

GOLAN

The UNDOF Journal

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OBSERVATION TECHNOLOGY
ENHANCING UNDOF's SECURITY & SITUATIONAL AWARENESS



OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2015





DEAR READERS!

Welcome to the 145th edition of the GOLAN
-The UNDOF Journal.

To all avid readers of this journal it is my honor to present the new edition of GOLAN. This edition covers UNDOF's activities during the Winter Season, and in a new initiative for the GOLAN, edition 145 will also mark the first of a series of special editions focused on a particular aspect of modern peacekeeping.

To start us off we will look at Observation Technology and innovative practices in Peacekeeping. In today's technology centric world, technology must be viewed as a strategic peacekeeping enabler in what is a complex Fourth-Generation Warfare environment, rather than just simply as a set of tools. It is too important to be treated as a service, rather than a strategic interest. More fundamentally, as technology is lifted into the category of strategic enabler, peacekeeping at all levels must become an innovative enterprise. Technology can and will enhance the safety and security of UN personnel serving in difficult, remote, and dangerous environments; and we will look at how it can contribute to Force Protection here in UNDOF.



Sgt Ben, Comdt Mick, Maj Jay & WO1 Raut

Finally I would like to mention that in keeping with the center page poster initiative launched in edition 143, this edition will also feature a center page that can be pulled out to act as a wall poster, this time themed on the SAGEM JIM Long Range Thermal Imager (LRTI).

Stay Safe
Yours Sincerely,

Comdt Mick Murphy
SSO Media & PR



www.undof.unmissions.org

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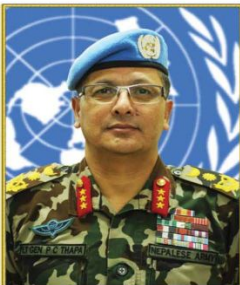
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The Golan Journal is the magazine of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force and it is intended to provide information about the Force and events within it which are of interest to its members. The UNDOF Media/ Public Relations Office publishes 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.

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HOM & Force Commander's Message



Force Commanders' Conference at Camp Ziouani from 19-21 October 2015, in which four regional missions UNTSO, UNIFIL, UNFICYP and UNDOF discussed on the cross cutting regional issues. Simultaneously we also hosted the Headquarters' delegation in the second and third weeks of October as part of MCS visit. The UNDOF temporary Headquarters was moved to Camp Yafour and UNDOF Office in Mezze on 25 November.

The Nepalese contingent completed its rotation in November and deployed in Mount Hermon. I congratulate all the outgoing contingent members of the Contingent for dispensing their distinguished UN service to the peace in Golan and underscoring the legacy of their proud nation's commitments to the UN peacekeeping. I wish them a happy reunion with their families back home, while I enthusiastically welcome the new Contingent in the mission area.

With few exceptions, development at politico-strategic level indicates improving security and humanitarian situation in Syria. After 16 months of its relocation to the Alpha side, UNDOF fact finding team reached Camp Faouar and the adjacent areas for the first time. Our ultimate objective remains redeployment into the AOS. Now, we are hoping to transform from re-configuration to redeployment phase with a plan ready – conditions permitting.

Finally, I am leaving the mission after completing the tour of duty on my country's call. Therefore, I take this opportunity to commend the relentless efforts made by the Contingents and UNDOF staff across all sections and branches for bearing the brunt in mission transition and supporting me to deliver my duties and responsibilities from your respective positions. I wish you all my best wishes and successful tour of duty. I would also like to thank all seven Troops Contributing Countries (TCCs), Syria and Israel, the UN Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support (DPKO & DFS), the UN Security Council and all the Member States of the United Nations for supporting UNDOF.

While writing history in UNDOF's glory, I rest assured that 'ONE TEAM' in UNDOF would stand ready to the challenges that UNDOF face for prospective redeployment.

May peace prevail in Golan!!!

Lieutenant-General Purna Chandra Thapa
Head of Mission & Force Commander UNDOF

DFC's Words

Dear Colleagues,

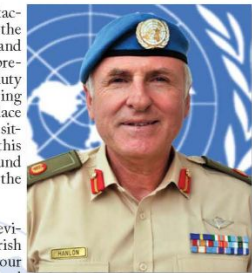
The operating environment continues to move through tactical and operational shifts which continue to make the situation on the ground for our personnel uncertain and extremely dangerous. I would like to express my deep appreciation for the professional and resolute dedication to duty demonstrated by all members of the UNDOF family during these challenging and volatile times. It is important to place your great efforts and contribution in context; you are sitting on one of the front lines in this long running war, this insurgency, this crisis. You are the only international ground troops who are deployed and bear witness first hand to the continuing carnage and humanitarian crisis.

We continue to prioritise force protection and this is evident by the vast improvements made at UNP-80 by the Irish Combat Engng team. The work to improve standards in our real life support, particularly, accommodation, catering and welfare will remain our support priorities in 2016. This will see a significant improvement at Mount Hermon, UNP-80 and also in Camp Ziouani. Your patience and trust is vital as is your understanding that we are not resource rich and have to make the very best of the limited capabilities both organic and contracted available to the Mission. I must pay tribute to our international and national staffs in Damascus, with their colleague's from the Nepali Contingent and our engineering assets (Fiji, Ireland) in Camp Ziouani for the outstanding work in the development of UNP-12A. This was a project that was large in scale, expeditionary in location and required innovative engineering and procurement solutions to bring it off the drawing board to full implementation and build on the ground.

The training year is coming to an end and we are highly impressed by the progress being made by all contingents, I know you will share with me your appreciation for the marvellous work being done by the Training Cell under the leadership of Major Roman Furst. Well done Roman. We had our usual round of high level visits in the period, most notably the Prime Minister of Ireland who was accompanied by the Junior Defence Minister and the Chief of the General Staff; we also welcomed Delegations from the USA (twice), Ireland (twice), UK, Netherlands and Norway. The Mission also marked the Medal Parade of India in December. We also said goodbye to colleagues and welcomed new ones. We bid a fond farewell to those who have left UNDOF and thanked them for their devotion to duty and their exemplary service on behalf of the Mission.

My deepest thanks to our Contingents, our Headquarters Staff, our International Staff and our National Staff members for your continuing steadfast commitment, motivation and determination in these very challenging circumstances. I pay special tribute to all our personnel, international. National and military who serve in Damascus which brings such uncertainty every day. Please stay safe UNDOF.

