of all”. Quick Impact Projects help our missions build trust with local communities, while responding to their needs.



Group photographs



VISIT AND CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES



VISIT OF USG DPO MR. JEAN PIERRE LACROIX

MR. JEAN PIERRE LACROIX, USG DPO visited UNDOF from the 27th June to 2nd July 2021 and held meetings with UNDOF Mission Leadership while also received an Operational and Mission Support Brief. The visit also allowed Mr. Lacroix the opportunity to visit a number of UN positions and OPs on the Alpha and the Bravo Side. During the visit, he visited UNP 72, UNP 10A and UNP 68 and he also visited all contingents.



Mr Lacroix receiving Guard of honour by NMC- IV



Mr Lacroix with UNDOF members



Visiting UNP68



Mr Lacroix visiting different contingents



VISIT TO IRISH FORCE RESERVE COMPANY

On 7th June 2021, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal visited the Irish Force Reserve Company. The Force Commander was greeted on his arrival by Lt Col Frank Flannery, Officer Commanding FRC and received a Guard of Honor. During the visit FRC QRT demonstrated the capabilities of each section within the FRC from engineer specialist search and clearance to explosive ordnance disposal and medical support, all of which may be deployed alongside the QRF as required.



HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal addressed the troops present



OC FRC and Engr officer explain the equipment available to the search team



NMC's weapons demonstratio

VISIT TO NEPALI MECH INF COMPANY (NMC)

HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal, visited the Nepali Mechanized Company on 9th June 2021. Officer Commanding, NMC Lt Col Rajesh Khakurel welcomed the Force commander. He was presented a Guard of Honor at NMC parade square. During the visit commanding officer briefed on operation, logistic and training activities. FC then visited the display stalls where he was oriented about weapons and EOD capabilities of NMC.



The HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal at UNP 10A



VISIT TO URUGUAYAN MECH COMPANY (UMIC)

On 8th November 2021, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal, UNDOF, visited the Uruguayan Company. The Officer Commanding, UMIC Lt Col Elbih H. Berriel, welcomed the HoM/FC and the troops presented a Guard of Honor. Following salutation from the honour guard, the Force Commander was briefly highlighted on the operational, logistics, and other activities of the newly arrived unit. Thereafter, HoM/FC visited to UNP86B and inspected the newly established OP by NEPENGR Pl. After inspection of the position, the FC addressed the troops by welcoming them to the mission area and encouraging the troops to work diligently to fulfill the mission mandate.



March pass performed by UMIC



Group photographs



Guard of honour by INDLOG

VISIT TO INDIAN LOGISTIC COMPANYY (INDLOG)

On 29th November 2021, HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal, made a first visit to the INDCON LOGCOY (Indian Contingent Logistic Company) at Camp Faouar. HoM/FC was received by the contingent commander, Lt Col S S Rajawat, and was given a guard of honor by the contingent. HoM/FC was briefed by the contingent commander and followed by the address of HoM/FC to the contingent with a group photograph. After that, they displayed a fire fighting demo by the Fire Fighting team of the contingent and he visited the Heavy MT Platoon, the FHQ Sp Platoon, and the FHQ Sp HR.



Fire fighting Briefing



VISIT TO NEPALI CONTINGENT (NEPCON)

On 3rd December, 2021 HoM/FC Lt Gen Ishwar Hamal visited the Mt. Hermon Complex, AOR of Force HQ Infantry Support Unit, NEPCON X. The HoM/FC was welcomed by CO NEPCON on his arrival and, a Guard of Honour was presented by the unit. HoM/FC was briefed by the contingent commander followed by the address to troops and a group photograph. HoM/FC visited 12A, Hermon South and Hermon Base in AOR North respectively. All ranks of each UNPs were excited and delighted on his arrival. During his visit the HoM/FC interacted with all ranks wherein he motivated the troops on performing job and fulfilling the mission mandate.

*The HoM/FC at UNP Hermon South**The HoM/FC Welcomed by All officers*

ACTION FOR PEACEKEEPING





WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING

As peacekeeping has evolved to reflect the populations we serve, women have become increasingly part of the peacekeeping family – making operations more effective.

Women are deployed in all areas – police, military and civilian – and have made a positive impact on peacekeeping environments, including in supporting the role of women in building peace and protecting women's rights.

In all fields of peacekeeping, women peacekeepers have proven that they can perform the same roles, to the same standards and under the same difficult conditions, as their male counterparts. It is an operational imperative that we recruit and retain female peacekeepers.

WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING A KEY TO PEACE



ACTION
FOR PEACEKEEPING

Currently, only **6.6%**
of all **uniformed
military, police and
justice and corrections
personnel** in field
missions are **women**.

