

category of peacebuilding. This type of enterprise then, provides a useful focal point around which to examine the interrelationship between peacemaking and peacebuilding.

#### 4.2 The Potential Role of Peacekeeping Forces in a Humanitarian Ceasefire

Introduce the idea of a role for peacekeeping forces in a humanitarian ceasefire to most hardened peacekeeping veterans and it will be met with polite skepticism. Yet the grounds for such a role are found in the *raison d'etre* ascribed to peacekeeping forces by some analysts. For example, Heiberg and Holst advise that peacekeeping operations are designed, not only to prevent conflicts from escalating to the level of major threats to international peace and security, but they are also intended to prevent such conflicts from resulting in intolerable human suffering.<sup>97</sup> Wiseman interprets the broad function of peacekeeping forces to be that of supporting a relief effort of a higher order: "Relief from violence, war and the threat of death is the gift of peace, however transitory, that a ceasefire bestows on belligerents and non-combatants alike." The Blue Berets, he says, are an affirmation that a ceasefire will hold.<sup>98</sup>

Those analysts who have suggested a broader scope for, and more varied use of, peacekeeping forces, have broached, if cautiously, a possible role for these forces in the delivery of humanitarian aid. Rikhye conjectures that there is a position for peacekeeping forces in providing security assistance to humanitarian aid but not without problems. Unlike other analysts, however, he points out that these problems would be no more insurmountable than those encountered in normal operations.<sup>99</sup>

There are two questions that need to be answered before we proceed. Why involve peacekeeping forces in a humanitarian ceasefire? Should they be involved, what role can peacekeeping forces play in the operation?

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<sup>97</sup> Marianne Heiberg and Johan J. Holst, "Keeping Peace in Lebanon: Assessing International and Multinational Peacekeeping," *NUPI Notat*, No. 357, June 1986, p.3.

<sup>98</sup> Wiseman, *supra* note 27, p. 17.

<sup>99</sup> Rikhye, *supra* note 96, p.91.