



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/15777
20 May 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS
DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

(for the period 19 November 1982-20 May 1983)

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
INTRODUCTION	1
I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE	2-9
A. Composition and command	2-4
B. Deployment	5-7
C. Rotation	8
D. Discipline	9
II. ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS	10-12
A. Accommodation	10-11
B. Logistic support	12
III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE	13-21
A. Functions and guidelines	13-14
B. Freedom of movement	15
C. Maintenance of the cease-fire	16

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
D. Supervision of the Agreement on Disengagement with regard to the areas of separation and limitation	17-19
E. Mines	20
F. Humanitarian activities	21
IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS	22
V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)	23-24
VI. OBSERVATIONS	25-28
MAP. UNDOF deployment as of 20 May 1983	

INTRODUCTION

1. This report describes the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period 19 November 1982 to 20 May 1983. Its purpose is to provide the Security Council with an account of the activities of UNDOF in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to it by the Council in resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974 and extended by resolutions 363 (1974) of 29 November 1974, 369 (1975) of 28 May 1975, 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975, 390 (1976) of 28 May 1976, 398 (1976) of 30 November 1976, 408 (1977) of 26 May 1977, 420 (1977) of 30 November 1977, 429 (1978) of 31 May 1978, 441 (1978) of 30 November 1978, 449 (1979) of 30 May 1979, 456 (1979) of 30 November 1979, 470 (1980) of 30 May 1980, 481 (1980) of 26 November 1980, 485 (1981) of 22 May 1981, 493 (1981) of 23 November 1981, 506 (1982) of 26 May 1982 and 524 (1982) of 29 November 1982.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

2. The composition of UNDOF as of 20 May 1983 was as follows:

Austria	528
Canada	221
Finland	388
Poland	142
United Nations military observers (detailed from UNTSO)	<u>6</u>

1 285

3. In addition to the above, observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) assigned to the Israel-Syria Mixed Armistice Commission assist UNDOF as occasion requires.

4. Command of the Force continues to be exercised by Major-General Carl-Gustaf Stahl.

B. Deployment

5. UNDOF personnel remain deployed within and close to the area of separation with base camps and logistic units located nearby; UNDOF headquarters is located in Damascus. The UNDOF deployment as of 20 May 1983 is shown on the attached map.

/...

6. At present, the Austrian battalion mans 19 positions and 7 outposts and conducts 16 patrols daily and 13 other patrols at irregular intervals in the area of separation north and inclusive of the Damascus-Quneitra road. The Finnish battalion mans 15 positions and 5 outposts and conducts 17 patrols daily and 5 other patrols at irregular intervals in the area of separation south of the Damascus-Quneitra road.

7. The Austrian battalion base camp is located near Wadi Faouar, 8 kilometres east of the area of separation. The Finnish battalion base camp is located near the village of Ziouani, west of the area of separation. The Austrian battalion continues to share its base camp with the Polish logistic unit, and the Finnish battalion shares Camp Ziouani with the Canadian logistic company. The Canadian signal unit has detachments at Camps Ziouani and Faouar as well as at Damascus and Quneitra. Military police detachments are located in Damascus, Tiberias and Camp Ziouani.

C. Rotation

8. The Austrian contingent carried out partial rotations on 2 December 1982 and 1 and 10 March 1983. The Finnish contingent rotated on 3 February 1983. The Polish logistic unit rotated on 1 and 11 December 1982. The Canadian logistic unit rotates in small groups at frequent and irregular intervals.

D. Discipline

9. The discipline, steadfastness and understanding of all members of the Force have been of a high order, reflecting credit on the soldiers and their commanders as well as on the countries contributing contingents to the Force.

II. ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Accommodation

10. Efforts are under way to standardize accommodation in Damascus and in the contingent areas. The project to improve the sewage, water and electrical systems at Camp Faouar is 70 per cent complete and work is also progressing on the project for the improvement of water supply at Camp Ziouani.

11. Since the establishment of the Force, UNDOF headquarters has been located in rented premises in Damascus. Efforts are continuing to find more suitable accommodation.

B. Logistic support

12. Second- and third-line logistic support continues to be provided by the Canadian and Polish logistic units. The Damascus international airport continues

/...

to serve as the UNDOF airhead for rotation and supply flights. The ports of Latakia and Tartous are used for sea shipments. An air movement control organization operates in Damascus, and sea shipments are handled by local agents. In-theatre air support is provided by UNTSO on special request.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Functions and guidelines

13. The functions and guidelines of UNDOF as well as its tasks remain as outlined in the Secretary-General's report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 8-10).

