

THE PEACEKEEPER



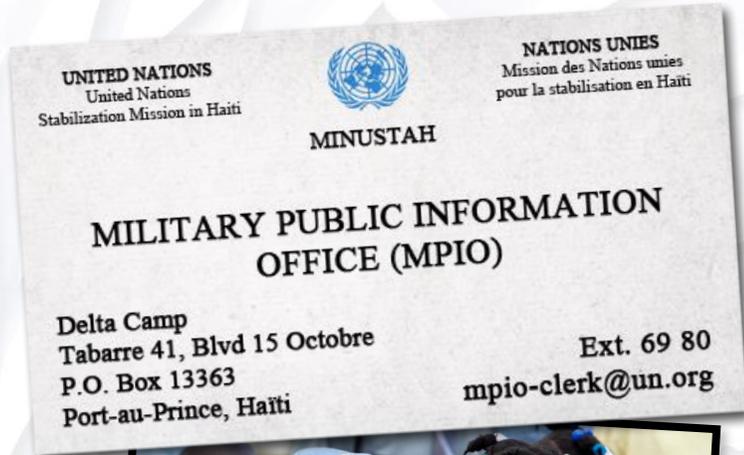
The Military Activities of MINUSTAH. Your Newsletter.



MINUSTAH
PEACEKEEPER
...AND PROUD
OF IT.

Issue #6 - Spring 2013

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Support your Peacekeepers!

- ✗ Do you have a message to send to your Peacekeeper for a special event?
- ✗ Do you just want to tell him/her that you miss him/her?
- ✗ Do you want to send a support message to all of Haiti's Peacekeepers?

You can send your message to the following address:
support_haiti_peacekeepers@hotmail.com

A few guidelines:

- ✗ Mention your first name, your country and the name of your Peacekeeper.
- ✗ If your message is intended for all of Haiti's Peacekeepers, simply write that.
- ✗ Your message should be brief.

If you respect these guidelines, you will be published!

To ITN FN Michel, Brasil: "Meu amor, gostaria de dizer o quanto me orgulho de você, de sua profissão... Sei que o sacrifício de permanecermos longe durante tanto tempo tem um motivo muito especial...afinal trata-se de uma missão de Deus para você aí no Haiti. Que Deus te abençoe... te amo muito e morro de saudades." - Ana, Brasil

Message from the Force Commander



Peacekeepers,

I am very happy to be here in Haiti, and I am honored to be able to lead such a skilled and professional force. Our peacekeepers - you - come from a variety of backgrounds, speak many languages and bring many unique skills to our mission. I am proud to lead you in our mission of helping the people of Haiti.

I am very aware of the many challenges that face us in this task. Within these challenges, we are provided incredible opportunities to improve the quality of life for the Haitian people. Over the next year, I am looking forward to taking steps to fulfill our mandate and working with Haiti's leaders and authorities to strengthen our cooperation. I can assure you that while nothing we do will be easy, our work here does make a difference - and I appreciate your hard work and sacrifices.

I also am very thankful for Major General Goulart, and for the incredible work he has accomplished leading our military force this past year. I feel privileged to follow in his leadership. Our work here in the past, and our goals for the future, show the commitment of our Military Component to serving the people of Haiti and their right to live a better life. Thank you all for being a part of this promise.

Edson Leal Pujol
Lieutenant General
Force Commander
MINUSTAH



Tell Me Your Mission...



Milan, NEPBATT, 29 years old

I am Captain Milan Thapa from the Cavalry unit of the Nepal Army. I am a member of Nepalese Battalion 12 under the KHADGA DAL BATTALION of MINUSTAH. This is my first UN mission. My experience in Haiti is the best possible. NEPBAT 12 is accomplishing good works and is making well-recognized contributions to the mission. We are involved in security, patrolling and various CIMIC missions, such as food and water distribution and medical camps to orphanages and IDP camps.