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



Brigadier-General Anthony Hanlon
Deputy Force Commander UNDOF

New Faces in UNDOF

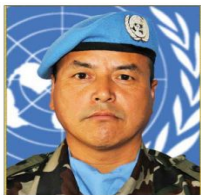


Anne Alphonso van der Bend was born on April 12, 1964 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. He started his military career in March 1986 as a conscript, was admitted to the Royal Military Academy in Breda and graduated in 1994. He is also an alumnus of the Technical University Delft, where he holds a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He finished his Staff College in 2007 and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (Lt Col) in February 2008.

Lt Col Van der Bend most recent positions were Programme Manager at The Defence Materiel Organisation, Chief of Staff and Branch Head of the Royal Netherlands Air Force Logistical Centre Woens-

drecht. Before that he had several positions commanding maintenance units within artillery, armoured infantry and airmobile infantry units. His experience is in programme management, international procurement, general management and military leadership. After completion of his tour he will most likely become Commander of the Defence CBRN Centre.

Lt Col Van der Bend is happily separated and has two daughters, Brighid and Laoise, aged 13 and 11, of whom he takes care in co-parenthood. He has a new partner, Annemarie, and a bonus son Felix, aged 8. He is actively involved in his local community in Breda where he has lived since his graduation from the Royal Military Academy.



LT. Colonel Indra Kumar Ranabhat is the Officer Commanding of the Nepalese Contingent – IV to UNDOF, Golan Heights. He joined the Nepalese Army in 1993 and was commissioned as an Infantry Officer from the prestigious Military Academy of Nepal. During his career, he has undergone various military trainings, to name some of them are Mountain Warfare (Basic & Advance), Surveillance (Basic and Advance) and Company Commander and Staff Course from Home Country Nepal and Law of Armed Conflict Course from Italy. Lt Col Ranabhat is an alumnus of the Army Command and Staff College, Shivapuri, Nepal, where was awarded a Masters of Strategic Studies Degree. Beside this, he has also holds a Masters in History Degree from Tribhuvan University, Nepal.

Lt Col Ranabhat has gathered a wide range of experience on staff works in various Units and Subunits of the Nepalese Army, most notably in Army Headquarters and Directorate of Peacekeeping, Nepal. As a field commander, he has gained combat experiences of a Platoon and Company in Counter Insurgency Operations against Maoists Insurgency in Nepal. Prior to his current appointment, Lt Col Ranabhat has successfully commanded Infantry Battalion in the outskirts of Capital city of Kathmandu, Nepal.

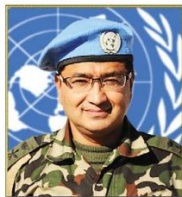
As regards to his peacekeeping experiences includes two Tour of Duty in Nepalese Contingent as a Pl Cdr and Logistics Officer in UNIFIL and MINUSTAH Mission respectively and one Tour of Duty in UNMISS Mission, as a UN Military Observer. He is happily married to Sabina and blessed with a son and a daughter.



LT Colonel (Lt Col) Daragh McKevitt is the Officer Commanding the 50th Infantry Group, IRCON for its deployment with UNDOF to the Golan Heights. Lt Col McKevitt joined the Defence Forces in 1987 as a member of the 64th Cadet Class. An Artillery Officer, he has held a wide range of appointments throughout the Defence Forces and overseas. Upon commissioning, he was posted to the 4th Field Artillery Regiment, Mullingar.

He has served as a Troop Commander, Battery Commander, Regimental Second in Command and Commanding Officer in the Artillery Corps, along with staff appointments at Regimental, Brigade and Defence Forces Headquarters. The units he has served in include the 4th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Air Defence Regiment, Defence Forces School of Physical Culture, 2nd Field Artillery Regiment, Conciliation & Arbitration Branch and Human Resources Branch, both in Defence Force Headquarters.

Lt Col McKevitt's multinational operational overseas experience includes two tours in Lebanon (UNIFIL), one tour in Kosovo as Company Commander with KFOR, two years as an observer with UNTSO on both the Golan Heights and in Lebanon and Battalion Staff officer in Chad with MINURCAT. Until recently he served as Officer Commanding the 1st Brigade Artillery Regiment in Collins Barracks, Cork, before taking command of the 50th Infantry Group. He 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 University of Limerick where he was awarded a teaching degree in English and Physical Education. A keen sportsman he enjoys coaching football and rugby at underage level and maintains fitness levels appropriate to an officer of the Artillery Corps. He is married to Bernie, and has four (4) children, Jack, Aoibhe, Cian, and Kate.



LT Colonel (Lt Col) Dr Narendra Prasad Banskota was deployed to UNDOF on 28 Oct 2015 as Force Medical Officer. Lt Col BANSKOTA is a graduate from Chittagong Medical College, Bangladesh in 2000, and was commissioned to Nepalese Army in 2002. He did Masters in General Surgery (MS) on 2007-10 from Tribhuvan University. He further accomplished Magister Chirurgie (MCh) in Neurosurgery in 2014.

Lt Col Banskota has served in the Nepalese army during counter insurgency, commanded Field ambulance Coy (5Fi A) and actively participated in military operations in various remote areas and attended Casevac. Besides technical trainings he has also completed Infantry based Coy Cdr & Staff Course. During recent devastating earthquake he actively took part in reviving the earthquake victims as Consultant Neurosurgeon in national and multinational medical hospitals and camps.

Lt Col Banskota has previous UN experience as a Senior Medical Officer in DRC (MONUC 2003/2004). His hobbies are singing and photography. He is 41 years old and happily married with two children.

Damascus News

On the wake of increasing trends of risks of mortars and rockets in the UNDOF temporary Headquarters in Sheraton Damascus, UNDOF international civilian and military gradually moved their accommodation out of Sheraton Hotel, to premises based in Yafour hotel and resort on the 1 Nov 2015. Yafour camp is considered a relatively safer location 22 km from Sheraton astride Damascus Beirut Highway on the way to Jedidiah border. By the first week of November all the international staffs were moved to Yafour camp; however the move of the Headquarters was completed only on 25 November 2015.

With the move of UNDOF out of Sheraton Hotel, the mission support secured the renting of the old German Embassy building in Mezzeh East of Damascus where it accommodates the national staff from various mission support sections ranging from Finance, Procurement, ICTS, Human Resources, Security and Acquisition & Contracts Management Unit. The new Mezzeh office is about 2.5km in distance from UNDOF ROD office.

In the absence of communication facilities, staff allocated offices in both the locations are sharing offices in ROD. The image below gives a first glance on the new 9 flag poles erected inside UNDOF HQ Yafour premises.