14. UNDOF has continued, with the co-operation of the parties, to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it. This has been facilitated by the close contact maintained by the Force Commander and his staff with the military liaison staffs of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic.

B. Freedom of movement

15. The Protocol to the Agreement on Disengagement provides for all contingents to operate with full freedom of movement. However, the problem of restrictions on the freedom of movement still exists. The Secretary-General will continue to exert all possible efforts to correct this situation.

C. Maintenance of the cease-fire

16. UNDOF continues to supervise the observance of the cease-fire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic. The cease-fire has been maintained during the period under review. No complaints concerning the UNDOF area of operations have been lodged by either party in this respect.

D. Supervision of the Agreement on Disengagement with regard to the areas of separation and limitation

17. UNDOF continues to supervise the area of separation to ensure, in accordance with its mandate, that there are no military forces within it. This is carried out by means of static positions and observation posts, which are manned 24 hours a day, and by foot and mobile patrols operating at irregular intervals on predetermined routes by day and night. In addition, temporary outposts are established and patrols are conducted from time to time to perform specific tasks.

18. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement on Disengagement, UNDOF continues to conduct fortnightly inspections of armament and forces in the area of limitation. These inspections are carried out with the assistance of liaison officers from the parties, who accompany the UNDOF inspection teams. UNDOF also lends its assistance and good offices on request from the parties. In carrying out

/...

its tasks, UNDOF has continued to receive the co-operation of both parties, although restrictions on movement and inspection are sometimes placed on UNDOF teams in certain areas by both sides. UNDOF has continued to seek the lifting of these restrictions so as to guarantee its freedom of access to all locations on both sides.

19. The safety of Syrian shepherds who graze their flocks close to and west of line A (see map) continues to be of concern to UNDOF. The intensified patrolling on new mine-cleared patrol paths and, from time to time, the establishment of standing patrols in these areas have helped to prevent incidents. The grazing security fence in the southern part of the area of separation has continued to be effective in reducing the number of incidents.

E. Mines

20. Mines continue to pose a threat to members of the Force and to the local population. This is a matter of concern to UNDOF, and the Force is continuing its efforts, in consultation with the parties, to make the area of operation safe from mines. During the period, four Polish mine-clearing teams have cleared 41,475 square metres of patrol path and 8,510 square metres at bases in the area of separation. In the process, 13 anti-personnel mines, 1 anti-tank mine, 6 artillery shells, 4 mortar shells, 26 anti-aircraft missiles and 2 hand grenades were destroyed.

F. Humanitarian activities

21. Since 15 February 1982, it has not been possible to arrange any family meetings, owing to developments in relation to the Golan Heights.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

22. By its resolution 37/38 A of 30 November 1982, the General Assembly, among other things, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNDOF at a rate not to exceed \$2,864,416 gross (\$2,830,666 net) per month for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1983, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 524 (1982) of 29 November 1982. Accordingly, should the Security Council renew the UNDOF mandate beyond 31 May 1983, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining UNDOF up to 30 November 1983 will be within the commitment authority provided by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/38 A, assuming continuance of the Force's existing strength and responsibilities. Appropriate financial provision will need to be made by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session in respect of periods after 30 November 1983, if the period of extension determined by the Security Council goes beyond that date.

/...

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

23. In deciding in its resolution 524 (1982) to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, the Security Council also called upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) and requested the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of the period, a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement that resolution.

24. The search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and, in particular, the efforts undertaken at various levels to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973) have been dealt with in the Secretary-General's report on the Middle East problem (A/37/525-S/15451), submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 36/226 A of 17 December 1981. The Secretary-General has continued to maintain contacts on the matter with the parties and interested Governments.

VI. OBSERVATIONS

25. The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the cease-fire called for by the Security Council and the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces of 31 May 1974, has continued to perform its functions effectively, with the co-operation of the parties. During the period under review, the situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained quiet, and there have been no serious incidents.

26. Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. I continue to hope that determined efforts will be made by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

27. In the prevailing circumstances, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 30 November 1983. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

28. In concluding the present report, I wish to express my gratitude to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and to those which provide UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Major-General Carl-Gustaf Stahl, Commander of the Force, to the officers and men of the Force, to its civilian staff and to the UNTSO military observers assigned to UNDOF. They have performed with exemplary efficiency and devotion to duty the important tasks assigned to them by the Security Council.

/...



