

Canada currently contributes to seven UN peacekeeping missions. The UN Disengagement Force (UNDOF) was established in 1974 to monitor and supervise the cease-fire between Israel and Syria after the 1973 Middle East War. Two hundred and twenty-seven Canadians, of a total force of approximately 1300, provide logistics, communications and other technical services. The UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) is a permanent mission created in 1948 to monitor and maintain the cease-fire ordered by the Security Council and to supervise the General Armistice Agreements between Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Israel. The force of approximately 295 includes twenty Canadians. Canada also participates in the UN Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), established in 1964 following the outbreak of hostilities between Greek- and Turkish-Cypriots. The 575 Canadians out of approximately 2100 participants are responsible for policing the cease-fire and resolving disputes between the opposing factions in a sector containing the capital, Nicosia. The UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) was established in 1949 to supervise the India-Pakistan cease-fire in the Jammu-Kashmir area. Canada provides Hercules aircraft for moving the UN area headquarters biannually between Srinagar in India and Rawalpindi in Pakistan.

In 1988-1989, Canada agreed to participate in the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP). This operation was set up in May 1988 to monitor the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, and to oversee the voluntary repatriation of refugees. Ten countries participate in UNGOMAP, each initially providing five military officers. One Canadian was stationed at Islamabad and four in Kabul with UNGOMAP's two Observation Teams. As of 1 May 1989, the number of Canadian military officers was reduced to three, two in Islamabad and one in Kabul. In January and February 1989 Canada began its participation in the Mine Awareness and Clearance Training Plan (MACTP), a comprehensive humanitarian relief assistance programme for Afghanistan under the auspices of the UN. Canada provides a team of fourteen military persons, one in Islamabad and thirteen in Peshawar to train Afghan refugees in mine-clearing techniques. The plan does not fall under the present definition of peacekeeping but is regarded as "peacebuilding" (for more information see Southern Asia, Chapter 25 of *The Guide*.)

On 9 August 1988, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark and the then Defence Minister Perrin Beatty announced that Canada had agreed to participate in the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG). This operation was established by the UN Security Council, providing a force of 350 unarmed military observers from twenty-four countries to monitor the cease-fire implemented on 20 August 1988. Canada contributed a total of 525 persons to set up a fully self-sustaining communications network for all of UNIIMOG's communications needs along the 1200-km Iran-Iraq border, as well as fifteen observer troops who remain as part of the UN force. The soldiers arrived in Baghdad on 16 August 1988, followed by the members of the communications team. The latter returned to Canada between November and mid-December 1988.<sup>3</sup>

In February 1989, the UN Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) was created by the UN Security Council to monitor Namibian peace plan agreements signed on 22 December 1988. Canada provides 237 soldiers as part of a peacekeeping force of 4650 personnel.

<sup>3</sup> Government of Canada, *News Release* No. 171 (9 August 1988); Department of National Defence, *News Release* No. AFN: 89/88; "Canadian Team Arrives in Iraq to Observe Truce." *Toronto Star*, 16 August 1988, p. A12; and Paul Koring, "UN Signallers Return Home Via Moscow." *Globe and Mail*, 5 October 1988, p. A8.