I have been appointed as a CIMIC G9 officer and I feel very lucky that I have the opportunity to serve those in need. It is meaningful to me to be able to help those less fortunate than myself and I am especially touched by the plight of the kids in the orphanages and IDP camps. It is a privilege to serve them to the best of my abilities. Of course I miss my family, friends and country, but being a soldier comes first. I am very happy to do my duty with a smile because there are people who need security, who need medical care, who need food and clean water and whose needs do not end just because I am homesick or feeling tired. I gladly endeavor each day to fulfill my duty to a cause, that is to help build a safe and stable environment in a country struggling to recover from major natural disasters, security concerns, political unrest and extreme poverty. "WAR IS NO SOLUTION FOR PEACE, BUT PEACE IS A SOLUTION TO WAR."

It is an honor to serve my unit, my country, the UN, and most of all, the people of Haiti!



**NEPALESE
BATTALION**

Visiting Children, Creating Smiles

Nearly 150 kindergarten students at the "l'Ecole Marie Reine Immaculée sise à Lalue" were visited by 40 peacekeepers from Brazilian Battalion 2 Feb. 6, where they received lessons on tooth brushing, shared a nutritious snack, and enjoyed both Brazilian and Haitian music.



"This civil-military activity was held to bring closer ties and interaction with the people of Haiti to maintain the secure and stable environment," said Col. Sival dos Reis Leite, commander of BRABAT 2. "Children are of paramount importance for the future of Haiti. Taking care of and

educating these children today means giving to the country the opportunity to find the path of social and economic development in the not-too-distant future."

The school visit was one of many regular visits by BRABAT 2 peacekeepers, and represents the commitment of MINUSTAH to supporting a better life for the people of Haiti.



**BRAZILIAN
BATTALION 2**





The Sky is Not the Limit

The month of February saw an incredible milestone for the XVII Helicopter Group of the Chilean Air Force. On the night of Feb. 1, the group marked 13,000 incident-free hours of flight in the mission area.

The accomplishment was made when the group landed two UH-1H helicopters on "the slab," located at Toussaint Louverture International Airport in Port au Prince, following recognition night flights with using Night Vision Goggles (NVG).

Commander Helicopter Group XVII (A) Oscar Zambrano Guevara, who was waiting in the slab for the aircraft's return, celebrated this momentous milestone.

"This amount of flight hours is achieved through working together. This is the grain of sand that brings Helicopter Group XVII with all other groups who have completed missions in Haiti. We are proud to have the human and material quality to work at this level, which is widely recognized by the United Nations. "



Between August 2012 and February 2013, the XVII Helicopter Group of the Chilean Air Force has conducted a total of 511.4 hours of flight, including aeromedical evacuations, reconnaissance flights over Haiti, and night flights with NVG, which ultimately contributed to the 13,000 hours achieved during the entire mission. The group also conducted of training flights, maintenance flights, and transfers.

The Chilean group is the only unit in Haiti that has the capabilities to perform night missions.



See the Chilean pilots through the eyes of Night Vision Goggles...



CHILEAN AVIATION



Women in Peacekeeping

During the month of March, MINUSTAH joins nations worldwide in their celebration of International Women's Day, commemorated on March 8. Thousands of events occur not just on this day, but throughout March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women. 2013's UN theme "A Promise Is a Promise, It Is Time to Take Action to End Violence Against Women" recognizes the importance of all people - including us as peacekeepers - to stay vigilant to bring about safety, empowerment, and full equality for all women.

Every day, throughout the force, our female peacekeepers are performing a variety of important missions and are dedicating their efforts toward improving the quality of life for the Haitian people. The women you see here on these pages represent just a sampling of the incredible female peacekeepers that work to bring peace to Haiti.

Military Women in the Force: A Snapshot



Female Staff Officers: 1



Female Blue Helmets: 161



Contributing Nations with
Female Peacekeepers: 11

Total Percentage of Women in the
Military Component: 2.4%



*Army Lt. Perla
Barrientos Celeste Neira
Chile Battalion XIX, Cap
Haïtien*

Perla is in charge of transport and maintenance of vehicles, including vans, trucks, and armored 4x4 vehicles. One of only 11 women in the battalion, she also ensures preventive maintenance of these vehicles so they are ready to transport humanitarian aid – a cornerstone of the mission.

