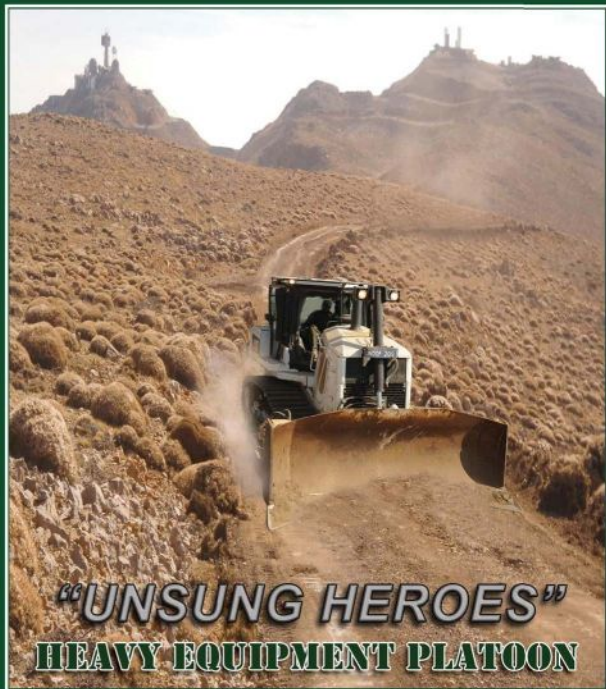


GOLAN

The UNDOF Journal



"UNSUNG HEROES"
HEAVY EQUIPMENT PLATOON



April - June 2015



Welcome to the 143rd edition of the GOLAN

To all avid readers of this journal, as your new SSO Media & PR, it is my pleasure to introduce to you our editorial team. Maj Jayram Thapa, is the new SO PR. Among other engagements he holds the key position of deputy editor, and his insightful contribution has been integral to the production of GOLAN 143. Last but certainly not least is our photographer, Sgt Tomasi Delana, known to everybody in UNDOF as "Dels". At this stage he is practically part of the infrastructure of Camp Ziouani and can oft be seen prowling around with his camera in pursuit of the perfect picture. Unfortunately this will be Dels last GOLAN as he will be leaving us this coming August. Dels will be sorely missed for his professionalism, knowledge and unerring ability to always make the rest of us in the office smile. We wish him and all the members of the FIJIAN and INDIAN Contingents who are also rotating, a safe journey home and all the best in their next appointments. For myself and Major Thapa, the UNDOF slogan of "One Mission, One Team, One Goal" became particularly tangible when UNDOF staff from other departments generously volunteered their time despite their busy schedule



Sgt Delana, Comdt Murphy and Maj Jayaram

to acquaint us with all things UNDOF. It is people like the COS's Asst Maj Pio Varawa, JOAC DO Capt Tom Holmes, MA to FC Lt Col Madhab Thapa, CGSO Mr Jim Phelan, and Central Registry Sgt Tui Levuka who created a strong impression of the high levels of teamwork and professionalism that exist in UNDOF and helped us to smoothly settle into our new appointments. Finally I would just like to mention that for this edition we have launched a new initiative. With the assistance of SO C-IED JOAC, Capt Ruairi Kedney we have designed a centre page that can be pulled out to act as a wall poster on C-IED, containing valuable tips we should all be mindful of.

Yours Sincerely,
**Comdt Mick Murphy SSO
 Media & PR**



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The Golan Journal is the magazine of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force and it is intended to provide information about the Force and events within it which are of interest to its members. The UNDOF Media/ Public Relations Office publishes the Golan Journal quarterly. While articles and photographs are welcomed from all members of the Force, the view and opinions expressed are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily coincide with those of the United Nations or the Force Commander. The copyright of all material in this journal is vested in United Nations Publications except where an acknowledgment is made to another holder. No articles or illustrations may be reproduced without the permission of the editorial staff.

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**Capt Carroll - (IRECON)
 Lt Mafaden - (IRECON)**

HoM & Force Commander's Message



It has been ten months since the mission relocation from Camp Faouar. There has not been any significant change in the UNDOF area of operations since my taking over as the Force Commander in February. I do not foresee any major upheaval at the operational level despite the possibility of surprises. As part of mission reconfiguration, we did lose some posts under Civilian Staffing Review. Despite all odds, we have achieved a marked improvement both internally and externally.

