



Canadian Forces

*Two Canadian members of the UNIFIL force unload a truck in Lebanon.*

Ismailia; at UNEF HQ; Cairo; El Tasa; Port Said; and in the Sinai Desert buffer zone.

### Responsibilities

Canada and Poland are assigned the task of providing support to UNEF, which also includes contingents from Australia, Finland, Ghana, Indonesia and Sweden.

The Canadian contingent's responsibilities embrace supply, postal, movement control, maintenance and air transport services. It also supplies vehicle transport in Israel, and communications for all other UNEF contingents in the Sinai buffer zone.

Services assigned to Poland are engineering, group transport and medical services.

Most Canadians are rotated between Canada and UNEF every six months, which means that about 2,000 serve in the contingent at varying times in the course of a year. A total of 50 Regular Force servicewomen serve in the Middle East, and there are more than 100 positions open to members of the Reserves. As of December 1978, there were 130 Reservists there.

**UNDOF - Syria and Israel:** Headquarters of UNDOF is in Damascus, Syria. Formed in 1974, its task is to police the area of separation on the Golan Heights between Syrian and Israeli forces.

Majority of the 172 Canadians are situated in Camp Ziouani, in Israeli-occupied territory, adjacent to the area of

separation, or at UNDOF HQ.

Participating nations in UNDOF, other than Canada, are Austria, Iran and Poland. Again, Canada and Poland share the support role. Canadians also provide communications detachments to all the participants.

**UNTSO - Egypt, Israel, Syria and Lebanon:** With its headquarters in Jerusalem, UNTSO provides UN military observers (UNMOs) from a number of participating nations. They patrol the Sinai buffer zone and man observation posts in the area of separation on the Golan Heights.

UNMOs man observation posts in the area of separation between Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights, patrol the Sinai buffer zone and man observation points on the Lebanese-Israeli border. In addition, UNTSO is tasked with inspection of limited forces, armament areas and middle-restricted zones in the Sinai Desert.

Twenty Canadian officers serve with UNTSO in the UNMO role in Egypt, Israel and Syria.

**UNIFIL - Lebanon:** UNIFIL was established in March 1978, following the Israeli incursion into southern Lebanon.

Canada accepted the commitment to provide communications for the force for a stipulated period of six months. About 120 men, mainly from the 1st Canadian Signal Regiment, Kingston, Ontario, were deployed to Lebanon in April 1978.

Main base of operations for the Canadians was at Camp Pearson, near UNIFIL HQ in Naqura, and with the

other participating contingents from Fiji, France, Ireland, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway and Senegal.

The Canadians came home in October.

### Cyprus

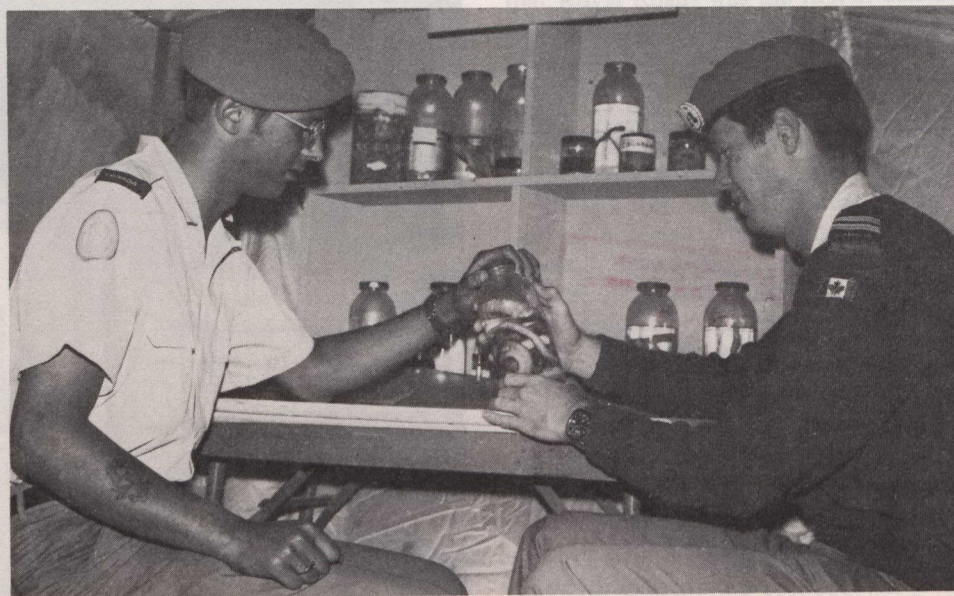
Mandate of the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) is to make every effort to prevent a recurrence of fighting between Greek and Turkish Cypriots, and to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of law and order and a return to normal conditions.

Canadians have been part of UNFICYP since March 1964. Currently, their responsibilities involve one of five sectors along the cease-fire line, including the largest city on the island, Nicosia. Here, the belligerents often are only a few metres apart.

Although the situation remained stable and relatively quiet throughout 1978, troops in observation posts frequently are required to intercede in minor disputes. If left unresolved, these disputes could lead to rapid escalation in the inter-communal tension.

Out of a total of 515 Canadians serving there, 430 are provided by combat units on six-month tours from Canada. The remainder are provided as individual augmentees from across the Canadian Forces. The commander of the Canadian contingent also serves as chief of staff at UNFICYP headquarters.

Other contingents of the force come from Austria, Denmark, Sweden and Britain.



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*Preserved snakes are used at personnel medical briefing to identify poisonous species that may be encountered during tour of duty.*