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**UN Envoy accompanies the Monrovia Night Patrols**

*Monrovia, Liberia* – Over the weekend, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Alan Doss, together with United Nations Police Commissioner, Mr. Mohammed Alhassan, patrolled the streets of Monrovia with the joint Night Patrol Units to observe the police at work and to extend his full support for their efforts to combat crime. The Night Patrols consist of the Liberian National Police (LNP) Police Service Units (PSU), the LNP, United Nations Police (UNPOL), UNMIL Military and the UNMIL Force Protection Units (FPU) under the direction of a Joint LNP/UNMIL task force.



SRSR Doss speaking with the Community-Police Relations leadership

Addressing the Joint Task Force prior to the patrol, Mr. Doss expressed his appreciation to the team for their commitment and efforts to make Monrovia a safer place but noted that “despite the considerable efforts of UNMIL and LNP there is still much to do to make the citizens of Monrovia feel safe.”

The night patrols with the SRSR took place mainly in the Paynesville neighbourhood and Duport Road, which are both known for their high crime rates. As part of the patrol, Mr. Doss met with the leadership of the Community-Police Relations Committee, who expressed their appreciation for the concern, the assistance being given to the community and commended the efforts made by the police in trying to reduce the crime rate in their locality. The leadership requested UNMIL’s assistance for better communication facilities, and the establishment of a Police Depot in the area to ensure increased police presence.



SRSR Doss and UN Police Commissioner Alhassan with the LNP team

Prior to starting the patrol, Mr. Doss met with the Director of the LNP and visited the Operations Room where emergency calls are received before inspecting the units coming on duty for the night shift. He used the occasion to underline UNMIL’s commitment to reinforcing the primacy of civilian policing for managing domestic law and order.

There are currently eleven Joint Task Force patrols per shift with three shifts per day. Each patrol team is composed of two UN police officers, two LNP officers and two armed officers drawn from the UNMIL FPU. Further back-up from armed UNMIL military units is available if required by the operational situation.

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