In the last week of April and first week of May, Camp Ziouani and UN OP 51 came under spillover fire from the fighting between the armed groups in the Bravo side; resulting in injuries to OGG and UNDOF personnel. The spillover fire also led to the

evacuation of OP 51, but we did re-occupy it in three days. I must applaud the UNMOs - who despite severe security threats - accomplished their duties with determination and dedication. Thank you for reminding me of the need to take measured risks at times. I must also appreciate the force protection measures applied in OP 51 after the incident. Security measures taken in UNDOF temporary HQ in Damascus, Operational Base in Camp Ziouani, and other UN positions and OPs are encouraging - and must continue to improve. Please remain assured that your safety and security is my priority concern.

We conducted Diplomats' Day in Damascus and in Camp Ziouani on 21 May and 27 June respectively. The gracious presence of the Ambassadors, their Defense Attaches and informal interaction with them was undeniably inspirational for us during these trying times. During the said event, we notably highlighted the operational environment of UNDOF and efforts for implementation of the mission mandate. I must commend all of you for the integrated contribution.

All these actions provide an impetus to return to the AOS. The tributes go to all the contingents, and civilian & military staff members for having reposed the trust in me owing to which I could embark on UNDOF's re-deployment. I would like to reiterate the significance of impartiality, professionalism and prerequisite of upholding the highest standard of conduct and behavior of the United Nations personnel. We come from diverse cultures and blend to achieve peace and tranquility in Golan. We are striving to achieve 'One Mission, One Team, and One Goal'. As you are - I am confident that teamwork is an inevitable way to realize the ultimate goal.

I am greatly distressed by the untimely demises of Sergeant Amal Deka from Indian contingent and Staff Sergeant Peniadi Racolo from the Fijian contingent. I pray that their departed souls rest in peace. It gives me immense pleasure to welcome new military staff officers and civilian staff members on board. I am delighted with the induction of new staff officers from the Kingdom of Bhutan and the Czech Republic - increasing the number of the Troops Contributing Countries (TCC) to seven. Evidently, more of the TCCs are standing behind us for the peace in Golan Heights. I would also like to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes to the outgoing and incoming members of Indian and Fijian contingents and other staff members. We have a lot of challenges ahead and so much to do. Together we can and shall reach there.

May Peace prevail in Golan!

Major General Purna Chandra Thapa
Head of Mission and Force Commander

DFC's Words

Fellow Peacekeepers!

Spring is finally here as the weather and the landscape on the Golan is changing rapidly with each passing day. However, the situation in the Area of Separation and the Area of Limitation on the Bravo Side remains kinetic and increasingly more complex. We continue to implement our Mandate in a modified manner with no lessening of the great risk in doing so on a daily basis. We have experienced missile launches, rocket fires coming close to our positions, spillovers and firings' close. The UNDOF Mission continues its deployment in a dangerous and unpredictable operating environment.

A number of major events have taken place since I last spoke to you; we have had the rotation of the Irish Contingent and a series of very high level visits including those of various attaches, senior figures from UNHQ and the hosting of Ambassador's Day in both Damascus and in Camp Ziouani. We also have enjoyed a number of sporting events which have added greatly to inter-contingent esprit de corps and cohesion.

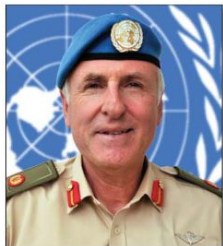
It gives me great pleasure to be able to pass on congratulations to our Mission Support staffs for the great work being done to bring Position 80 up to the highest possible standard. There is tremendous cooperation evident as the work progresses and conditions improve, this is down to team work and good planning.

It is also heartening to witness the fantastic work being done by our Contingents through their training plans and exercises; I am also delighted to see the Range Project now finally completed. This is an invaluable part of our mission infrastructure and will be a marvellous addition to our military training and marksmanship capabilities. Well done to all who brought the project to conclusion.

I would like to take a moment to remember our dear colleague Sgt Amal Deka of the Indian Contingent who sadly passed away on the 22nd of June 2015. We think of his wonderful contribution to peacekeeping and the ultimate sacrifice he has made through his sad passing. Let all of us pray that his family find the strength to carry on despite this terrible tragedy that has befallen them.

Thank you all, our Military Contingents, our Headquarters Staff, our International Staff and our National Staff members for their continued commitment, motivation and resolve in the most trying difficult circumstances. I also take this opportunity to pay tribute to our colleagues in Damascus who are working tirelessly on behalf of all of us in very stressful conditions. Keep safe guys.

