

contingent of 515 officers and troops. The role of UNFICYP is to supervise cease fire agreements between Greek Cypriot forces, and Turkish Cypriot forces and their Turkish allies.

(d) The Multinational Force and Observers (MFO)

The MFO was established in 1981 to monitor security provisions of the 1979 Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty. In response to requests from Egypt and Israel, Canada agreed in April 1985 to participate in the MFO, replacing the Australian contingent which was scheduled to withdraw in 1986. On June 28, 1985, Mr. Clark signed a formal agreement with the MFO under the terms of which Canada agreed to provide up to nine helicopters and 140 personnel to form a Rotary Wing Aviation Unit (RWAU) and to fill certain headquarters staff positions. The Canadian contingent was deployed in March and assumed its operational responsibilities on March 31, 1986. The contingent, consisting of seven staff officers and the RWAU of 129 men and women, with nine CH-135 (Twin Huey) helicopters, is located with the Force Headquarters at El Gorah, in the northern Sinai (Zone C, section 1 of the attached map). The RWAU provides helicopter support to the MFO, including observation and verification, command and control, logistic support, search and rescue, medical evacuation, and air traffic control. Other countries providing troops to the MFO are Colombia, Fiji, France, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay.

The Canadian Contingent Commander is Colonel L.W. Cuppens. He holds the position of Chief of Liaison Staff, responsible for the coordination of liaison with Egyptian and Israeli representatives. The RWAU, which will do a six month tour of duty, is composed largely of personnel from 408 Squadron based in Edmonton, and is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel A. Cooper.

The MFO operates under the overall direction of a civilian Director-General, Mr. Peter D. Constable. His headquarters is in Rome. The Force Commander, based in El Gorah, is Lieutenant General Egil J. Ingebrigtsen, of Norway.

Canada's active role in peacekeeping in the Middle East reflects our commitment to peace and stability in the region. The Canadian decision to participate in the MFO, at the request of Egypt and Israel, reaffirms that commitment.