The new nine flag poles inside the UNDOF HQ YAFOUR premises with the entirely fenced compound

"PEACE FOR SYRIA"

Welcome to UNDOF & UNTSO end of the year gathering

To show appreciation and be good buddies

To be honest it was not an easy year

But hey, we have managed it with no fear

We may not cross paths while working hard

We may not talk to one another because you're so far

We may argue and challenge each other

But we always made up and love one another...
(of course as sisters and brothers)

Despite of the situation in our beloved Syria

It doesn't stop us to enjoy life, work and live merrier

We are confident that one day Syria will be peaceful
To live a normal life and be very thankful

Working alongside colleagues from many nationalities

Is always fun to know that we have all different mentalities?

We have learned different cultures and different traditions

All we find them here in both missions (ha ha ha ha)

We wish for peace and prosperity

To this lovely place from the almighty

We wish all people to come together as one

To experience this beautiful country's love and pride

Article & Poem by Gloria Jacinta Tine



ENHANCING FORCE PROTECTION IN UNDOF

On 02 September, twelve members of the Irish Defence Force Engineer Corps deployed to UNDOF, in order to carry out force protection works (protection of troops from hostile fire), primarily in UN Post 80 which is located in the Area Of Separation as laid out in the 1974 ceasefire agreement after the 1973 war.

UN Post 80 is an isolated Forward Operating Base (FOB) bordered on the North and the East by villages controlled by the Anti Government Armed Elements (AGAE). It is occupied by both Fijian and Irish Troops. The risk from spill over fire, small arms direct fire and indirect fire from conflicts in the locality had posed a direct threat to the occupants of UN Post 80.



Construction works carried out in Position 80

The tasks of the Engineers include the construction of over 1.4km of HESCO Wall protection, two new forty person bunker positions, four new observation/defensive positions, vehicle fighting positions and a field ammunition storage facility for the Post.

In addition to these tasks, the Engineers have carried out survivability tasks and contributed to the real life support of the Post. These works included the repair of damaged water mains from the Post's well to storage tanks, the repair of damaged electrical power lines, installation of a standalone generator to ensure an uninterrupted power supply to the COMCEN.



Vehicle Strong Point on the Northern Section of the Wall



The execution of the works required extensive logistical planning due to the nature of the controlled crossings by the IDF on selected dates only through the technical fence into Post 80. The Engineer tasks consumed over 4000m³ of material fill which had to be transported to the Post during arranged three hour openings of the technical fence, by the Fijian Heavy Plant Section. The planning of plant assets and other construction materials had to occur up to three weeks in advance of a task, to ensure no delays occurred with the project.

In addition to the routine challenges of an overseas deployment, the Engineer Team faced a two-three week rotation into the austere conditions of Post 80 followed a by a three to four day rotation back to Camp Ziouani for personal administration and rest. Long days in demanding conditions of heat and dust were the norm but morale of the group remained high even as the temperatures plummeted with the onset of the Golan Winter during the three month long deployment.

The end state of the Engineer's groups deployment is that the security of the Post is enhanced and UNDOF Troops now have a far more effective base from which to conduct their daily operations. It also proved again the expeditionary mindset of the Engineer Corps and the ability to deliver a complex project on time whilst operating in a particularly challenging environment. Whilst the Engineers return home, the Gunners, Troopers and Infantry of the 50th Infantry Group continue their presence on Post 80 in the volatile area of separation between Israel and Syria but in a much improved base.

Article by: Capt Paul O'Donoghue



Engineer Corps busy working on the HESCO Wall protection

BEFORE



AFTER





OBSERVATION TECHNOLOGY

ENHANCING UNDOF's SECURITY & SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

A little over a year ago the Expert Panel on Technology and Innovation in UN Peacekeeping produced a report on the employment of technology and innovative practices to help strengthen peacekeeping. The report described how the world is nearly halfway through the second decade of a technological revolution hastened by the global expansion of the Internet, and how Innovation and invention are accelerating in every sphere. It further outlined how technologies once the exclusive province of scientists and technologists have come into everyday use for many of the world's people.

The use of modern technology to help peacekeeping missions establish and maintain situational awareness, carry out their mandates, and protect themselves is neither aspirational nor luxury. The availability and effective use of such technology represents the essential foundation to help peacekeeping missions deploy to and manage complex crises that pose a threat to international peace and security. No mission can be expected to succeed in today's complex environments without an ability to innovate and make effective use of technology, and no advantage should be withheld from those working for the cause of peace. These tenets of modern peacekeeping were not lost on UNDOF, and in the past year and as we speak, UNDOF has begun the transition to a more technologically based mission. Much work is being performed to leverage the use of technology in UNDOF for mandate implementation and to enable the gain of greater efficiencies and increased force protection and operational effectiveness.

One example of this is the employment by UNDOF of Observation Technologies in the shape of the SAGEM JIM Long Range Thermal Imager (LRTI), and Pan Tilt Zoom (PTZ) CCTV systems. The SAGEM LRTI fits specifically into the category of Observation and Monitoring Technologies. It enables UNDOF to more effectively implement its Mission Mandate under UNSCR 350 through enhanced monitoring capability of the areas of separation and limitation, and the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces.



Troops observing from Watch Tower 4 in Camp Zituani*

Additionally it provides for increased force protection through improved situational awareness of what is going on in the mission space. Perimeter PTZ CCTV systems are also currently being installed in UNDOF positions to act as a technological enabler in the enhancement of camp and installation force protection levels. These systems can provide 24hr day and night observation of UNDOF positions and deliver an early warning system and increased situational awareness.



A Sagem Snapshot at the CZ back gate



Another example of where the wider deployment of technology and innovative practices to help strengthen peacekeeping is taking place is in MONUSCO, the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In December 2013, the UN began operating its own UN painted Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in the DRC, flying under contract out of Goma airport. Among other functions, the UAVs provide a fast and effective method of finding and surveying militants in the mission space, without putting troops at risk. They have proved immensely useful to MONUSCO in expanding the mission's situational awareness and represented a pioneering and successful step forward in making use of a powerful emerging technology. MONUSCO has also taken advantage of the benefits afforded by modern technologies through the employment of Artillery-locating Radars on the shoreline of Lake Kivu to monitor traffic and provide information, and the establishment of a Community Alert Network that employs mobile telephone technology to support early warning for local communities. The Radar systems have helped identify and stop smugglers stripping the DRC of its natural resources, whilst the Community Alert Network added to the safety and security of local communities.



