Part 3: Commercial Satellite Imagery for Peacekeeping Mission Preparation and Planning

There are single-channel images, such as SPOT's 10-m panchromatic images, and multispectral images with several channels. For most peacekeeping requirements, multispectral imagery will provide more drawbacks than benefits. The primary use of multispectral images in a peacekeeping context would probably be to thwart attempts to camouflage military equipment. However, the spatial resolution and timeliness provided by commercial imagery limit its utility for this application. At the same time, colour film is required for hard copy products of multispectral imagery, whereas black and white film can be used for single-channel panchromatic images. Black and white film products are less expensive, available in large formats and generally easier to use.