Go raibh maith agaibh agus beir beannacht; thank you and stay strong



Brigadier General Anthony Hanlon
Deputy Force Commander, UNDOF

New Faces in UNDOF



Lieutenant Colonel Oliver Dwyer was born on the 10 May 1968 in County Roscommon, Ireland. He is a graduate of the Cadet School, Military College, in the Irish Defence Forces Training Centre and was commissioned in 1989 to 3 Infantry Battalion. Lt Col Dwyer is an alumnus of Maynooth University where he was awarded a Masters of Arts Degree in Leadership Management and Defence Studies. He is also an alumnus of National University of Ireland (NUI) Galway, where he holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Lt Col Dwyer has also completed a Certificate in EU Public Procurement Rules and Directives. Lt Col Dwyer's military education includes successful completion of the Junior Command and Staff Course in addition to being a Graduate of the Irish Defence Forces Command and Staff Course conducted in the Command and Staff School, Military College. Lt Col Dwyer is based in the Directorate of Communications (J6) in Defence Forces Headquarters, McKee Barracks, Dublin with responsibility for Budgetary Planning and financial oversight for the J6 Directorate. Prior to his current appointment, Lt Col Dwyer served as Officer Commanding the Defence Forces NCO Training establishment and subsequently as Brigade Staff Officer with responsibility for Current Operations and Training in 4 Western Brigade. Additionally he has served as Company Commander, Support Company, 6 Infantry Battalion. Lt Col Dwyer's overseas service includes service as G5 Plans officer with EUFOR (Althea) in BiH in 2005. Additionally he completed a tour of duty with MINURCAT (CHAD) in 2010 serving in the role of Company Commander, Reconnaissance Company, 100 Infantry Battalion. Lt Col Dwyer is married to Aoife and has two children, Ceara and Ailbhe. He is actively involved in his local community and has a keen interest in Gaelic Games having previously represented his County competitively.



Lt Col Mark Prendergast deployed to UNDOF on the 31 MARCH 2015 as Officer Commanding IRECON 48 Inf Gp, the incoming Force Commander's Reserve. He was commissioned into the Infantry Corps in 1988 and his service has included command at Platoon, Company and Battalion levels. Prior to this deployment to UNDOF he commanded the 28th Infantry Battalion located in Finner Camp County Donegal, a beautifully rugged county located in the North West of Ireland. He is a graduate of the Senior Command and Staff course, and has a BA (Hons) in Economics and Politics from the National University Ireland Galway, an MA in Leadership and Defence Studies from the National University Ireland Maynooth and an MSc in Human Resource Leadership from Sheffield Hallam University in the United Kingdom.

In addition to his unit experience Lt Col Prendergast has instructed as a Company Commander in the Officer Cadet College and recently returned to serve as Chief Instructor Cadet Training. His staff experience includes Staff Officer Overseas Operations in Defence Forces Headquarters and Staff Officer Policy and Plans in the Strategic Planning Branch of the Chief of Defence Staff's Branch. Lt Col Prendergast's multinational operational experience has included three (3) deployments to UNIFIL; two (2) years with OGG-D UNTSO; a tour of duty as a military observer in MONUC in the DRC; and a tour of duty as S3 Finish/Irish Battle Group KFOR in KOSOVO. He is married to Ciara and they have three (3) children; Cian; Sam and Lara who all enjoyed being members of the UNTSO community living in Damascus from 2007 to 2009. Interests included coaching football and athletics and Lt Col Prendergast enjoys running and cycling to maintain his fitness level to that required of an Infantry soldier.

UNSUNG HEROES

Everything is very simple in war, but the simplest thing is difficult. These difficulties accumulate and produce a friction, which no man can imagine exactly who has not seen war... It is this friction, which makes that which appears easy in War difficult in reality.

Von Clausewitz, On War (1827)

Clausewitz was talking about the Battlefield, but last Winter produced a kind of pervasive friction in UNDOF, that meant not only getting from A to B on the Golan became difficult but threatened to bring Operations in UNDOF to a complete halt. The Fog of War set in as the Golan experienced it's worst Winter on record for 30 years and the heavy snows brought movement North of Katsrin to a standstill.

Members of staff couldn't get to Headquarters, movement within Camp Ziouani itself became a Military operation all of it's own, and the weeks of relentless snowfall threatened to completely cut off the UNDOF positions on Mt Hermon.