"Definitely on this mission, it makes you appreciate the importance of your work, not only as an officer, but as a person - to be the link between the peacekeepers and the Haitian citizenship, you finally get that engine that brings aid and a smile to those hundreds of children and women who seek peace and security for their country. I feel very proud as a woman, night after night, to go to bed, look at my blue helmet and say 'mission accomplished.'"



PTE Shanti Karki
Nepal Battalion XII, Khadga
Dal Battalion

Shanti has been a member of the MP unit of the Nepal Army for 7 years. She provides security to the people of Haiti, as well controlling access at the base traffic gate.

“I am proud to wear the tag of MP, as well as the flag of MINUSTAH. I feel proud to serve my unit, my country, the UN and of course the people of Haiti. Our duty is to encourage everyone in his struggle to live up to his own highest ideals.”



Major Zulema Lombardi
Peruvian Company

Zulema serves as chief of medical treatment and evacuation of patients of the Health Section of PERCOY.

“Being a member of this peace mission allows me to personally achieve professional development, but also to provide quality medical attention to many people whom I may never even see again. My work has long days where we often journey through difficult paths and trails, sometimes for 4 to 5 hours but in this silent work, when I see the smiles and tenderness reflected in the children I treat, that drives me to complete the mission.”





CPL Nicole Figueroa Mella
Chilean-Ecuadorian Engineering
Company XVII

Nicole has served in the Army of Chile for 7 years and works as a Mini Loader Operator for CHIECUENGCOY.

“I am proud to be a Peacekeeper, working as an operator of mini loader machinery section, where I work on the improvement of the streets, and parallel work in CIMIC operations, visiting orphanages and schools to bring relief and joy to children.

As a woman in CHIECUENGCOY XVII, I fulfill the same roles as a man, and we women demonstrate our capabilities and we are part of a select group of women peacekeepers. It is very rewarding to know that I am one of so many different cultures, united by a common purpose to maintain peace and stabilize this beautiful country.”



1st Lt. (medical)
Luciana Bessa de
Paiva
Brazilian Marines
(BRAMAR)



Luciana has served in Brazil's Navy for two years and works in the health section of the Marine Operating Group in Haiti. She holds the position of Section's adjutant and, collaterally, performs the duties of the comfort official of the unit.

“We contribute to the mission by providing health care to our troops, our Haitian co-workers and the population whenever we are needed. We also conduct medical and hygienic education classes and help distribute water, clothes and hygienic products. What makes us unique is how well Brazilian Marines can work with the population, with our warm care, sympathy, tolerance and above all, we are always ready to do our best.”

Exemplary Women of MINUSTAH



*Maj. Carla Beatriz Medeiros de Souza
Albach, BRABAT 2 Chief Translator*



*Lt. Marcella Meira,
BRABAT 1 Medical Officer*



*Private Mariam Vasquez Garcia,
Translator of GUAMPCOY*



*Technical Warrant Officer 1
Amrita Gurung, NEPBATT nurse*



*3rd Sgt Danielle da Silva Cunha,
BRAENGCYOY medical officer*



*Corporal Gloria Hernandez Guillen,
nurse of GUAMPCOY*



Private (Doctor) Flor Leticia Saralegui Vera, Uruguayan Battalion 2



Sergeant María José Ferreyra Bouchard, helicopter mechanic, Argentinian Aviation Unit



Lt. Patricia Pires, Brazilian Battalion 1 dentist



Lt. Nayke Malasquez Pastor, Peruvian Company administrative officer

“Men must teach each other that real men do not violate or oppress women – and that a woman’s place is not just in the home or the field, but in schools and offices and boardrooms.”
UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon



Petty Officer Second Class Luzmindá Nachor and Petty Officer Third Class Ana Marie L Lopez, Philippine Navy, military clerks of the Military Personnel Office (U1)



**MINUSTAH
HEADQUARTERS**



Contingents Unite for Haiti's Women

Many peacekeepers experienced a unique opportunity to contribute to the lives of Haitians at the Tabarre-Issa IDP Camp March 6.

More than 90 peacekeepers, including 34 women, from Bolivian Company, Guatemalan MP Company, Paraguayan Engineering Company, Peruvian Company and Chilean-Ecuadorian Engineering Company, took part in the activity, which was held to meet the needs of Haitian women, in recognition of International Women's Day.

