

UNDOF DIPLOMATS DAY 2019

Nepalese Mechanized Company
"Leading The Way"



Welcome Address from Force Commander & Head of Mission UNDOF



As the Head of Mission & Force Commander, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our guests attending the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) Diplomat's Day 2019. The purpose of today's event is to share with you the current situation in the Mission's Area of Operations, our plans and projections for the incremental return to Bravo side and show you how we continues to implement its mandate as outlined by United Nations Security Council Resolution 350 on 31 May 1974 which called for immediate ceasefire in the Golan Heights after the 1973 Yom Kippur War. On 31 May 2019, UNDOF will be 45 Years and during its glorious existence, the mission has evolved into a very assertive and experienced force. In 2014, as a result of the increased armed conflict within our area of responsibility and further

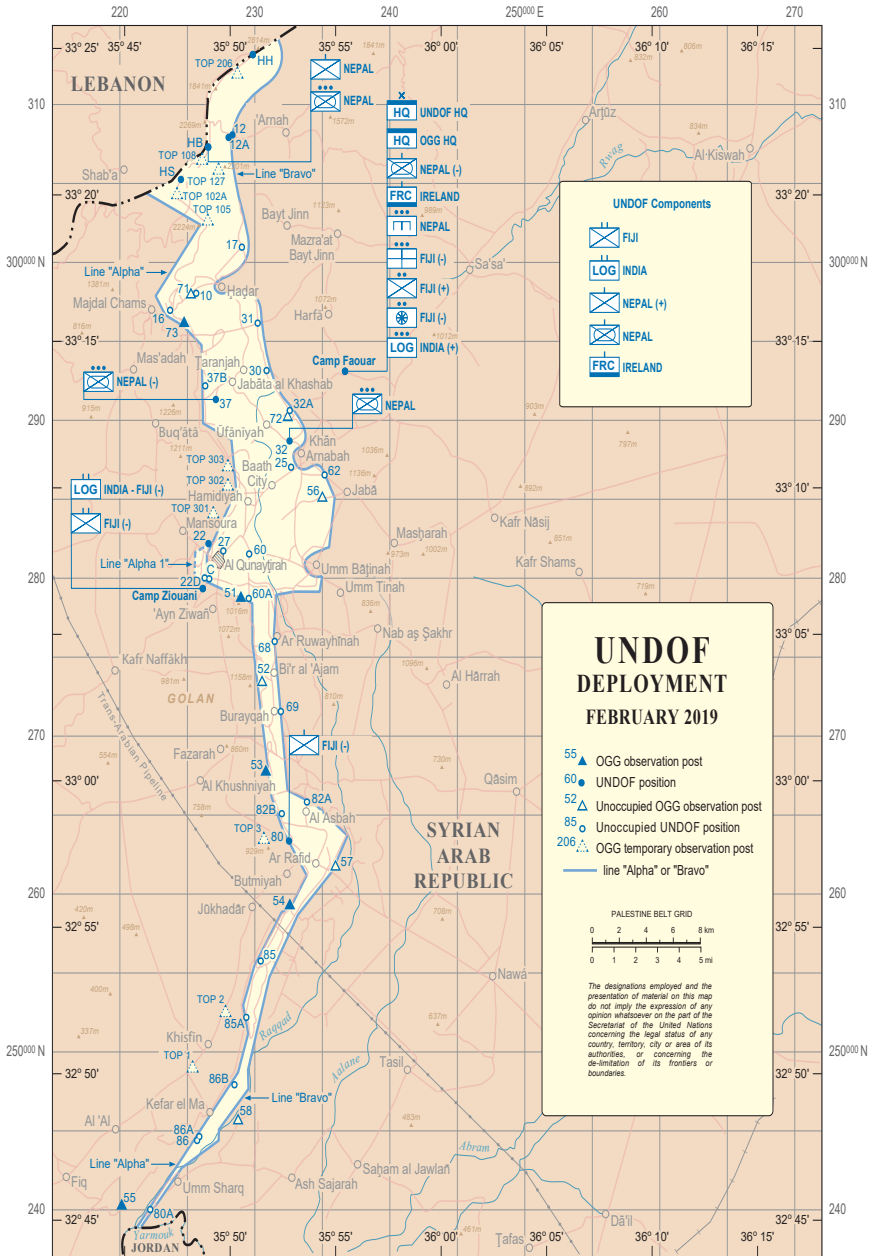
threats to the safety and security of personnel at the Bravo side, UNDOF was compelled to evacuate nearly all the UN positions, except Mount Hermon and some Observation Posts manned by UNTSO Observers in the Area of Separation UNDOF HQ was consequently re-located at Camp Yafour in Damascus while the rest of the force move to Camp Ziouani on the Alpha Side. On 14 Nov 16, the force commenced a gradual re-establishment of its presence in Camp Faour with the deployment of the Fijian Guard Company. This was followed on 25th September 2017, with the deployment of Nepalese Mechanized Company. On 8 Feb 18 as the security situation improved, we commenced limited patrolling using the Nepalese Mechanised company on selected routes in our Area of Responsibility to the North with approval of UN HQ. We have now expanded our patrols to other Areas. We are using patrolling to sensitize the local population and to secure some UN Positions that were abandoned for refurbishment and subsequent re-occupation. As we continue along our efforts towards the incremental return to Bravo side operations, the support of our Troop Contributing Countries (TCC) is essential. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our TCCs for their continuing contribution to UNDOF. As Head of Mission & Force Commander, I invite you to interact with our Mission Leadership and Staff during today's event and join us for lunch as guests of UNDOF.

