

# **UN IN ACTION**

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Programme: 1550 Length: 3'31"

Languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish

# **UNIFIL: Raising Mine Awareness in Lebanon**

One of the most important tasks of UNIFIL (the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) is demining on the line of withdrawal between Lebanon and Israel, known as the "Blue Line." As part of its mine awareness campaign, UNIFIL invited local students to learn about landmines and the mission's demining work.

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

SPANISH BATTALION TRAINING VOICE HEARD IN THE TRAINING: (In Spanish) M

IN THE FIELD "We have discovered a suspicious vehicle, the blue

car. Over." (3")

"The K9 dog has positively marked the blue car.

Over." (4")

"Roger, we are sending the robot to deactivate the

device. Over." (2")

## **TEXT ON SCREEN**

Here in Lebanon, members of the Spanish Battalion are conducting a demining exercise.

They are part of UNIFIL, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

Spain is one of the largest troop contributors to UNIFIL with peacekeepers serving under the blue flag since 2006.

# **TEXT ON SCREEN**

One of UNIFIL's most important tasks is demining on the line of withdrawal between Lebanon and Israel, known as the "Blue Line".

ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE OF UNIFIL AT WORK

#### HENRI-FRANCOIS MORAND ON-

CAM HENRI-FRANCOIS: (In English) M

"Lebanon has been brutalized by decades of war, so you find mines, you find unexplored ordnance

and you also find cluster bombs in a very dense

environment." (12")

**Programme Manager of UNMAS** 

Lebanon

## **TEXT ON SCREEN**

UNIFIL conducts demining tasks to open safe access lanes through minefields in order to clearly mark the Blue Line.

#### **TEXT ON SCREEN**

As part of its mine awareness campaign, UNIFIL invited local students to learn about landmines and the mission's demining work.

MAJOR ALFONSO DE ONA RODRIGUEZ ON-CAM

UNIFIL coordinator

Major Rodriguez: (In English) M

"Today we have visitors of two schools, two schools

from the area and it is very important for us because

we want to show how UNIFIL works to better

Lebanon and to show the population the danger of

mines and unexploded ordnance; it is a real danger

FOOTAGE OF STUDENTS

OBSERVING DEMINING

**EXERCISE** 

for children and it is important to teach them how to behave in those cases." (17")

FIRST. LT. ALEJANDRO ON-CAM

**UNIFIL Spanish Battalion** 

First. Lt. Alejandro: (In English) M

"It is very dangerous for all the people, this

component. So it's very important for them to know that they should not touch. That is why we are here. In order to show them that it is very important to be

aware." (17")

JANA ON-CAM

Student <u>Jana</u>: (In English) F

"They told us that they come in different sizes and colors and the main warning they gave us was not touch anything when we find them because we are

very prone to find them."

(9")

**ALI ON-CAM** 

Student Ali: (In Arabic) M

"We saw different mines, their different sizes and shapes. I learned about demining and who to report if we see a mine. And the rules: don't get close,

don't touch, report." (18")

**TEXT ON SCREEN** 

The 1997 anti-personnel mine ban

convention ("Ottawa Treaty")

imposes a total ban on anti-

personnel landmines. Equator by Fog from Artlist

It entered into force on 1 March 00:10-01:55 (1'45")

1999. To date, 162 countries have Mist – Drums from Artlist

ratified or acceded to the treaty. 01:47-03:18 (1'31")

**UN LOGO**