Observation on Watch Tower 5"

MONUSCO is currently at the forefront in the employment of technology to help strengthen peacekeeping and illustrates just how successfully technology can be leveraged to provide powerful observation and monitoring capabilities in addition to functioning, under the right circumstances, as a commanding deterrent. MONUSCO serves as the perfect example of how the wider deployment of technology affords enhanced data gathering to improve safety and security and situational awareness in the mission space.



SELEX FALCO UAV being prepared for operations at Goma Airport in the DRC.



The SAGEM JIM and Remote Operating System (ROS)



However it must be argued that technology is not a panacea. Simply throwing technology at a problem will not help a peacekeeping mission fulfill its mandate. A field operation might have all the enabling technology in the world, yet still be ineffective or unwilling to use it. As Oscar Wilde subtly suggests in the following quote, in order for a tool to be effective it must be operated by someone professionally trained in it's use:

The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than the piano when played by a sister or near relation. -Oscar Wilde

The moment is now for peacekeeping to take greater advantage of the waves of technology and innovation washing over every dimension of life in societies the world over. Technology must be viewed as a strategic enabler in a complex environment, rather than simply a set of tools. It is too important to be treated as a service, rather than a strategic interest. More fundamentally, as technology is lifted into the category of strategic enabler, peacekeeping at all levels must become an innovative enterprise. As illustrated in the examples outlined in this article, at the very minimum, technology is an enabler for improved Security risk management through increased force protection. Technology can and will enhance the safety and security of UN personnel serving in difficult, remote, and dangerous environments. To those who might say Technology will supplant the need for human presence, I would argue it will not but rather it can enhance peacekeepers' abilities to do their jobs more effectively whilst improving safety and security. Ultimately, fuller deployment and use of modern technology and innovation can help preserve and sustain life in the field, reduce a mission's environmental footprint, and gain greater efficiencies over time.

Article and Images by: Comdt M.Murphyby (SSO Media & PR)

SAGEM REPORT

Article and Photo by: Capt D.O'Flynn (SO CIED)

In September 2015 four UNDOF HQ staff attended a training course on the SAGEM JIM Long Range Thermal Imager (LRTI) system at the SAFRAN SAGEM Offices in Massy, France. This purpose of the training was to identify the capabilities of the SAGEM JIM, evaluate maintenance and supply procedures and acquire the necessary training to perform end user and train the trainer courses in UNDOF. The course was extremely comprehensive and paved the way for the first SAGEM Operators course in UNDOF which took place in Camp Ziouani from 16 – 20 NOV 15 training sixteen persons from FIJIBATT and UNDOF HQ.

The SAGEM JIM Long Range Thermal Imager (LRTI) is an excellent handheld observation system. It is the best of its type in the market place and when correctly deployed provides an excellent tactical level monitoring and observation tool. The SAGEM can potentially be deployed on a permanent basis when set up correctly with Remote Operating System (ROS) and MAX360, The SAGEM JIM LRTI provides UNDOF with an excellent mobile or fixed position tactical level observation capability and will become the core of a larger UNDOF Monitoring and Observation Technology Toolbox which also incorporates operational level fixed position long range CCTV systems.

The SAGEM greatly enhances the UNDOF operational ability in terms of threat detection, observation and information gathering. It equips UNDOF with a magnified day/night, thermal imager and infra-red capability. This greatly improves operational observation capability in all types of weather.



Sgt Lavonia Naitoba getting hands on experience with SAGEM equipments at Mt.Bental.

**U/CPL Jonathon LEDUA – FIJI BATT**

"Using SAGEM equipment greatly enhances our observation and reporting capabilities. The equipment is able to detect movements and areas which previously may not have been detected with my eyes and older observation equipment. This equipment is especially useful at night time."

The selection of SAGEM was based on the JIM LR proven operational capability in severe combat environments, detection and identification performance, and a complete multimedia service designed to support a real-time situation awareness cycle. The hand-held and self-powered binoculars are used for military and security applications by several NATO forces' infantry, artillery, intelligence, forward observers, special-mission, border and coast guard units. Around 5,000 JIM LR binoculars have been delivered by the company to the armies worldwide, including 2,000 for French armed forces.

The SAGEM JIM feature a compact, user-friendly design, making the perfect solution for both military and security applications, including UNDOF units, forward observers, border patrols and more. Based on identical interfaces including batteries, connectors, accessories, the binoculars are interoperable with various systems and equipment, such as monitors and computers, processing units and military GPS receivers. Compact and ergonomic, the combat proven device incorporates a number of advanced features including day/night vision, range finding, laser pointer, North seeker, Global Positioning System (GPS) and data transmission in a single portable optonics package. The device can be remotely operated and has capability a capability for MPEG and JPEG images, image and video recording. Used in conjunction with different weapons, the JIM LR can be connected to tactical operations and targeting terminal. The features include image fusion between IR and visible channels, to penetrate camouflage during the day, along with all-weather vision through smoke and the ability to record images and videos through a USB port.

IMPORTANT!!

Have you read the new Monitoring & Observation Technology in UNDOF SOP?

The multifunction binoculars will provide UNDOF units with enhanced operational capabilities for conducting collaborative combat, threat detection, and information-gathering. This innovative and technologically advanced method of observation greatly enhances UNDOF ability to successfully carry out their missions. From its various manned positions, observation posts and through its various patrols the SAGEM enables UNDOF to carry out its mandate of supervising the implementation of the disengagement agreement as well as supervising the areas of separation and limitation.



The first Sagem Course candidates in Camp Ziouani with the UNDOF Mission Training Cell staff

MULTIFUNCTION BINOCULARS

JIM –LONG RANGE MULTIFUNCTION INFRARED BINOCULAR FAMILY

- > Handheld & self-powered
- > Observation and target location
- > Ergonomic interface
- > Record photos and videos on USB flash drive
- > Night/Day fusion modes
- > For military and security applications



	IR Channel	Colour Day Channel	Digital Magnetic Compass	GPS	Laser Range Finder	Laser Pointer
JIM LR VGA	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM LR HPD	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM LR	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM LOCATE	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM OBSERVE	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM UC	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM PROTECTOR	1	2	3	4	5	6
JIM SENTINEL	1	2	3	4	5	6



SAGEM JIM LRTI Main Characteristics:

- a. Detection of large armored vehicles out to 10km
- b. Detection of a person out to 7km
- c. Day and night camera (IR and Thermal)
- d. Ability to capture images.
- e. Can be handheld, tripod/ROS/vehicle mounted