*as of August 2020

UNIFORMED WOMEN IN PEACE OPERATIONS

In 1993, women made up 1% of deployed uniformed personnel. In 2020, out of approximately 95,000 peacekeepers, women constitute 4.8% of military contingents and 10.9% of formed police units and 34% of justice and corrections government-provided personnel in UN Peacekeeping missions. While the UN encourages and advocates for the deployment of women to uniformed functions, the responsibility for deployment of women in the police and military lies with Member States. UN Police Division launched 'the Global Effort' to recruit more female police officers into national police services and into UN police operations around the world. The 2028 target for women serving in military contingents is 15%, and 25% for military observers and staff officers. The 2028 target for women serving in formed police units is 20%, and 30% for individual police officers.

Why is it important to have women peacekeepers?

More women in peacekeeping means more effective peacekeeping. Women peacekeepers improve overall peacekeeping performance, have greater access to communities, help in promoting human rights and the protection of civilians, and encourage women to become a meaningful part of peace and political processes.

* IMPROVED OPERATIONS AND PERFORMANCE: Greater diversity and a broadened skillset means improved decision-making, planning and results, leading to greater operational effectiveness and performance.

* BETTER ACCESS: Women peacekeepers can better access the population, including women and children - for example, by interviewing and supporting survivors of gender-based violence and violence against children - thereby generating critical information that would otherwise be difficult to reach.

* REFLECTING THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE: Diversity in United Nations peacekeepers allows engagement with all members of the communities we are there to protect.



* BUILDING TRUST AND CONFIDENCE: Women peacekeepers are essential enablers to build trust and confidence with local communities and help improving access and support for local women, for example, by interacting with women in societies where women are prohibited from speaking to men.

* HELP PREVENT AND REDUCE CONFLICT AND CONFRONTATION: Diversity in peacekeeping helps to address the disproportionately negative effect that conflict has on the livelihood of women and bring new perspectives and solutions to the table by effectively addressing the needs of women

in conflict and post-conflict settings, including those of women ex-combatants and child soldiers during the process of demobilizing and reintegration into civilian life.

* INSPIRING AND CREATING ROLE MODELS: Women peacekeepers serve as powerful mentors and role models for women and girls in post-conflict settings in the host community and advocate for their own rights and pursue non-traditional careers

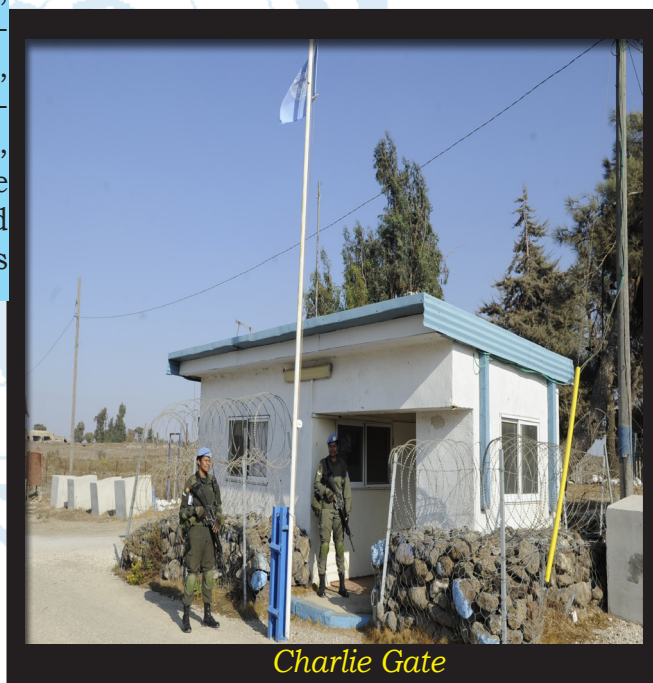
Source: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/women-peacekeeping>

FEMALE PEACEKEEPERS WITHIN THE AoS

UNDOF's FIJI infantry Battalion has been deployed west of AOS, which is responsible for observation, monitoring, and reporting of Sector West. Likewise, FIJI Battalion has deployed its No. 2 composite women's section from No 3 Platoon at UNP Charlie Gate, which is situated within the AoS. The section is responsible for observing and reporting activities in its AOR, supporting and facilitating UNDOF crossings in the AOS, as well as securing Charlie Gate and be prepared to conduct other tasks for operational imperatives



DFC Brig Gen Anita Asmah with women section

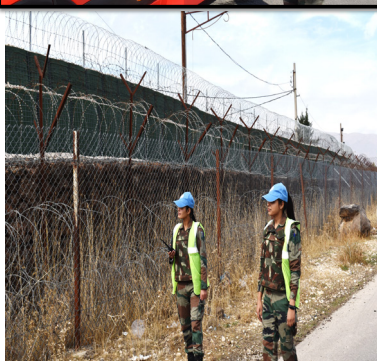


Charlie Gate





WOMEN PEACE AND SECURITY



KHUKRI- THE NEPALI GORKHA KNIFE

Major Shanta, Major Brian

The Gurkhas are famous for their fighting knives, known as the kukri, khukuri, or khukri. The Gurkha and Kukri are inseparable, with countless incredible stories, victorious battles, and even legendary tales involving the two. A khukri is defined by the Merriam Webster dictionary as being “a curved short sword with a broad blade used especially by Gurkhas”. The khukuri is perhaps the most famous member of a family of knives known as recurved blades. The Khukris are inherently symbolic objects as many of their design features are purely for symbolic purposes, with some of these traditional ornamentations going back so far that nobody is quite sure what they represent.