As the DFC, Brigadier General Anthony Hanlon described of his first hand experiences of the severe weather last Winter *"at times it was difficult to see your hand such was the blizzard conditions created by the driving snow"*. However the



Cpl Kuruisaqila clearing roads within Camp Ziouani during winter

"Friction" was soon to meet it's match. Heavy Equipment Platoon stepped up to the plate and in what could only be described as one of the most fitting examples of the "Force Multiplier Effect", brought mobility back to the mission. Logistic resupply routes, the lifeblood of UNDOF positions on Mt Hermon were reopened, and the road network was cleared in and around Camp Ziouani so that the Headquarters could continue to function. It is not just the friction of extreme weather and snow that



Heavy machinery operators

Heavy Equipment Platoon can neutralize, in fact, that is only a small percentage of what they do. Little known to most in UNDOF, on a daily basis Heavy Equipment Platoon ensure the supply of it's "Élan Vital" to UNDOF – Diesel. Without it we would have no power to work, to complete operations, no mobility and most importantly no electricity

to charge up our laptops and mobile phones to skype and call home to our loved ones. They also complete the vital task of ensuring access routes to UNDOF's Mount Hermon positions – the highest UN positions in the World – remain open and can sustain heavy military traffic. They provide heavy plant capability support to all.

UNDOF engineer maintenance and new project engineer works in Camp Ziouani and all UNDOF positions. They improve our tactical going and they contribute in an exceptional way to the creation of safer routes which in turn means a safer environment for UNDOF troops to operate in.

The following analogy best sums up the essence of what Heavy Equipment Platoon do. We've all been there, that occasion where you have tried to get something working. You have followed the manual to the letter, you have consulted the oracle of Google, maybe even got in an expert to help but you still can't get it working, and then someone comes along and with the metaphorical well placed thump of a hammer fixes the problem. Well when it comes to UNDOF's daily logistics and operations support, Heavy Equipment Platoon are that Hammer.



Ssgt Baleideuba applying finishing touches to the Mount Hermon road

When researching this article I asked numerous personnel from across UNDOF's various contingents and branches for their thoughts on Heavy Equipment Platoon. The feedback I received was unanimous and is probably best epitomised by the words of the DFC who described Heavy Equipment Platoon as "exceptional soldiers working selflessly in all conditions to improve our Mission"

Heavy Equipment Platoon's earnest endeavours ensure that the inevitable and pervasive "friction of war" is mitigated against. They are without doubt one of UNDOF's "Unsung Heroes" and a key enabler to our mission.

Article - Comdt Mick Murphy (SSO Media & PR)



Cpl Yavakivi clearing ahead

Mountaineering Skills

Mountain Skills will start with an opportunity to meet the other people and take part in a short planning session with the Tutor. After that you will be out in the mountains, moving away from the trails and into steeper, rockier terrain in order to learn about the differences in weather, navigation and managing risk in the mountain environment. The physical effort required on these days will be more demanding than the Hill Skills and you can expect to be out in the mountains for between 5-6 hours. Imagine ice climbing on deep-blue glacial ice, teaching fellow participants about ascending a fixed



NEPCON Peacekeepers patrolling on Mt Hermon in a small team by Ski Doo



Pistenbully clearing the snow on the way to Hermon Base

line or scrambling up an exposed ridge with the sky beneath your feet, if you visit the most incredible mountain ranges on the planet while learning how to be a competent leader in varied mountain terrain. There is no better place to learn and test skills needed to climb big mountains than in the Himalayas. In Nepal each autumn we learn to rope up, tie in, and climb together on some of the most impressive mountains in the world. Mountaineering in Nepal is one of the prime activities

which positions Nepal as ultimate in high altitude mountaineering with no substitute. The fact that Nepal contains over 1310 snow-capped peaks with eight out of 14 peaks above 8000m attracts mountaineering enthusiasts from all over the world. Apart of obvious 8000m expeditions there are many 7000m dream peaks suitable for short expedition for various levels of climber experience.

It would be imperative and worthy to mention that Nepalese troops currently deployed in the Hermon Complex are well trained in the High altitude and Mountain warfare school of Nepalese Army situated at the height of 3500 meter, thus making the job of acclimatization easier.

*Article by Captain Rabinra Singh
Photos by Captain Raj Kumar Mahat*



Troops preparing themselves and the Anchor Base before partaking in Mt Training

OGG Activities

Israel is amongst the most mined countries in the world, with an estimated 2000 mine fields containing approximately 260,000 mines in

how long it actually takes to get out of a mined area without assistance from other agencies. Lieutenant Jane O'Neill gave some well re

Overall, a thoroughly beneficial training activity for all involved; and a great opportunity to experience more of that classic military humor!