Mission Essential Training in the Austrian Alps

The United Nations positions in Mount Hermon are the world's highest peacekeeping deployment. During winters, Mount Hermon presents formidable snow-bed of up to 10 meters effectively isolating the UN positions on the ridgeline – Hermon Hotel, Hermon Base and Hermon South – from each other and from the temporary re-supply base – UN Position 12/12A. The UN Position 12/12A holds the stocks of fuel, ration and water for the winter months and serves as the re-supply base. The road leading to the ridgeline positions becomes inaccessible for the wheeled vehicles at the start of the snowfall. On top of the snow, the extreme weather conditions affects the communication and contact, hence isolates one position with the other. Therefore, conducting operations and supporting it logistically becomes a Herculean task. The altitude and extreme weather conditions also affect emergency medical evacuation. In order to mitigate the reality, UNDOF has deployed snow clearing vehicles in Mount Hermon. For this reason, it is imperative that the troops deployed in Mount Hermon are trained in operating snow vehicles.

As part of the pre-induction training for the advance party of the NEPCON-IV rotation, six contingent members led by Major Upendra Pudasaini attended alpine training in Austria. From 26 October to 9 November 2015, three drivers were trained in Piston Bulley and Ski doo, while two contingent members attended Ski training conducted in the famous Kaunertal Glacier in Austria at an altitude of 3160 meters. The training was imparted by the qualified instructors on the same snow vehicles employed at the Mount Hermon complex.

The two weeks long training in the Austrian Alps has offered the Nepalese contingent deployed at Mount Hermon a critical capability that would enable the force to sustain itself organically for operations, logistics support and medical evacuation. The knowledge acquired by the contingent members can be further passed on to the other contingent members at Mount Hermon during the winter months as on-the-job training. Whatever the training will enable NEPCON-IV in its operation through the winters for better mandate implementation.

Article by: Major Sujit KC



Hope for the best, prepare for the worst



Ski doo training in Kaunertal Glacier, Austria

Arrival of NEPCON IV Final

On 5 November 2015, the handover takeover of command between the outgoing CO Lt Col Ishwor Thapa and the incoming CO Lt Col Indra Kumar Ranabhat took place at the UNDOF temporary Headquarters, Yafour Camp in the presence of HOM/FC Lt Gen Purna Chandra Thapa. A 25 men advance party of the NEPCON IV inducted at the UNIFIL HQ in Naqoura on 09 October who then underwent a month-long training for the specialists on mission essential tasks. Six of them also underwent alpine training and driving training for piston bulley for the first time in UNDOF. Meanwhile the main body of the NEPCON IV arrived in the mission area in three different chalks on 2, 10 and 21 November 2015. The Nepalese contingent is a 149 strong force, of which 135 are deployed at five different positions in Mount Hermon complex, nine-membered close protection unit of the Head of Mission and Force Commander at Camp Yafour and five-membered liaison cell in UNDOF operational base at Camp Ziouani. The contingent had undergone three months long pre-deployment training prior to the deployment in the UNDOF mission area.



Change of Command-the Outgoing and Incoming CO's

Article by: Capt Santosh Shrestha

SHERPAS IN MOUNT HERMON

Four Sherpas are deployed in Mount Hermon as Mountain rescue guides. 'The Sherpa' are the world famous mountaineering tribe from the Himalayan region of Nepal renowned as the elite high altitude mountaineers enabled by their genetic ability to acclimatize in the high altitude and harsh climatic conditions. Earlier the tribe was mostly valued as porters and local guides to the mountaineers summiting mountains and for the early exploration of mountains in Nepal. However, they have now established themselves as professional mountaineers with many records in their names in mountaineering.

Given the strategic importance of the Mount Hermon complex, the harsh climatic conditions during winter, and possible health hazards due to altitude and inclement weather, assessing that Mount Hermon for its isolated nature should be self-sustained in all terms, it was realized that the expertise service is required under life threatening conditions. It is obvious that under snow and wind conditions and in circumstances of mechanical failure, the only option for life-saving requires expert mountain guides' service for critical life-saving tasks. Therefore, UNDOF decided to employ four mountaineering experts.

These four rescue guides are based in four positions in Mount Hermon and have particular duties and responsibilities to stand ready for rescue or evacuate the UNDOF troops from Mount Hermon under emergency conditions, assist in navigation under snow and wind conditions, transferring the specialist technicians for the maintenance of vehicles broken-down, providing first hand medical attention and transfer the sick to the nearest medical facility and assisting to facilitate logistics supply and transferring troops in times of mechanical failure from one position to another by using snow vehicles or manually.

The Sherpas deployed in Mount Hermon are internationally certified mountain rescue guides. They augment the mountaineering capability of NEPCON-IV and offers confidence to troops deployed therein, particularly because Hermon complex itself now has the capability to deal with risks of altitude and inclement weather conditions organically. Apart from that these rescue guides have summited the Mount Everest and mountains across the globe on multiple occasions and have experienced much worse climatic conditions many times. Most notably, one of the rescue guide Mr. Pemba Gyalje Sherpa have also earned the recognition for his expertise as a "Best Adventurer of the Year 2008" by National Geographic channel, "Everest National Award 2009" and "David A. Sowles Memorial Awards" by American Alpine Club. The rescue guides are now the critical capability of UNDOF whose experience and skills ensures safety and well-being of the troops and operational optimization of the UN positions in Mount Hermon. In addition, NEPCON-IV will definitively benefit from their expertise also by further reinforcing their mountain warfare skills and secondly by receiving their expert assistance during any untoward situation. Augmentation of the Mount Hermon complex by the expert mountain rescue guides was a much welcomed initiative.



Halfway through the journey



First step to the top, plenty more to go.



*Mr Pemba Gyalje
Sherpa
Team Leader*



*Mr Pasanga Kaji
Sherpa*



*Mr Dawaphrinjo Lama
Bhoté*



Mr Suman Gurung

Article by: Upendra Pudasaini

Fiji Day Celebrated by Troops and Local Community

FIJIBATT



On 10th October 2015, Fiji celebrated its 45th year of statehood. It became a British colony in 1874 and after 96 years of colonial rule, Fiji transitioned in 1970 to political independence. Fiji's independence, or Fiji Day, as it is keenly called is celebrated by Fijians both at home and abroad. As for Fiji Relief In Place of 288 military and medical personnel, and 12 UNDOF Headquarter Staff Officers, commencing on August 2015, while they have in mind a UN mandate to fulfil on this mission, they took time-off as permeated by the present situation of the Syrian conflict to celebrate their national day in the presence of UN colleagues and local community guests. For many Fijians around the world it is a time to reflect on their country's progress into a modern Fiji, rekindled their sense of country's pride and patriotism. Nevertheless, pertinent still to Fiji peacekeepers on this occasion to reflect upon themselves their loyalty, dedication and commitment to implement UNDOF mission to seal their country's pride.