CHO- A semicircular notch with a single thin tooth cut into the blade just in front of the handle. Symbolises the crescent moon and sun, both of which are national symbols of Nepal, a cow's hoof (a sacred animal in Hinduism) and the genitals of the Hindu gods of power and destruction.

BUTT CAP- To protect the end-grain on the wooden handle and to provide a hard surface for pommel strikes, shaped like an eye. The eye in question is the eye of Buddha, as seen on many Buddhist temples and indicative of the unique blend of Hinduism and Buddhism that exists within Nepal.

SWORD OF SHIVA: On many khukuris, a complex engraving travel up the spine of the knife, often filled with brass wire to focus the energy contained within the engraving onto the knife.

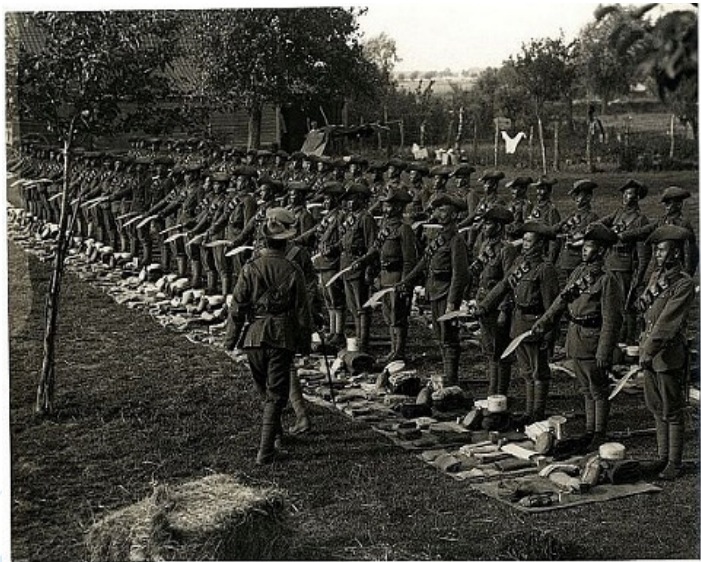
RINGS ON HANDLE- The symbolic meaning of these rings has been lost in time, but they still remain there, causing blisters on the hands of westerners. The sheath contains, besides the khukri, two small knives: one to make fire and the other to sharpen the khukri.

The original khukri was believed to be like a dagger. Later on, out of necessity and experience, people made it a little curved like a sickle. After the Anglo-Nepal War of 1815 and the recruitment of the Gorkhas into the British Army, the Khukri got wider publicity. It was created for the sole purpose of self-defence, not only from ferocious animals but also from thieves and robbers. Later, the Khukri became the main weapon of the Gorkhas against enemies. It is a part of the uniform of the Nepali Army soldiers. This is also the case with the British Gorkha and the Indian Gorkha regiments.





The Khukri can be used in various ways, such as religious sacrifices of animals are accomplished with the Khukri. It is also used for cutting down a tree, chopping meat and vegetables, and starting a fire. The Gurkhas and the kukri achieved fame during WWI and WWII. But People in the latter half of the twentieth century thought that the famous Khukri had outlived its use; it had become an old-fashioned weapon. The Gorkha soldiers again used it successfully during the Falkland war. This proved the Khukri had not become obsolete. The Khukri has undoubtedly proven to be a useful tool and is famous all over the world. It is a symbol of art, culture, and tradition all rolled into one.



FRC SEARCH AND CLEARANCE OF UNP 86B- A STORY TO RECALL

Lt. David Franklin

Having deployed to UNDOF on 07 APR 21 and having completed the mandatory period of quarantine in Camp Faouar, Ireland's 63 Inf Gp were soon making a contribution to UNDOF's return to the Bravo Side. Following the achievement of full operational capability on 22 APR 21, a tasking arrived for the search and clearance of UNP 86B. This was a formerly occupied UN position, situated on stark terrain between the Alpha Line and the Yarmouk valley. The watchtower of the former position was still standing, however the remainder of the post had been reduced to a green field site, with no other structures remaining. It had been selected for reconstruction and reoccupation as part of the phased return to the Bravo Side and the resumption of full operational activity within the Area of Separation, and the FRC were tasked with its search and clearance prior to reconstruction by other UNDOF partners. The Irish engineer section and a security detachment from the FRC's Mech Coy were warmly welcomed by our colleagues in UMIC, who hosted us in UNP 85 for the duration of the operation and assisted with medical support throughout.