**Major General Francis Vib-Sanziri
Force Commander & Head of
Mission UNDOF**

UNDOF'S DIPLOMATS DAY 2019

PROGRAMME

1030–1100	Arrival of Diplomat's. Meet and Greet
1100-1115	Opening Address by Major General Francis Vib-Sanziri Force Commander & Head of Mission UNDOF
1115-1130	UNDOF Security Brief
1130-1150	UNDOF Mission Brief
1150- 1200	OGG Deployment Brief
1200- 1215	Mission Support Brief
1215- 1230	Host Nations Representative Brief
1230- 1300	Question & Answers
1300- 1315	Closing Address by HoM/FC
1315- 1330	Photo Session
1330- 1500	Lunch
1500	End of the Programme



UNDOF Background and Beginnings

On 6 October 1973, war erupted in the Middle East between Egyptian and Israeli forces in the Suez Canal area and the Sinai, and between Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan Heights. On 24 October, as fighting between Egypt and Israel reached a critical stage, the Security Council decided to set up a second United Nations Emergency Force II (UNEF II). The Force was immediately moved into place

Resolution 350 (1974)

of 31 May 1974

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General contained in documents S/11302 and Add.1, and having heard his statement made at the 1773rd meeting of the Security Council,

1. *Welcomes* the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian Forces, negotiated in implementation of Security Council resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

2. *Takes note* of the Secretary-General's report and the annexes thereto and his statement;

3. *Decides* to set up immediately under its authority a United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to this effect in accordance with his above-mentioned report and the annexes thereto; the Force shall be established for an initial period of six months, subject to renewal by further resolution of the Security Council;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council fully informed of further developments.

Adopted at the 1774th meeting by 13 votes to none.¹²

UNDOF Background and Beginnings

between the Israeli and Egyptian armies in the Suez Canal area, and its arrival effectively stabilized the situation. However, no new peace-keeping operation at that time was established on the Syrian front.

In the Israel-Syria sector tension remained high, and from March 1974 the situation became increasingly unstable. Against this background, the United States undertook a diplomatic initiative, which resulted in the conclusion of an Agreement on Disengagement

between Israeli and Syrian forces [S/11302/Add.1, annexes I and II]. The Agreement provided for an area of separation and for two equal zones of limited forces and armaments on both sides of the area, and called for the establishment of a United Nations observer force to supervise its implementation. The Agreement was signed on 31 May 1974 and, on the same day, the Security Council adopted resolution 350 (1974) by which it set up the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF).



UNDOF Background and Beginnings



On 3 June 1974, the Secretary-General appointed an interim commander of UNDOF who arrived in Damascus on the same day and immediately established a provisional headquarters in the premises of the Israel-Syria Mixed Armistice Commission.

The interim Commander took command over the 90 UNTSO observers detailed to UNDOF. Later the same day, advance parties of the Austrian and Peruvian contingents arrived in the mission area. They were joined on the following

days by the remainder of the two contingents and the Canadian and Polish logistic elements. Some logistic support was provided by UNEF II.

By 16 June 1974, the strength of UNDOF was brought to 1,218 all ranks, near its authorized level of 1,250. The Force has since performed its functions effectively, with the cooperation of the parties. The situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained quiet. Both parties cooperate fully with the mission and for a number of years there have been no serious incidents.

