

General or some other third party.²¹ On the surface, then, peacekeeping forces serve the functional purpose of ensuring that the ceasefire will work. Their role is to observe, supervise, report, and, if necessary, to act to maintain the ceasefire. But the desired effect of peacekeeping forces is to create conditions of stability and trust facilitating the eventual settlement of the conflict.²²

The nature of each peacekeeping operation differs according to the particular mandate of the operation and the circumstances that the forces encounter once they are in place. Generally, there are two types of peacekeeping operations: observer missions; and, peacekeeping forces. Observers are small detachments of unarmed civilian or military personnel who, quite simply, observe and report any violations of the terms of the ceasefire. Peacekeeping forces, on the other hand, usually consist of large detachments of military contingents who are equipped with light arms. They differ from observer missions in that they are capable of, and are intended for the purpose of, preventing, if need be, the recurrence of hostilities.

The *Peacekeeper's Handbook* identifies four main categories of peacekeeping and observer operations that have taken place since 1948.²³ They are: 1) **Internal Pacification:** This type of operation deals with intra-state conflict and is aimed at bringing an end to violence by peaceful means and thereafter to prevent a renewal of fighting; 2) **Buffer Force:** Usually dealing with inter-state conflict, the buffer force could also be used in intra-state conflict. Their role is to patrol and observe and ensure that the buffer zone is not infiltrated; 3) **Border Patrol:** This can be done by either a peacekeeping force or an observer mission. Their functions include: supervising the ceasefire, fact-finding, reporting,

²¹ Henry Wiseman, "Peacekeeping and the Management of International Conflict," Ottawa: Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, *Background Paper*, No. 15, September, 1987, p. 1.

²² Ernest B. Haas, "The Collective Management of International Conflict," in, *The United Nations and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security*, Boston: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 1987, pp. 3-70.

²³ International Peace Academy, *supra* note 20, pp. 31-32.