The operation itself took place from 06-10 MAY 21 under challenging circumstances. Due to constrictions along the route to UNP 86B, it was not possible to transport any of the Irish mechanical assets and this meant that the entirety of the 6000 square metre complex had to be searched by manual means in the rapidly rising temperatures. The engineers rose to the challenge however and completed the search efficiently and with rigorous attention to detail.



The Irish engineer section worked closely with UNDOF HQ to establish the requirements of the operation, painstakingly searching and clearing the area for the post, along with multiple access routes from the nearby metal road. Construction drawings provided by UNDOF HQ supported the planning and execution of the search at all times, ensuring that the entire area required, as well as a safety margin, were cleared to the greatest possible degree of certainty prior to handover to UNDOF HQ on 10 MAY 21, which featured a detailed site walkthrough. The search yielded a number of inert finds, but no viable UXO or ERW were detected.

The Irish troops who conducted the initial clearance operation, and those who supported them by providing security and logistics support, are rightly proud of their contribution and future Irish soldiers will no doubt continue to build on this legacy and support further enhancement operations within the mission area. The warm welcome and willing support from our mission partners and the clear lines of communication with UNDOF HQ are exemplary of the best traditions of international cooperation and the United Nations.



Among the responsibilities of the FRC is the armoured escort of UNDOF personnel, equipment and materials throughout the AOR. As such, the FRC has regularly revisited the site of UNP 86B throughout the tour of duty while securing staff, equipment and other assets en route. It has been heartening to witness its ongoing development, from the rubble and ill-defined green field site which was cleared in MAY 21, through the establishment of a firm perimeter, the construction of internal defensive structures and the ongoing preparations for its full reoccupation by UMIC.





A PEACEKEEPER'S ENDEAVOUR FOR PEACE

Lt Col Suraj Lamichhane



Cause that we hit upon and perspective we build;
Motivation we impart and perception of thought we surge;
It brings us together and brings us together to develop a new thought...
A common thought, thought for peace and thought for protection of peace.

Different cultures we share and different societies we belong to;
Different parts of globe we signify;
But still the thought and perceptions we make are common...
Common thought for peace.

Can hear and feel the echo of ROE (rules of engagement) always humming from each souls of peacekeepers;
Feeble civilian's protection that always comes from the core with the act they project;
Code of conduct we convey and negotiate the situation to normalize.

Greatest and dearest peacekeeper working for peace,
With the dearest soul accomplishing the task assigned,
Never fears with dearest soul he carries and dearest souls back home which he loves,

Yes the greatest peacekeeper with the great endeavor of peacekeeping
With no trepidation works for peace.



BARRELS IN GOLAN

Robin Rana

The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was deployed in Golan on 31st May 1974 with the signing of Agreement on Disengagement of Force between Israeli and Syrian Arab Republic. Stressing that both parties must abide by the terms of the 1974 Disengagement of Forces Agreement between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic and scrupulously observe the ceasefire, UNDOF is given with a mandate to observe, monitor and report. A clear demarcation lines were stated to it as Alpha line and Bravo line to support the implementation of agreement by both parties. The area between these two lines was referred as Area of Separation (AOS). The forces of both the countries are placed west of Alpha line and east of Bravo line respectively. Barrels were kept along the Alpha and Bravo line for the fundamental understanding for UNDOF personnel, forces of both Nations, Local population residing in AOS & mainly shepherds grazing the cattle along the AOS.



The barrel placed in the AoS which were made up of steel drums should be maintained and refurbished in a regular interval. The refurbishment of barrels was halted since 2011 and resumed from 24th June 2021 in close coordination with Chief of Operation & Resource Management (CORM) office with the support from Nepali Engineer (NEPENG), Nepali Mechanized Company (NMC), Force Reserve Company (FRC) and UNDOF GIS Cell.



The barrel maintenance work is a challenge. The Barrels are made up of steel drums. Each drum is painted respectively with red and white enamel & numbered with black. Barrels on the alpha line are marked alphabetically followed by numbers eg. A1 – Z2, whereas the barrels on the Bravo line are marked with the number starting from barrel 109 located 900m North of vacated UNP 17. There are 159 barrels in A line and 156 Barrels in B line.





The barrel maintenance work is a challenging task because of its sensitivity, location, terrain condition and accessibility to the area due to presence of UXO and mines. The barrel maintenance project is conducted in phased manner, firstly by repairing and painting existing barrels and then followed by the replacement of missing barrels. Due to the sensitive nature of the barrels, the work has been undertaken by UNDOF troops using the specialist search teams, security elements and engineer work parties. UNDOF carries out continuous liaison with both the parties during the implementation of the work.

Upon completion of the project, a final document will be prepared and submitted to CORM by the respective team which will further be handover to both the nations with the approval of Force Commander and Head of Mission. The final report will include the photographs of all refurbished barrels along with the date of refurbishment & UTM. The report can be used as a reference document and an understanding between UNDOF & host Nations.



