

UN In Action

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HONOURING PEACEKEEPERS

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

MONTAGE OF PEACEKEEPERS

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STILLS

NARRATION

In 1948, the United Nations Truce
Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was
created to observe and maintain a cease-fire,
which marked the end of hostilities between
Israel and the Arab League. It was the first
UN Peacekeeping Operation in the world.
(18)

Currently, There are some 16 peacekeeping missions scattered across the globe. (6)

The International Day of United Nations
Peacekeepers is a time to honor these brave
men and women who have left their families
behind to serve in some of the world's hot
spots and to remember those who have died
in service. (15)

More than ever before, women are signing up to serve as United Nations peacekeepers. (6)

In 2007, the first all-female battalion was dispatched to Liberia by the Indian government to assist this African nation in maintaining peace and security. (11)

Now their term has come to an end and they're preparing to return to India. After nine years of service, they'll be leaving a lasting legacy behind in Liberia. (10)

ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF: (In English) F
"To inspiring Liberian women, to encourage
them to join those entities, those operations
that protect the nation. For that we will always
be grateful." (16)

NARRATION

Following in their footsteps are the Mongolian female peacekeepers who were dispatched to South Sudan last year to help keep the peace and offer protection to women and girls displaced by the on-going conflict. (13)

The first order of business was patrolling civilian sites where thousands of displaced people languished. (6)

LIEUTENANT BATSUURI KHONGORZUL:

(In Mongolian) F

"We are patrolling every day, our presence

here is very important. We do this job because of UNMISS mandate to protect civilians."

NARRATION

Part of their mandate included providing healthcare to the displaced within the protection zone.

ONGOIBAYAR GANTUYA ON-CAM

ONGOIBAYAR GANTUYA: (In Mongolian) F
"As representatives of women soldiers, we
are very happy and very glad to be providing
civilians not only with peacekeeping
assistance but also with medical assistance
within the scope of our professional
capabilities. And we are very glad to be
serving alongside soldiers from many
countries." (31)

NARRATION

But the work was challenging for these brave women who found themselves thousands of miles away from home in a foreign land. (14)

Nevertheless, Lieutenant Erdene-Ochir Ichinkhorloo and her team continue to give medical assistance whenever needed, especially to women and children. (10)

LIEUTENANT ERDENE-ORCHIR

ICHINKHORLOO: (In English) F

"I am a woman and I am a mother and I am a peacekeeper and I am really proud of my peacekeeping job". (8)

NARRATION

These women have made a positive impact wherever they're dispersed, particularly in supporting the role of displaced women in building peace and protecting their rights.

(11)

This report was produced by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4.5)