UNMO's escape a minefield using a stick, supervised by the Irish Instructors.

the Israeli Occupied Golan Heights alone and considering the majority of OGG OPs and UN Positions are surrounded by mine fields it makes Mine Awareness Training a critical and lifesaving subject. As such OGG has welcomed the introduction of UNDOF Mine Awareness Training delivered by elements of the FRC. The high standard of instruction and relevance of training has ensured that this becomes a staple part of the new UNMO Induction Package. The first iteration of training was conducted at OP55 in May during the new UNMO's first Line Tour. Like all good military instruction the new OGG inductees started with a theory lesson by LT Jane O'Neill who explained the use of mines, how they are identified and mine drills. But before long the new UNMOs were outside in the practical phase of the instruction applying their new found skills amongst the dirt, scorpions and other creepy crawlies that call OP55 home. The new UNMOs quickly learned

received advice to "Stay put, without moving your feet, call UNDOF, by radio or mobile and they will come and help you out". After about an hour of working on their knees, prodding the hard surface with a stick or a knife, in the hot sun surrounded by insects, let alone a deadly mine field, calling for assistance was really good advice!



Local wildlife at OP55



Mines passed from hand to hand between the new UNMO's.

Fiji Batt EOD upgrades OP 73

The FB EOD Team took to the change in tools and volunteered to assist in the Engr carpentry works required at OP 73 following the DFC visit in June. The DFC had identified a few extra works that was required to put the FB pers in comfortable and supporting conditions, when providing armed protection to OGG pers at the outpost. Because of the concentration of Engr works at Posn 80, most of the Engr resources and manpower were directed to that location, and the other works as identified by the DFC at OPs 73 and 54, pending. After much deliberation into the need to expedite these works in light of the nearing summer, FB DCO volunteered the Field Engineering capability in the FB EOD team to execute the task, with materials provided by the Engr section.

Restricted to the opening hours of visit to the OGG Ops, the FB EOD team slowly maximised every water gate crossing and tried to have the tasks completed before the next DFC visit in late July. Came the DFC visit in the last week of July, OP 73 had a new dining / recreation area created, properly roofed with a door, a concrete poured flooring, and an environment that was greatly appreciated by both the OGG and FB pers on the site. The former kitchen area which also shared the shower facility was now the dedicated bathroom and washroom area, whilst the newly constructed area serving an open spaced dining and recreation area, a sitting room environment for the troops within OP 73.

*Article - Major Daurewa
FB DCO*



Almost there



Completing the ceiling



Filling the floor with a concrete base



WO1 Kanarogo applying the finishing touches

Mission Health Awareness Week



Lt Col Dr Sagar addressing UNDOF staff on health awareness



UNDOF military personnel briefed on the importance of Health Awareness

The adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is especially true when applied to health care. In every war for which statistics are recorded, military forces have lost more personnel to disease than to direct combat with opposing forces. For that reason, UNDOF medical team under the leadership of Lt Col Dr Sagar Rajkarnikar, Force Medical Officer conducted a 'Health Awareness Week' for UNDOF personnel at Khetrapal Hall from 02 March to 06 March 2015.

The primary objective of the health week was to educate the UNDOF personnel on the health and hygiene matters in order to enable them to live a healthy life and accomplish their mission tasks effectively and efficiently. On the first day, Lt Col Dr Sagar Rajkarnikar, FMO delivered the welcome speech and emphasized that prevention of disease and good personal and environmental hygiene are two of the most important functions of any military medical service.

Deputy Force Commander Brigadier General Tony Hanlon during

his opening address articulated that prevention is the key to a successful disease control program and may mean the difference between success and failure of the mission.

The UNDOF medical staff and contingent SMOs/MOs delivered

Lt Col Sandeep Kumar, FHO thanked all the MOs and the participants for their valuable time, efforts and support for the successful conduct of the health week. The other major activities of the UNDOF medical team during the period was a lecture on "Snake bite



UNDOF Medical Staff

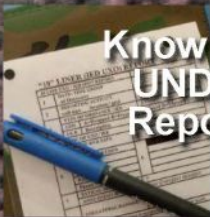
audio visual presentations on various health topics to all the troops. Chief of Staff Col Ro Jone Logavatu in his closing address congratulated the FMO and the entire UNDOF medical team for the successful conduct of the health week and asked the medical team to continue the good work by organizing such health weeks, seminars, talks etc at periodic intervals.

in Golan" by Maj Owais M Siddiqui, SMO, Logbatt on 21 May 2015 and the training of UNDOF personnel on "Personal and Environmental Hygiene" by Lt Col Sandeep Kumar at various positions and OPs of UNDOF.