INFORMATION BLOG

#StaySMART

PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICES FOR COVID-19

 **FOR HEALTH.org**
Harvard Healthy Buildings Program

S • M • A • R • T

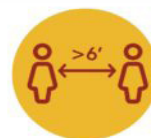
Stay home when sick

Mask when out

Avoid large groups

Refresh indoor air

Ten feet is better than six



For more information, see *Washington Post* opinion piece "The key to stopping covid-19? Addressing airborne transmission." by Joseph G. Allen on May 26, 2020

Content by Joseph G. Allen (@j_g_allen), assistant professor of exposure assessment science and director of the Healthy Buildings Program at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health (@HarvardChanSPH).
Design by Josh Lasky (@JoshLasky).



HARVARD T.H. CHAN
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



WASTE MANAGEMENT IN UNDOF

Waste Management in UNDOF is an activity that is committed to monitoring the generation of wastewater and solid waste, types of solid waste materials, collection, separation, treatment, and disposal, as well as dissemination of documents that address waste and wastewater management policies and risk assessments. UNDOF major objective of waste management is to optimize the utilization of available resources for increased efficiency. To attain this objective, it is imperative to minimize the generation of waste, promote reuse of waste, promote recovery of waste and recycling of materials, and ensure that the treatment and disposal of waste does not cause any harmful impacts.



UNDOF generates various types of wastes including, for example, construction, hazardous, wastewater, sewage sludge, and non-hazardous or garbage wastes. The following are some of the major activities conducted:

- Risk assessments
- Monitoring generation and types (Organic waste, Plastic waste, Metal / scrap waste material, Glass waste material, Paper waste material, Electronic waste, Ash from incinerators and wastewater, etc.)
- Storage, collection, transportation
- Treatment
- Dumpsite disposal

Monitoring waste generation has provided opportunities to reduce expenditures on raw materials, office supplies, equipment, and other purchases. Streamlining waste management operations to minimize the accumulation of waste has decreased the overall generation to less than two (2) Kilogram per Person per day. UNDOF waste management operations are supported by host country waste contractors, who have assisted UNDOF to demonstrate good practices for the environment with numerous solutions for recycling items that do not belong to waste. UNDOF is adopting proper waste management measures as a primary requirement to accomplish efficient cost savings, incorporating local waste management standards into its operations, taking actions to reduce the toxicity of waste requiring disposal and purchasing waste management equipment such as barrel incinerators that produce less waste.



The positive impacts of proper waste management to the environment and to our surrounding communities in UNDOF include removal of waste from UNDOF Camps and Positions, the separation of waste, support from our local waste contractors, treating wastewater for car wash, no open burning of waste is conducted on Camps and Positions which is beneficial to health and protected disposal of waste.



NEW FACES OF UNDOF



“This publication takes the opportunity to introduce to you the newest faces in the mission. While many of the key appointments have remained unchanged since the previous publication. Lets’ meet them now. “



CHIEF LIASION OFFICER

CMDR TIMOCI NATUVA WAS BORN IN NAUSORI FIJI ON 8TH FEBRUARY 1980. HE ENLISTED INTO THE FIJI NAVY ON 1 JULY 1999 AND GRADUATED FROM THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND NAVY OFFICERS TRAINING SCHOOL, TAMAKI IN JUNE 2000. HE WAS COMMISSIONED TO THE RANK OF ENSIGN ON JULY 2001. CMDR NATUVA SERVED WITH THE FIJI CONTINGENT OPERATING UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN IRAQ (UNAMI) FIRST AS CONTINGENT LIAISON OFFICER TO THE UN IN BAGHDAD AND THEN AS 2IC AND OPERATIONS OFFICER FOR AN INFANTRY COMPANY OPERATING OUT OF ERBIL, NORTHERN IRAQ. HE IS A GRADUATE OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE AND GRADUATED WITH A MASTERS DEGREE IN MILITARY AND DEFENCE STUDIES FROM THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA AUSTRALIA.

LT COL DR BHUSHAN KUMAR RAJBHANDARI WAS BORN ON 29TH JUNE, 1975 IN BHAKTAPUR, BAGMATI PROVINCE OF NEPAL. IN 2005, HE WAS COMMISSIONED AS LIEUTENANT IN NEPAL ARMY MEDICAL CORP AND STARTED HIS MILITARY CAREER AS A MEDICAL OFFICER IN SHREE BIRENDRA HOSPITAL. HE WORKED AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORP AS A GENERAL DUTY MEDICAL OFFICER; COMPANY COMMANDER OF NO 3 FIELD AMBULANCE, KHAIRENITAR; CONSULTANT PULMONOLOGIST; HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PULMONOLOGY; CO-GUIDE OF MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAM OF MEDICINE AND LECTURER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE FOR UNDERGRADUATE COURSE FOR NEPAL ARMY INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCE. HE HAS SERVED IN UNITED NATION PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS IN MINUSTAH, HAITI IN 2007 AS A DEPUTY MEDICAL COMPANY COMMANDER IN LEVEL I HOSPITAL.



