Canada contributed 301 logistics and support personnel to the operation, which was located outside the Namibian capital of Windhoek. The operation was successfully completed in March 1990.

Central America

The United Nations Observer Group in Central America, known by its Spanish acronym of ONUCA, was created by the UN Security Council on November 7, 1989, to monitor the peace process in that region. At the operation's peak, Canada provided 175 personnel and eight medium and light helicopters. In late January 1992, ONUCA was disbanded.

Haiti

Eleven Canadian Forces officers participated in the UN Observer Group for the Verification of Elections in Haiti (ONU-VEH), charged with verifying Haiti's election process. The Canadian observers were part of an unarmed multinational group formed for a four-month period in November 1990. Brigadier-General Gabriel Zuliani, a Canadian Forces officer, was in charge of security aspects of ONUVEH. More recently, Canada provided military advice on peacekeeping to the Organization of American States (OAS) in its efforts to return democracy to Haiti after the September 1991 coup.

Present Commitments

Canada is currently committed to the following activities (figures are as of January 28, 1993).

India-Pakistan

Canadian participation in the United Nations Military Observer Group in India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP) involves the provision of a Hercules aircraft to assist in the twice-yearly moves of UNMOGIP headquarters between India and Pakistan.

Middle East

The Canadian Forces currently participate in two UN operations in the Middle East: the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO) and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF).

UNTSO was the first United Nations peacekeeping mission. It was formed in 1948 to observe and maintain the ceasefire and to assist in supervision of the General Armistice Agreements concluded between Israel on one side and Egypt, Lebanon and Syria on the other. Canada has been active in the mission since 1954 and contributes 13 officers as observers or staff officers. The mandate is open-ended.

UNDOF was established on the Golan Heights by a UN Security Council resolution in 1974. The 180 Regular and Reserve Force members serving with the Canadian contingent provide logistics, communications and technical support to the UN force. Most members are located at Camp Ziouani on the Golan Heights and in Damascus, Syria, while small detachments are deployed throughout the Area of Separation on the Heights. The mandate is due for renewal every six months (May 30 and November 30).

Cyprus

Canada has contributed peacekeeping troops to the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) since 1964. The Canadian battalion is responsible for a sector that includes the city of Nicosia, where opposing factions are often only metres apart. Operations involve manning observation posts along the ceasefire lines, conducting mobile patrols within the sector, investigating ceasefire violations, mediating disputes between the opposing forces and conducting humanitarian relief tasks. This mandate must be renewed every six months (June 15 and December 15).

On December 11, 1992, Canada announced that it will withdraw its peacekeeping force from Cyprus, starting in June (see p. 9). In the meantime, Canada is maintaining a contingent of about 500 military personnel on the island.

Sinai

In response to a request by the governments of Egypt and Israel, Canada agreed in 1985 to participate in the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) based in the Sinai Peninsula, separate from United Nations commitments. Until 1990, Canada provided eight helicopters plus aircrew and support personnel. At that time, the size of the force was reduced and the MFO asked Canada to withdraw its eight helicopters. There are currently 27 Canadians serving with this mission.

Afghanistan-Pakistan

Canada was one of 10 countries to provide military observers to the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP), which commenced in May 1988. In March 1990, with the expiry of the UNGOMAP mandate, the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan (OSGAP) was created. A Canadian is one of 10 officers employed in a military advisory role to OSGAP. OSGAP is intended to serve as the basis for any future peacekeeping operations in Afghanistan.

Iraq-Kuwait

The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM), established in April 1991, is stationed within a demilitarized zone along the Iraq-Kuwait border. The Canadian contingent consists of 29 Canadian Forces members, the majority of whom are military engineers, whose task is to clear mines and unexploded ordnance from the demilitarized zone. The mandate is due for renewal semi-annually (April 9 and October 9).

Western Sahara

The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in the Western Sahara (MINURSO) was established in April 1991. Canadian Major-General Armand Roy was the mission's first Force Commander. The military component of MINURSO consists of 33 Canadian Forces members as observers, movement control and support personnel.

Angola

Canada currently has 15 Canadian Forces members with the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM). Established in June 1991, UNAVEM's mandate is to verify the ceasefire and demobilization arrangements agreed to by the government of Angola and the forces of Angolan resistance. This mandate expired in January 1993.

El Salvador

In late January 1992, the members of the observer group that had been part of ONUCA relocated to El Salvador to monitor that country's ceasefire. The move was part of an overall expansion of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (UNOSAL). The mission's mandate has been extended until the end of May 1993 to ensure the successful completion of the peace process. There are presently five Canadian Forces officers in El Salvador.

Cambodia

The United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) began in 1991.