Among Fiji soldiers serving in UN peacekeeping missions, Fiji Day was anticipated by troops in UNDOF with excitement and commemorated with the Battalion parade in Camp Zouani in which the event began with the Battalion Padre's delivery of a prayer of blessing for the Contingent and the Day's program. The reviewing officer, Chief of Staff COLONEL (COL) J.K. LOGAVATU who was the Chief Guest, in the absence of the Force Commander, delivered an auspicious speech on the occasion to congratulate the troops on the event and guidance on the mission tasks in that he addressed them that while they celebrated the event, they must be mindful of the importance of their role as peacekeepers and responsibilities to be fulfilled, their relevance in the mission, Code of conduct for the Blue Helmet, professional service which is the Centre of Gravity and ensure Force safety and protection while they carry UN mission tasks and for everyone not to forget their comrades in other units of First Infantry Regiment serving on UN peacekeeping missions in Iraq and Lebanon.

The event also featured the cutting of the Fiji Day Cake by the Chief Guest and the youngest soldier in the Battalion signifying the beginning of feasting, cultural performances followed by feasts, kava ceremony with outpouring of Fijian music, folk dance or taralala, reciprocal fooling between traditional rivalries or 'veitauvutaki', laughter and general sense of good will around the kava bowl.

Among those who celebrated the event during this tour with UNDOF, it was the first time the civilian doctors and nurses to celebrate it with honour away from their families and homes as shared by the Senior Medical Officer Major Mara Vukivukiseru, "As we celebrate, let us not forget our comrades who are still admitted in the hospital and those of our families and friends back at home who may be in their darkest hour. To those who are in the outposts (UNP80, UNP22, OP73 and OP54), we will never forget you in our prayers" he added.



Cutting of the Fiji Day Cake signifies the beginning of feasting and folk dancing



Chief of Staff UNDOF Col JK Logavatu reviews Parade



Article by: Major ST Qalita

Photo by: Sgt B Taoi

Fijian Cultural dance ("meke") performed by Fiji Batt troops



FAREWELL TO A VALUED COLLEAGUE: Ms. HANNA DESTA

"When a person retires and time is no longer a matter of urgent importance, his colleagues generally present him with a watch. "

R.C. Sherriff

Ms. Hanna Desta, assistant to UNDOF F.C, has been retired at the end of 2015. Hanna has been serving UNDOF for 15 years and 27 years in total for the UN. Before leaving and taking her humble smile away from us, we asked Hanna to answer few questions.

Which places around the world have you been visiting as a UN staff member?

Cambodia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Angola and the Middle east

Home leave is taken

Ethiopia

The best joke you have ever heard

I am not a very good joke teller, so I can't remember even one good joke

A person you wish to have coffee with

You, Neta

If you were an animal, which animal would you like to be?

A rabbit

3 things you would have taken to an isolated island

1. *Injera – traditional Ethiopian food*
2. *A blanket*
3. *I-phone*

That's it, the rest I don't care and water I will find around

Your first childhood memory

I grew up in the Eastern part of Ethiopia. And every year when school closes for two and half months, between June to August, I would travel with my mother and siblings to our grandparents house which is in a town called Adama, 500 km away.

We would play with cousins, aunts, uncles from morning till it gets dark, by making houses with sand, jump over twirling ropes, would go to collect corn from the farm, playing hide and seek. That was my childhood memory, which I was looking forward every year.

*Article by: Neta Norman Sivad
Photo: Supplied*



Ms Hanna Desta served in the UN for 27 years



**Your favorite Album and favorite movie**

Favorite Album: *Bryan Adams – Everything I do I do it for you*

Favorite film: *'The great escape' and 'Finding Bryan'*

The first thing you look at when you are looking at a person

When I look at a person for the first time I see a human being created by God, the rest is coming later on.

A person who had the strongest impact on you

My Father

Your wasted talent

I don't feel any of my skill is wasted. I like painting so I am painting, but I am not considering myself Michael Angelo.

When was the last time you have been crying?

In my Farwell dinner

Hanna, with her modesty, integrity, pure intentions and endless kindness. Looking very careful you might have seen the halo above her head. Hanna is one of a kind; we sure will be missing her and wishing her the best of luck.



Ms. Hanna Desta with the Force Commander Lt Gen Parna Chandra Thapa and Deputy-Force Commander Brig Gen Tony Hanlon

FORCE MILITARY POLICE

As with most Military Police (MP) Units, the UNDOF MP Detachment in Camp Ziouani functions with both a Provost and an Investigation section, here we gain a personal insight into the lives of UNDOF MPs from each section.

In 1982, a young Fijian man, Toni Lavekau joined the Fijian Territorial Force and completed tours of duty in SINAI and UNIFIL. It was after five years he made a massive career change moving from the Military to spending the next 28 years within the Fijian Police Force, serving the majority of his time in the Criminal Investigation Department. From fighting crime in the urban areas of Suva and Labasa in Fiji to the mountainous terrain of the Golan Heights, WO I Toni Lavekau has embraced his new direction in life with great enthusiasm. The challenges of complex investigations in Fiji seem so distant a memory to the new challenges of working in a multinational Military Police Force. The language barrier at first catches him by surprise, yet one month later he begins to use his expertise in reading body language which allows him to understand other nationalities better. Within the diverse MP A Det, whether you are from Bhutan, Ireland or India, people have different cultures and beliefs, Toni now seems accustomed to this. To work effectively and efficiently in any organisation, whether Military or civilian Toni believes the fundamentals of any effective police force is trust and respect.



Toni in his investigative role

On many occasions the Provost MP is the face of Military organisations, whether it be through National ceremonies in their best uniform or on the road in their hi-visibility jacket controlling traffic, Sgt Ramesh G is one of these faces. A native of Bangalore, South India, Ramesh began his Military career in 1997 at the age 20 following the MP path immediately. On this, his first tour of duty with the UN, following a tough selection procedure, Ramesh was one of only seven successful applicants to be recommended to serve in UNDOF on this specific tour with INDCON from 500 candidates. Ramesh feels that while the Provost elements in UNDOF remain similar to those at home, the life experience he is learning within a multinational detachment adds a new dimension to his skill set. Working in this type of environment will always bring certain challenges, including differences in personalities, language barriers, different beliefs etc. Ramesh being a devout Hindu, found these differences challenging initially, yet four months on he no longer finds this an issue and is learning a lot about other cultures and work practices, something he believes is one of the major advantages of serving overseas with the UN.