FORCE MEDICAL OFFICER



CO NMC

LT COL DEVENDRA KHADKA WAS BORN ON 30TH NOV 1972, IN BHAKTAPUR NEPAL. HE HAS COMPLETED HIS HIGHER STUDIES IN 1991 & JOINED NEPALI ARMY ON 8 JAN 1993 AS AN OFFICER CADET. AFTER COMPLETING THE TRAINING, HE WAS POSTED TO THE MECHANIZED UNIT OF NEPALI ARMY ON 1995 A.D. DURING HIS MILITARY CAREER, HE HAS UNDERTAKEN SEVERAL MILITARY PROFESSIONAL COURSES AT HOME AND ABROAD. AMONG THEM FEW MAIN COURSES ARE YOUNG OFFICERS COURSE, JUMP MASTER COURSE, COMMAND & STAFF COLLEGE COURSE FROM NEPAL WHILE HE HAS DONE JUNIOR STAFF COURSE/MID-CAREER COURSE (JSC/MCC) HE HAS GOOD EXPERIENCE OF UN MISSION, AS HE HAS ALREADY SERVED 5 TIMES IN DIFFERENT STAFF ROLES. AS OF NOW IT’S HIS TIME 6TH MISSION AS A UNIT COMMANDER OF NEPALI MECHANIZED COMPANY-V.



NEW FACES OF UNDOF



CO NEPCON (MOUNTAIN)

Lt COL MADAN THAPA KSHETRI PSC JOINED THE PRESTIGIOUS ORGANIZATION NEPALI ARMY IN 1992. HE HAS THE EXPERIENCE OF STAFF WORK GSO2 IN DIFFERENT BRANCH OF ARMY HEADQUARTERS AND SERVED AS BRIGADE MAJOR AND OPERATION OFFICER AT BN LEVEL. HE HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMMANDED AN INDEPENDENT INFANTRY COMPANY, INFANTRY BATTALION AND DIV TRAINING SCHOOL WITH EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE. THE LT COLONEL'S HAS DIFFERENT UN MISSION EXPERIENCE SUCH AS COMPANY COMMANDER IN UNMIS(2006), COMPANY OPERATION OFFICER IN UNMISS(2012). MILITARY OBSERVER IN MONUSCO 2014. HE ASSUMED THE COMMAND OF THE NEPCON X ON 5TH NOVEMBER 2021.

Lt COL SURENDRA SINGH RAJAWAT WAS BORN ON 03RD OCT 1981 IN SAWAI-MADHOPUR, INDIA. THE OFFICER DID HIS SCHOOLING FROM KING GEORGE ROYAL INDIAN MILITARY COLLEGE (KGRIMC), AJMER. HE GRADUATED IN ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE, AND LATER DID HIS MASTER'S IN BUSINESS STUDIES. AN ALUMNUS OF OFFICERS TRAINING ACADEMY, CHENNAI, HE WAS COMMISSIONED IN REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY IN SEPTEMBER 2006. THE OFFICER HAS AN EXPERIENCE OF SERVING IN VARIED TERRAINS INCLUDING HIGHEST BATTLEFIELD OF SIACHEN GLACIER AND IN COUNTER-INSURGENCY OPERATIONS IN THE NORTH- EAST SECTOR OF INDIA. HE HAS BEEN AWARDED WITH CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF COMMENDATION CARD. THE OFFICER IS AN ACE MOUNTAINEER AND HAS DONE VARIOUS MOUNTAINEERING COURSES.



CO INDLOG



CO UMIC

Lt COL ELBIO H. BERRIEL WAS BORN ON THE 2ND OF MARCH 1973 IN SALTO, URUGUAY. HE STARTED HIS MILITARY CAREER BY JOINING THE MILITARY ACADEMY AS A CADET IN 1992. HE WAS COMMISSIONED AS SECOND LIEUTENANT OF THE INFANTRY BRANCH ON THE 11TH OF DECEMBER 1995. Lt COL BERRIEL HAS AN EXTENSIVE ACADEMIC BACKGROUND THAT FOLLOWED HIS EDUCATION IN THE MILITARY ACADEMY. HE COMPLETED THE "CAPTAINS TRAINING AND IMPROVEMENT COURSE" IN THE MILITARY INSTITUTE OF HIGHER STUDIES. HE COMPLETED 'PARATROOPER', 'TACTIC DIVER' AND 'SPECIAL FORCES' COURSE. AND HAS BEEN CERTIFIED AS "ADVANCED SPECIALIST PARAMEDIC". HE ENROLLED DIFFERENT 'UNITED NATIONS' PEACE KEEPING MISSIONS OVERSEAS LIKE MONUSCO IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (2006, 2009 AND 2010), AND MINUSTHA, HAITI REPUBLIC (2013 AND 2014).