Article by Lt Col Sandeep Kumar (FHO)



**BE
AWA**





FRC 48th Infantry Group arrive in Theatre

The newly rotated Force Reserve Company under the command of Lt. Col. Mark Prendergast deployed to UNDOF on 01 Apr 2015 and took over Operational Command from the outgoing Irish Contingent on the 06 Apr 2015. The Force Reserve Company provided by the 48th Infantry Group consists of a number of capabilities which include a security element deployed in armoured personnel carriers, an armoured ambulance manned by Irish medical teams and a command and control element to control operations. The 48th Infantry Group are also capable of deploying EOD, Engineer Search and Cavalry Surveillance. The capabilities deployed are subject to the mission needs. Throughout the reporting period there was a marked increase in Anti-Government Armed Elements activity on the Bravo side and this in turn saw the Force Reserve Company deployed on a number of occasions throughout the UNDOF Area of Operations. The first major operational tasking undertaken by the Force Reserve Company took place on the 27th April. The IDF conducted an aerial strike which resulted in the death of four per-

sons who were reportedly attempting to plant an IED close to the line of separation that divides Occupied Golan and Syria. As a result of this the Force Reserve Company were tasked by the Force Commander UNDOF to render the area safe and carry out a post blast investigation of the scene. We deployed an Infantry Security Element, a Cavalry Surveillance Detachment, along with Engineer Specialist Search Team, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Medical assets. The area in vicinity of the strike was heavily mined and the Engineer Specialist Search

team spent three days clearing safe routes in order for the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team to move in and render IED's, a UXO and Military Equipment safe. This allowed for the remains of the four persons to be safely removed by local Syrians.

On the 01 May, the Force Reserve Company was deployed again to evacuate two injured United Nations Military Observers who were located in OP 51. Thankfully the injuries sustained by the UNMO's were not life threatening and they were transferred



Route Clearance Operation



Force Reserve Company conducting Armoured Personnel Carrier Training in Camp Ziouani



FRC Range practice in Camp Ziouani



Force Reserve Company conducting medical evacuation exercise in Camp Ziouani



Force Reserve Company conducting range practices in Camp Ziouani



FRC practise quick deployment drills

by Irish medical personnel to the UNDOF medical facility in Camp Ziouani. The AGAE fighting continued over the coming days and on the 03 May the Force Reserve Company were deployed to evacuate three United Nations Military Observers who were located in OP 51.

The 13 May saw the Force Reserve Company deployed again but this time to the Northern part of the UNDOF area of operations, high up in the Mount Hermon range. We were tasked by the Force Commander to conduct a route clearance operation from the Mount

Hermon swing gate to the Z6 barrel. This was an excellent opportunity for our engineer specialist search team to put into practice the training they conduct.

Overall this was an extremely busy period for the Force Reserve Company. Serving with a mission like UNDOF is an excellent opportunity for Irish personnel to get valuable experience on such a high tempo mission and we look forward to the rest of our tour of duty in Camp Ziouani and UNP 80.

*Article by Capt Phelim Carroll
Photos by Cpl Roman Matthews*



Cpl Gray ready for action

Engineer Activities

It's been 40 years and going that "the unique UNDOF" has been through various eras and the way it stood tall in all odds of the yester-years is a legend now. This required robust and dependable engineering support. Living up to the expectations of the mission leadership and the ISS, the HQ Engineering Section has proved its mettle in every walk. Under most trying circumstances also the section has been flexible enough to adjust to the volatile mission dynamics. The Section is headed by Chief Engineer, currently Mr Ilkhom Saliev with his military deputies being FCEO, FPO, EO and CEO (LOGBATT); and civilian deputies being EMU supervisor and Chief Facility Unit. There are engineering technicians from each contingent besides national staff. The well-built organization of the section ensures execution of the works in the most professional and infallible manner. The last few months have been quite challenging for the section with numerous minor and major projects under execution. After relentless efforts by the section, Camp Ziouani could be transformed into a



UNDOF Engineer Staff

comfortable and conducive place for the increased no. of troops. Now, Position 80 is a better place to be at with a no. of new shelters, ancillaries, and force protection measures incorporated within a short period of time. The section reacted very quickly during the spillover fire incidents of May15 and helped the mission to switch on to 'protective' mode swiftly. The engineers located at B-side have also been endeavoring to ensure effective engineering support to Hermon positions and

providing the best possible support to the mission and will continue to do so to its utmost capability. We wish the 'one mission one team one goal' family success in all its endeavors.