Ramesh ready for Provost duties

Article and Photo by: Sgt Alan Sherlock, WO I Toni Lavekau, Sgt Ramesh G

FORCE MEDICAL

Chilblains (ng1) are Small, itchy swellings on the skin that occur as a reaction to cold. They most often affect the body's extremities, such as the toes, fingers, heels, ears and nose. Chilblains usually develop several hours after exposure to the cold. They typically cause burning and itching sensation. In severe cases, the surface of the skin may break and sores or blisters can develop. It's important not to scratch the skin as it can break easily and become infected.

When to seek medical advice

- swelling and pus forming in the affected area
- feeling generally unwell

- a high temperature (fever) of 38C (100.4F) or above
- swollen glands



Prevention

- wear warm clothes and insulate your hands, feet and legs
- stop smoking
- keep active
- avoid tight shoes and boots
- moisturise your feet regularly

- eat at least one hot meal during the day
- warm your shoes on the radiator before you put them on
- warm your hands before going outdoors
- keep your house well heated

Short Introduction to 9 liner/ Triage/ BMIST

9 liner (Fig 2) :

Short Introduction to 9 liner/ Triage/ BMIST

9 liner (Fig 2) :

form to be filled regarding Location of incident, call sign of signal, no of patients in red, yellow green black group, security status of location, marking for helipad, status of patient(UN/NonUN,Civ/Mil) and contamination with chemicals

Triage (fig 3):

P1: Red: serious needing treatment within 1 hour
P2: Yellow: not walking but stable vitals 2- hours
P3: Green: walking
P4: Black: Dead or hopeless (least in priority)

BMIST (Fig 4):

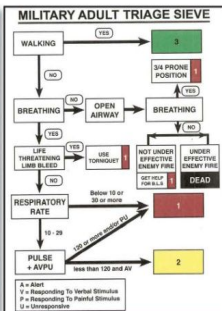
form to be filled regarding name, ID, site

BMIST (Fig 4):

form to be filled regarding name, ID, sites of injury, blood pressure, pulse and fluids and medicines given

Article by: Lt Col Dr. Narendra Banskota (FMO)

ID#	ITEM	FOCUS
1	Exact Location (ETM)	
2	Radio Frequency / Cell Site	
3	No. of Patients by Priority	A. P1 (Blue - Red) B. P2 (2 Hour - Yellow) C. P3 (4 Hour - Green) D. Dead (Black)
4	Special Equipment Required	
5	Number of Patients by Type	A. Number of Stranded Cases B. Number of Wading Cases
6	Security at Pick up Point	N. NO Entry P. Possible Entry / approach E. Confirmed Entry / approach X. Exposed by Entry / approach
7	Markings at Pick up Point	
8	Patient Status	A. US Military B. US Civilian C. MSN - US Military D. MSN - US Civilian
9	SRC Contamination	N. Nuclear B. Biological C. Chemical



TWC CATEGORY: _____ **BATTLE ROSTER #:** _____

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARD (TCCC) CARD

NAME (Last, First): _____ LAST 4: _____

DATE (DD-MM-YY): _____ TIME: _____

UNIT: _____ ALLERGIES: _____

Mechanisms of Injury: (X all that apply)

☐ Arterial ☐ Burn ☐ Fall ☐ Grenade ☐ GSW ☐ IED

☐ Landmine ☐ MVC ☐ RPG ☐ Other _____

Injury: (Check spaces with an X)

TQ: R Arm


TYPE _____

TIME _____

TQ: L Arm

TYPE _____

TIME _____




TQ: R Leg

TYPE _____

TIME _____

TQ: L Leg

TYPE _____

TIME _____

Signs & Symptoms: (X all that apply)

Signs & Symptoms	Time
Pulse Rate & Location	
Blood Pressure	

OPERATION 'MOONRAKER'

The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was established by the United Nations on 31 May 1974, to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 338 that called for an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Syria resulting from the 1973 War. Following years of relative peace in the Area of Separation (AOS) the mission changed dramatically in 2013 due to the deteriorating security situation in Syria. The 50th Infantry Group are tasked with providing the Force Reserve Company (FRC) consisting of a variety of specialist capabilities, from an armoured quick reaction force to engineer specialist search clearance in what has become a dynamic and volatile mission.

The 50th Inf Gp after a few short weeks in theatre, were tasked by the Joint Operation Centre (JOC) UNDOF to carry out an area clearance operation on Mount Hermon. The unit then assembled a force package of twenty four personnel to carry out the mission. This grouping consisted of an Engineer Specialist Search and Clearance (ESSC) Team, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team, a Cavalry Armoured Recce Section, Tactical Emergency Medical Operators (TEMOs), a Heavy Vehicle Mechanic (HVM) and a Communications Technician. The Mount Hermon Complex is the highest mountain range within the area and is undoubtedly key terrain to the mission. The mountain dominates and overwatches the Chebaa Farms to the northeast, Syria to the southeast, Israel to the southwest and Lebanon to the north. The tasking for the FRC was to clear areas on the mountain range of mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and explosive remnants of war (ERW), to enable the Nepalese Contingent safe areas within which to train and operate.

The mission for the FRC was to conduct a six (6) day clearance operation, which would include travelling over 700km, passing through three (3) countries and operating at an altitude in excess of 2300m, nearly two and a half times the highest point in Ireland. In order to achieve mission objectives a significant amount of preparation was conducted. A full staff estimate was conducted by OC FRC to ensure that all eventualities were planned and catered for. This meticulous planning process ensured all operational and mission support requirements were met to the highest standards. The FRC DCO co-ordinated a comprehensive programme of mission work up training for all elements to ensure operational cohesiveness and the implementation of risk mitigation to ensure the safety of personnel while carrying out the task.