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES O'SHEA WAS COMMISSIONED AS AN INFANTRY OFFICER IN 1992 AND WAS POSTED TO THE 5TH INFANTRY BATTALION AS A PLATOON COMMANDER. HAS HELD VARIOUS COMMAND AND STAFF APPOINTMENTS IN UNITS/HQS THROUGHOUT THE IRISH DEFENCE FORCES. HE IS A GRADUATE OF THE IRISH DEFENCE FORCES COMMAND & STAFF SCHOOL AND HAS COMPLETED A BA IN HISTORY AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY AND HAS ALSO RECEIVED AN MA DEGREE IN LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND DEFENCE STUDIES FROM MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY. HE HAS COMPLETED SIX TOURS OF DUTY OVERSEAS, FOUR TO LEBANON (UNIFIL), ONE TO KOSOVO (KFOR) AND ONE EAST TIMOR (UNTAET).



CO FRC



01 January (Saturday) - New Year in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon



The first day of January is marked as a New Year according to the Gregorian calendar and celebrates all around the world including Syria, Jordan and Lebanon by displaying fireworks, gathering with friends and families, prayers and so on. It is a public holiday in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. The New Year's Day stems from an ancient Roman custom, the feast of the Roman god Janus.

06 January (Thursday) - Armenian Christmas day in Lebanon



07 January (Friday) - Coptic Christmas day in Egypt

Coptic Christmas day is a national holiday in Egypt. It is celebrated by Orthodox Christians on the 7th of January every year as the day that Jesus was born and is different from the worldwide Christmas celebration that held on 25th of December. The date is set by the Julian calendar that pre-dates the Gregorian calendar used by other Christians. The day reflects healing and inner peace and is celebrated by many Orthodox Christians around the world, including the Coptic Christians of Egypt. A day before Coptic Christmas, most people observe a short fast and celebrate the day with feasting with friends and family members.

Armenian Christmas day is a public holiday in Lebanon. It is a culmination of celebrations of events related to the birth and baptism of Christ. In Lebanon, Christmas is celebrated twice; first on 25 December and then as a holiday on 06 January for the Armenian Lebanese community who celebrate Christmas on the the same date as Epiphany. The reason for the different date is that until the fourth century, Christ's birth was celebrated by the Christian church on 6th January. Two of the Gospels in the Bible mention the birth of Christ but neither give any details as to the date. This lack of detail also combined with the celebration of birthdays not being a big Christian tradition and Easter being the more important date. As Christianity expanded into Western Europe, the people there had been celebrating a Roman holiday ('Solis Invicti') on 25th December. Rather than compete with an already popular holiday, the church simply decided to move Christmas Day to 25th December and celebrate 6th January as the Feast of the Epiphany.



The food most commonly eaten or served during this day includes nuts and fresh dried fruits, Lenten bread, mushroom soup, vegetables and herbs like peas, potatoes and garlic, slow-cooked kidney beans with garlic, potatoes and seasoning, baked cod and honey.

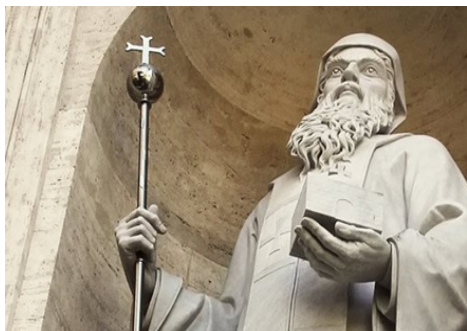


25 January (Tuesday) - Revolution day in Egypt

Egypt celebrates two revolution days in each year that falls on 25 January and 23 July which marked as a national holiday in Egypt. The Egyptian revolution of 2011, also known as the 25 January Revolution which is started on 25 January 2011 and spread across the Egypt. The revolution lasted on 18 days that led to the resignation of General Hosni Mubarak and ending his 30-year rule of Egypt.



09 February (Wednesday) - Saint Maroun Day in Lebanon



Saint Maroun Day is a Public holiday in Lebanon that celebrate on every 9th of February each year. Saint Maroun is the founder of the Maronites that first grew up in and around the Lebanese city of Cyr. He led a spiritual movement in Syria and Lebanon which sprung a different branch of Catholicism which is now called The Maronite Catholic Church. He gained loyal supporters during his time and still enjoys followers until today.

14 February (Thursday) - Rafik Hariri Memorial Day in Lebanon



Rafik Hariri Memorial Day is a Lebanese national holiday that honors the memory of their late prime minister, Rafik Hariri, who was assassinated by terrorists on 14th February 2005. Rafik Hariri was the first elected prime minister who took part in negotiating an end to the Lebanese Civil War in 1989 and in 1992 and recovers Lebanon from the ravages of the war.

08 March (Tuesday) - Revolution Day in Syria

Syria Revolution Day, also known as 08 March Revolution is a national celebration of military coup that happened in Syria on 08 March 1963. The holiday particularly marks the seizure of power by the organized political group called Baath Party (National Council of Revolution) in Syria. The military coup was led by Ziad al-Hariri, a prominent Syrian Army officer, politically independent from the Ba'athist rivals.





