

news release

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CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS IRAN-IRAQ MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP (UNIIMOG)

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Perrin Beatty, announced today that Canada has agreed to participate in the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) operating between Iran and Iraq. The Force is being established to assist in the implementation of a cease-fire agreement which represents a vital first step in efforts to end the 8-year Iran-Iraq war.

Canada will be contributing a fully self-sustained communications unit which will be responsible for all of the Observer Force's communication requirements along the entire 1,200 kilometre border between Iran and Iraq. In addition to this communications unit, which will comprise approximately 370 Canadian Forces personnel, Canada has agreed to provide 15 officers to assist at UNIIMOG Headquarters and observer positions on the Force.

In making the announcement, the Ministers referred to the Canadian participation in the United Nations Force as a concrete manifestation of our desire to monitor the cessation of hostilities between Iran and Iraq and the hope for the re-establishment of peace in this troubled area of the Middle East. Canada's

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