Article by Capt Paritosh Agrawal



UNDOF Engineers re-constructing a gate at posn 22

ROD. Regular maintenance tasks at posn 22, and OP 51, 54, 73 are also being carried out on priority to the satisfaction of end users. Engineering section is committed towards pro-



Watch Tower for sagem site at posn 22

Force Military Police



Cpl Babini checking speed limit on UN vehicles

UNDOF Military Police has been in existence since the inception of UNDOF. The concept of policing needs to change in order to be relevant in adequately addressing pressing sophisticated crime trend globally due to modernisation. Therefore the ideal concept adopted in as far as UNDOF MP is "proactive policing" i.e. in partnership with all stake holders. UNDOF MP, has been accomplishing its tasks in collaborating with TCC, International and National Staff and local Law Enforcement Agencies including Israel and Syria externally.

Vision

A recognized, respected, resilient, responsive & vibrant UNDOF Military Police that is capable of providing security and police services to the Force and UN interest within UNDOF's Area of Separation (AOS).

Mission

To create a safe and secure UNDOF in accordance with best practices, standards and technological innovations by enforcing UN Regulations within the AOS in conjunction with UNDOF and UNTSO SOPs, Military Police Instructions and other Administrative Instruc-

tions and Circulars from time to time issued by UNDOF HQ.

Theme - Year of Empowering and Consolidating.

Our Values - Integrity to be trustworthy, credible, courageous and honorable.

Fairness - Work, life, professionalism and impartiality.

Trust - Honest and respectful.

Empathy - Understanding one's feeling and emotions.

Efficiency - Smart and competent responsiveness.

The Force Military Police comprises of MPs who are specialists. Military Police establishments who hail from, India, Ireland, Fiji and Nepal. Headed by Maj Anirudh Singh (Force Provost Marshal), Military Police is geared to meet the challenges ahead as it's HQ is co-

located in Camp Ziouani. Some of the strategies to make the Force MP more relevant and effective are: Proactive Policing rather than reactive, Policing in collaboration with Internal & External Stakeholders, Sensitizing key stakeholders, Need for a Collective approach, Capacity building, Awareness, Training, More visibility, Timeliness in Reporting, Adoption of Systems and Processes to ensure speedy resolution, Adoption of Data, Analysis to identify gaps and implement changes for continuous improvement. MP Unit will certainly continue to raise the standards within and strive for excellence and professionalism. With the availability of Speed Guns and breathalyzer test equipment at a later stage, Military Police are determined that incidents in the mission area are reduced by avoiding traffic accidents, negligence, breaches in regulations and other violations of UNDOF Rules and Regulations to ensure a safe and enjoyable Tour of Duty.

*Article by Maj Anirudh Singh
Force Provost Marshal*



Sgt N Pandey (left) and Pte Santosh operating a speed gun

Diplomat's Day

UNDOF organized the Diplomatic day on B-side on 21 May 2015 at the UNDOF HQ, Damascus, Sheraton Hotel. UNDOF's intent was to host Diplomats and Defence Attache's present on B-Side in an efficient and professional manner and facilitates maximum interaction between UNDOF and the delegation. The program was opened by the welcome address by the HOM/FC Maj Gen. Purna Chandra Thapa, followed by an UNDOF Operations brief by the Chief Operations Officer.

The program was actively participated in by all the honourable guests during the question and answer session before heading out to lunch, organized by UNDOF at the Sheraton Hotel.



Force Commander with Dignitaries in Damascus



Ambassadors with the Force Commander and Deputy Force Commander - Damascus



*Force Commander welcomes the Spanish Ambassador
His Excellency Mr. Fernando Carderera*



Dignitaries being briefed on FRC equipment

On Wednesday the 27th of May, embassies from 24 nations were represented at the annual UNDOF Ambassadors day held at Camp Ziuani. The HOM & FC Maj Gen Thapa welcomed and briefed the diplomats on the changes, achievements, and challenges of the mission area. They also received briefs on the operational activities and logistics matters of UNDOF.

