

campaign for Lebanese children. In this effort, UNIFIL worked with agencies such as UNICEF, ICRC, and the Coordinator of UN Assistance for the Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon.

#### *United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)*

Deployed as a buffer force between Israel and Syria following the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, UNDOF has engaged in a plethora of humanitarian activities including the delivery of parcels and mail, and arranging periodic reunions of Druze families living on different sides of the buffer zone.

#### *First United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF I)*

Stationed in the Gaza Strip from 1957 to 1967, UNEF I briefly took responsibility for civic affairs there while Israeli forces withdrew and until Egyptian civilian authority could be re-established. The Force worked closely with the United Nations Relief Works Agency.

#### *Second United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF II)*

Established following the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, the peacekeeping force stationed in the Suez Canal zone and the Sinai Peninsula engaged in humanitarian activities in collaboration with the ICRC and provided facilities for family reunions and student exchanges.

### **CIVILIAN PEACEKEEPERS**

#### *UNTEA/UNSF*

The UN peacekeeping operation in West New Guinea took place from October 1962 to May 1963. UNTEA acted as the interim administration of that territory until authority was transferred from the Netherlands to Indonesia on 1 May 1963. The United Nations Security Force (UNSF) was the military complement to UNTEA, charged with maintaining peace and security in the region during the transfer period.

At the time, the operation in West New Guinea was unique in that, though it had a military complement, the thrust of UNTEA was civilian. It depended on an international team from a wide variety of professions — engineers, industrialists, technicians, forestry experts, and health advisers — who were recruited to take over from the Dutch the top administrative posts in government and public service during the transfer period.

The agreement between the Netherlands and Indonesia on the transfer of West New Guinea provided the mandate for UNTEA. Along with full administrative authority, the agreement gave UNTEA the power to appoint government officials and members of representative councils, the right

to legislate for the territory (within certain parameters), and the duty to uphold civil liberties and property rights.

The biggest economic problem during the transfer period was unemployment. UNTEA concentrated on reactivating existing work projects and starting new ones. Some forty-five work projects were completed and thirty-two others were underway by the end of the UN temporary administration.

In the judicial sphere, departed Dutch personnel were replaced by qualified Indonesians following a UNTEA recruitment campaign. Civilian police were also used in this operation. Prior to the establishment of UNTEA, most of the rank and file of the territory's police establishment were Papuan but the officer corps was mostly Dutch. With the arrival of UNTEA, the officer corps left and was replaced by UN civilian police officers under a British Chief of Police. By May 1963, these officers had been replaced by Indonesians.

### **CIVILIAN PEACEKEEPING IN NAMIBIA**

Another ground-breaking peacekeeping operation was the 1989 United Nations Transition Assistance Group in Namibia. It has been said that UNTAG was not peacekeeping in the normal sense of the term.<sup>6</sup> This may be true. But it is also true that the nature of peacekeeping, and how we think about it has begun to change, given the end of the Cold War and the opportunities this presents for the peaceful resolution of civil wars. An operation similar to UNTAG (and containing elements similar to UNTEA) has begun in the Western Sahara. On the horizon are analogous operations in Angola, Cambodia and El Salvador. It is timely, then, to examine the UNTAG operation in especial detail.

#### *THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL AND UN RESOLUTION 435*

The history of the Namibia problem dates back more than seventy years, to 1920, when the League of Nations conferred on South Africa the mandate for South-West Africa (Namibia). That mandate was revoked in 1966 by General Assembly resolution. South Africa refused to abide by this resolution, however, and resisted similar declarations and rulings by the Security Council in 1970 and the International Court of Justice in 1971. (In its ruling, the Court reaffirmed the direct responsibility of the UN to bring about Namibian independence.)

International pressure on South Africa continued thereafter. The UN and the Western Contact Group — Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain and the United States — explored separately with a reluctant South Africa, the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), and the frontline states (Angola, Botswana, Tanzania and Zambia) a means for ending South African