

# BLUE BERET

## HAIL HUNGARY

## MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION



### Summer 2015

By Major Robert Szakszon

On 1 July 2015 at 05:00 am, despite the heat of summer and the very early start time, members of the seven UNFICYP teams began their brave battle for a win in one of UNFICYP's most historical and beloved sporting events – the legendary Military Skills Competition.

Each sector was represented by two teams (A and B), with a team from the Mobile Force Reserve (MFR) from UNFICYP HQ rounding out the list of contenders. Each team consisted of eight participants – and each team included one female. With the baking heat of this 2015 summer taking its toll, the MSC rounds were reduced to a six. All teams started with the endurance run. Each team had to carry 96 kg total and finish within 60 minutes. They then moved to rotation between the Command Task, Driving skills, Marksmanship and Incident & Reaction.

In the afternoon the Force Commander awarded the winners of the MSC-summer 2015. The Sector 4 B team of the Hungarian Contingent, with a score 510 points, was the absolute winner. In second place, Sector 2 A team of the Black Watch 3rd battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland with a score of 470 points. Taking out the bronze medal was the Sector 4 A team of the Slovak Contingent with a score of 450 points.

Every team member deserves recognition for their hard preparation, their team spirit and their tenacity, which shone through during the competition. Also many thanks for all from Military Training Cell who organised this fantastic and thrilling event. We are all looking forward the next MSC!

#### The Command Task

A simulation of the investigation of a possible mine-strike incident in the area of the UN Flight Hangar with the task to evacuate two casualties.

#### Driving Skills

Tests the teams' driving skills in the reverse, as well as the skilled cross-country driving challenge.

#### Marksmanship

A shooting competition, where all team used their national weapon and shoot 5 rounds in 4 different positions at varying distances.

#### Incident & Reaction

A simulation of a car crash incident inside the Buffer Zone, where the teams should solve the incident in accordance the Standard Operating Procedures and as quickly as possible.

#### And finally... Swimming

A much needed cool-down after the hot day.



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