21 March (Monday) - Mother's Day in Syria



Mothers' Day is a public holiday in Syria. Syria dedicated the 21st of March every year as a celebration to honor all mothers in the country. The country believes in the special role of motherhood in nation building and celebrates this special day to give thanks to all mothers who secure the continuity of the Syrian race and allot time to thank mothers for the love and care they give to their children.



17 March (Thursday) – Purim (Tel-Aviv) In Israel



Purim is a Jewish observance on the 14th day of the month of Adar in the Jewish calendar, which is in February or March in the Gregorian calendar. It commemorates a time when Jewish people were saved from death in the Persian empire around the fourth century BCE, according to the Book of Esther. The Book of Esther or the Megilla, is a book of the Old Testament that tells the story of Esther, a Jewish Queen of Persia who was married to the king of Persia.

25 March (Monday) – Feast of the Annunciation in Lebanon



Feast of the Annunciation is a public holiday in Lebanon which is celebrated on 25 March. The religious feast day usually falls during Lent and may be moved in western Christian churches if it falls during Holy Week, Good Friday or a Sunday. This day celebrates the visit of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her that she would become the mother of Jesus.

25 March 2022 (Friday) – Daylight Saving Time starts in Syria and Israel



Daylight Saving Time (DST) is the practice of setting the clocks forward 1 hour from standard time during the summer months and back again in the fall of autumn to make better use of natural daylight. The Daylight-Saving Time starts in Syria on 25 March Whereas in Lebanon Daylight Saving Time starts on 27 March 2022.

Upcoming Regional Events April to Jun 2022

DATE	WEEKLY	EVENT NAME	TYPE	REMARKS
16 April	Saturday	Pesach -I (First Day of Passover)	National Holiday	Isreal
17 April	Sunday	Independance Day	Public Holiday	Syria
17 April	Sunday	Easter Sunday	Public Holiday	Syria
18 April	Monday	Easter Monday	Public Holiday	Lebanon
22 April	Friday	Good Friday	Public Holiday	Lebanon
22 April	Friday	Pesach -VII (Last day of passover)	National Holiday	Isreal
24 April	Sunday	Coptic Easter Sunday	National Holiday	Egypt
25 April	Monday	Sinai Liberation Day	National Holiday	Egypt
24 April	Sunday	Orthodox Easter Day	Public Holiday	Syria & Lebanon
01 May	Sunday	Labour Day	Public Holiday	Syria, Lebanon Jordan & Egypt
01 May	Sunday	Martyr's Day	National Holiday	Lebanon
02 May to 03 May	Sunday to Monday	Eid al-Fitr	National Holiday	Egypt
03 May to 06 May	Tuesday to Friday	Eid al- Fitr	National Joliday	Jordan
04 May to 04	Monday to Wednesday	Eid al- Fitr	Puvlic Holiday	Syria
03 May	Tuesday	Eid al- Fitr	Public Holiday	Lebanon
05 May	Thursday	Yom Ha Atzmaut	National Holiday	Israel
06 May	Friday	Martyr's Day	Public Holiday	Syria
08 May	Sunday	Resisitance & Lib-eration Day	National Holiday	Lebanon
25 May	Wednesday	Independance Day	National Holiday	Jordan
29 May	Sunday	Yom Yerushalayim (Jeru-salem Day)	Local Holiday	Israel
5 Jun	Sunday	Shavuot	National holiday,	Israel
30 Jun	Thu	30 June Revolution Day		Egypt



Official holidays applicable for A Side:

1	FRIDAY	07 JANUARY	ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS
2	FRIDAY	15 APRIL	GOOD FRIDAY
3	FRIDAY	22 APRIL	PENTECOST
4	MONDAY	02 MAY	EID -AL - FITER
5	THURSDAY	05 MAY	INDEPENDENC E DAY
6	MONDAY	11 JULY	EID-AL-ADHA
7	MONDAY	26 SEPTEMBER	JEWISH NEW YEAR
8	WEDNESDAY	05 OCTOBER	YORN KIPUR (DAY OF ATONEMENT)
9	MONDAY	10 OCTOBER	SUKKOT, TABERNACLES
10	MONDAY	26 DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS

Official holidays applicable for B Side:

1	MONDAY	03 JANUARY	NEW VEAR
2	MONDAY	21 MARCH	MOTHER'S DAY
3	MONDAY	18 APRIL	EASTER W
4	MONDAY	25 APRIL	EASTER E
5	MONDAY	02 MAY	EID AL FITR
6	TUESDAY	03 MAY	EID AL FITR
7	MONDAY	11 JULY	EID AL ADHA
8	TUESDAY	12 JULY	EID AL ADHA
9	MONDAY	26 DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS
10	TUESDAY	27 DECEMBER	BOXING DAY



ONE MISSION, ONE TEAM, ONE GOAL