ESSC Searcher clears area using Vallon VM-HSCS Metal Detector



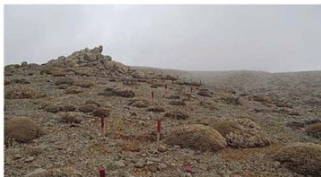
ESSC Searcher conducts area clearance

On D-Day the armoured convoy formed up in Camp Ziounai fully prepared for the operation. The force package would travel nearly 350 kms over the next 36 hours crossing from the Occupied Golan Heights through Israel and Lebanon and onto Mount Hermon in Syria, where they would overnight with their Nepalese colleagues in UN Post 12 prior to commencing the area clearance operation. The morning of D+3 the convoy departed on the final ascent from their staging area at an altitude of 1700m to the clearance area in excess of 2300m, where they would operate for the next 48 hours. The tight mountain roads with sheer drops were navigated and traversed by the highly skilled drivers of a FRC's heavily armoured vehicles including CRV and Ambulance variant Mowag and ESSC and EOD variant HX-60 armoured trucks.

At the clearance area, the operational and technical command elements of the force package deployed their respective groupings. The security and protection was provided by the Cavalry from any armed elements in the area, TEMOs and EOD were on call for tasking as required and an operational command link to HQ in Camp Ziounai was established, now only 28kms to the south. With these contingencies in place, the ESSC Team were in a position to commence the area clearance phase of the operation.

The ESSC Team deployed a number of Area Clearance Teams drawing from the array of equipment and capabilities at their disposal; including Vallon VMH3CS metal detectors and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). This modern detection equipment represents just some of the capabilities employed by the ESSC Team to locate and remove mines, UXO or ERW from the area in order to create a safe environment to allow follow on troops operate.

The ESSC equipment forms a key part of the capability of the Team, but it is the training and personal experience of each searcher that must be called upon to carry out this dangerous task. In order for a searcher to qualify as an ESSC Team member, they must undergo a physically and mentally demanding course conducted in the School of Military Engineering (SME) in Ireland. After qualification they are required to carry out re-currency training during multiple exercises and operations each year to ensure skills are maintained at the highest standards.



Safe lanes marks

The ESSC Team conducted a vigorous and intensive 48 hour area clearance in a hostile environment under combined risk from strenuous atmospheric conditions and the explosive remnants that they were clearing from the area. As the altitude was in excess of 2300m, TEMOs constantly monitored ESSC Team member's vitals with heart rate monitors (HRMs) and blood oxygen saturation monitors (SPO2) to enable searchers to work at their threshold but not beyond for a task that requires high levels of concentration and attention to detail.

On successful completion of the task the ESSC Team handed over the cleared and marked areas on Mount Hermon Complex to their Nepalese colleagues before forming up and preparing for the arduous return journey.

On D+5 the armoured convoy again descended the demanding terrain of Mount Hermon and completed the 350km patrol through three countries to their base in Camp Ziouani, taking the 'long way home'. As the convoy approached their base they met with the quick reaction force returning from a routine patrol and a large armoured convoy rolled into Camp Ziouani as night fell on the Golan Heights. Once the greetings from their colleagues in the FRC were complete, the team were re-introduced to fresh Irish rations after and then re-administered as required for future operations and to reconstitute the FRC. It was a job well done by all members of the force package and a unique military experience on the highest search operation carried out by the Irish Defence Forces..... so far.



FRC troops completion of task group photo

Article by: Capt Paul Finnegan
Photos by: Sgt Aidan Mullins & Cpl Graham Lee



OBSERVER GROUP GOLAN

"A Chiefs Perspective"

Arriving in May 2015, the first seven months of my time as Chief OGG-T has been a very rewarding opportunity and experience, for many reasons. Firstly, the opportunity to lead the outstation of approximately 50 professional military officers, who deploy with a broad and varied background, culturally, professionally, experience and service (Army, Navy, Air Force), and expectations, is an absolute privilege and honor. Many bring with them a lot of previous UN and other mission experiences; for others,

UNTSO is their first overseas mission. So, for me—as I am sure it is the same for all UNTSO Officers, it is an opportunity to learn about other troop contributing nation's militaries and perspectives, and more broadly, learn about their home countries, cultures and traditions, including those culinary ones experienced on the Observation Posts.



Secondly and just as importantly, it is an opportunity to endeavor to understand and explore first hand, more about the fascinating, yet sadly, conflicted region that we, as unarmed United Nations Military Observers (UNMOs), find ourselves deployed to. OGG UNMOs are required to observe report, inspect and patrol, in accordance with the OGG mission. They report on, and in some cases are required to rapidly react to incidents and activities they observe or are directly impacted by, from a firsthand perspective. UNMOs are therefore required to undertake a significant amount of training; personal study and hands-on scenario training conducted by their teams in order to complete their Chief Challenge 2 (CC2) assessment and become a safe and effective OP senior. I observed the results of this individual and team effort daily, across the broad range of OGG activities and reporting and am very proud of their collective and individual efforts.

I must also take this opportunity to recognize the ongoing continued quality support from our OGG Civilian UNTSO colleagues across all functional areas in such a timely and professional manner. Additionally, the provision of support by UNDOF to OGG including Induction training (first aid and mine awareness), provision of security detachments to OP 54 and 73 and emergency evacuation drills and procedures is also recognized and invaluable. Specifically, the reassurance this brings to OGG UNMOs enable them to focus on maintaining a good level of situational awareness in order to achieve their mission in a safe and effective way.

UNDOF SPORTS COMPETITION

"Good players inspire themselves; great players inspire others"

The UNDOF 2nd Half Sports Competition was held in Camp Ziouani (A Side) over a four days period from 27th of October 2015 to the 30th of October 2015. Due to the operational relocation of the NEPCON troops from Camp Ziouani to the Mt Hermon, this was to be the last Welfare Sports Competition for the Nepalese Contingent to participate in, hence, it was one that was well regarded by all contingent personnel as our farewell activity for them. Sports for the event were Football, Volleyball and Basketball, with minor games of Sack Race and Tug of War. There was also a banner competition for the fourth day event.

INDCON came out strong as they provided first class competition in all three finals for the main sports of Football, Volleyball and Basketball. They were eventually the runners up for all three sports and were also winners of the banner competition.

The week saw to many hidden sports talents being showcased, some very professional, others, more entertaining to watch. Overall, it was a much needed break for the peacekeepers from the fast paced working environment of UNDOF.

Article By: Maj Jayaram Thapa (SOPR) Photo By: Sgt Ben Taoi



INDCON winners of the banner competition



Lankya Fijian goalkeeper Tevita Seru dives to stop a goal



Power Spikes witnessed during the Final Match



*Action in the Basketball Final
IRECON vs INDCON*



HERMON HOTEL DURING WINTER