The honourable guests received capability displays from each contingent on their respective equipment and roles in UNDOF.

They also visited different sites on the Alpha side for a more detailed introduction, and received a panoramic ground brief on the area of Limitation (AOL) and Area of Separation (AOS) at temporary OP 4 on Mt Bentel.



Ambassadors with the Force Commander and Deputy Force Commander at Camp Ziuani

C-IED Awareness Training

We are all familiar with IEDs; those particularly nasty and devious weapons, the makeshift pipe bombs, homemade explosives and modified conventional munitions. IEDs are a tactical weapon with a strategic influence. IED attacks have dominated the conflict media of the past decade. Our newsfeeds bear witness to seemingly endless attacks costing thousands of lives in conflict zones from Afghanistan to Iraq and Syria to Somalia. What we are NOT so familiar with is the collective efforts to defeat IEDs; the subject



Fiji Batt RRG patrolling through an IED training lane



Fiji Batt dismounted soldier conducts his IED checks

area is known as Counter IED. As peacekeepers in one of the world's most hostile conflict zones we should be under no illusion, C-IED is an essential knowledge and skill set for each and every member of UNDOF, soldier and civilian alike. It should also come as no surprise that the Irish Contingent are particularly well trained in this subject area. The Irish Defence Forces has placed a particular emphasis in preparing C-IED trainers and IED event investigators for operational deployment in recent

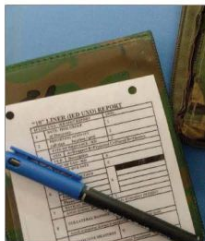
years. Added to this the decades of internal conflict during the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland has made us all too familiar with the IED, and most notably, how to defeat it. In order to maintain our state of readiness for the full spectrum of operations, UNDOF HQ has commenced an ambitious project to extend C-IED training to ALL contingents and civilian branches

within the mission. Particular emphasis is being placed on front line troops, mobile reserves and key supporting staff. Based on the operational needs of the mission, a short sharp and effective syllabus was created. This syllabus will shape C-IED training in the mission over the coming weeks and months. The 1st UNDOF C-IED TTP Awareness Course was run in the



Irish and Fiji troops co-operate in joint C-IED training

lecture halls and training spaces of Camp Ziouani over 3 challenging days from the 23rd to the 25th of June. The course was both theory and practical based. Subject areas were introduced in the lecture hall, demonstrated in the field and then finally rehearsed and tested in live scenarios. Paired back to its simplest form, the C-IED drills taught prepared troops to be tactically effective, situationally aware and how to react effectively to incidents in High Threat IED



"Hello Zero...." The Importance of timely and accurate reports



Fiji Batt Troops observing a demonstration by FRC Quick Reaction Force environments. In short.. "how NOT to be a victim of the IED".

The FIJIBATT BMR have a direct responsibility for the reinforcement of the Southern AO most notably Bravo side Positions and OP's. This provided all the necessary realism and motivation to fully engage with every aspect of the training. Indeed adding greatly to the realism of the training was the vast experience

that existed amongst soldiers and NCOs of the BMR. Of particular note were the multiple tours of duty conducted in Iraq, Lebanon and the Sinai. This course also had the



"Man down...." Fiji Batt soldier simulates a battle field casualty



Train hard and repeat. The FRC fine tuning C-IED drills

luxury of benefiting from the newly UN purchased IED training suite, simulated IEDs that add greatly to creating realistic training scenarios.

*Article by Capt Kedney
Photos by Cpl Matthews*

LOGBATT Activities

TRAINING ACTIVITIES



FIRE FIGHTING



DANGEROUS REPTILES

CONDUCT OF GUESTS FROM NEW YORK



SPORT ACTIVITY

UNDOF PEACEKEEPER TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Players from all contingents participated in the tennis tournament hosted by LOGBATT. The Force Commander appreciated all the contingents efforts and presented prizes.



UNDOF Civilian Staffs Activities



UNDOF and FAO staffs participating in the fire drill at Sheraton Hotel, Damascus, Syria



UNDOF HoM & FC briefing about significance of the fire fighting Drill Exercise at Sheraton Hotel, Damascus, Syria



UNDOF Civilian staffs spending a day picking cherry at Buqata



UNASG for DFS interaction with UNDOF Civilian staffs



Fund raising programme for the Nepalese Earthquake Victim in Camp Ziouani