During the afternoon's events, hundreds of residents of the IDP camp, including many women and children, received dental screenings, toothbrushes, t-shirts, hygiene kits, and water and snacks.



Medical staff from the contingents were also on hand to lead interactive sessions on HIV and tropical disease prevention.

Peacekeepers also kept the crowd entertained with cultural music and presentations, including an appearance by PERCOY's comedy troupe "Funny Times," who led dancing and games for the children.



The Tabarre-Issa IDP camp is in the BOLCOY area of operations and very close to MINUSTAH's Charlie Camp, where the majority of the peacekeepers who participated in the activity are based. This activity not only helped benefit the residents of the camp, but also allowed the men and women of MINUSTAH to meet and to assist the neighbors who live just beyond their gates.



OBJECTIVE: CITÉ SOLEIL

Operation ADSUMUS III, a combined security operation and CIMIC activity, aimed to crush the influence of criminal elements, strengthen the rule of law, and connect with the Haitian people - and MINUSTAH's Brazilian Peacekeepers were in the heart of the action.

The morning of Feb. 8 in Cité Soleil was one of unrest. Tensions among the population were high as violent demonstrations plagued the area of "Cruz de Malta," located in the heart of Cité Soleil. In response, a joint task force, under the command of BRABAT, launched "Operation ADSUMUS II," a joint security operation aimed at restoring law and order.

During the operation, 220 troops from Brazil, 60 soldiers from Bolivia, 60 Formed Police Unit members and ten UN Police officers joined 42 officers from the Haitian National Police in cordoning off the problem area and launching intervention teams to disperse the mob and create pathways. The mission was successful - by evening, law and order were restored.



One week later, on Feb. 15, Brazilian troops returned to the area. Two-hundred and fifty troops from BRABAT 1 and BRAMAR launched "Operation ADSUMUS III," aimed not only at reinforcing security and stability in the region, but in demonstrating to the local population that MINUSTAH's peacekeeping forces were dedicated to maintaining a life of tranquility for all residents.

The operation presented some unique challenges. Cruz de Malta is characterized by tangled alleys which are nearly inaccessible to military vehicles, and had never before been the scene of a civil-military activity. The Brazilian troops overcame these hurdles, implementing both foot and mobile patrols and establishing checkpoints and static points.

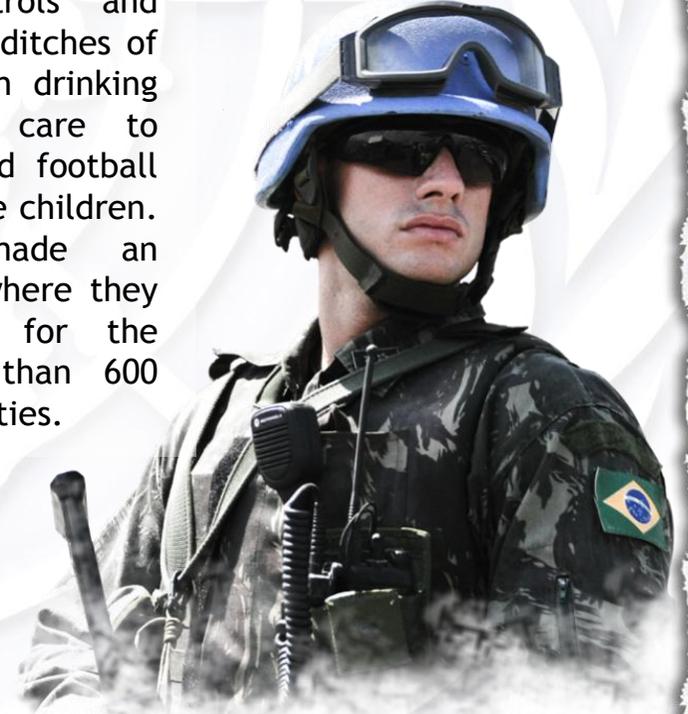
ADSUMUS III was more than a security operation, however. In order to establish a true sense of security and stability in the region, the troops had to strengthen the links of cooperation with the local population.



In addition to the patrols and checkpoints, troops cleared ditches of debris and distributed clean drinking water, provided medical care to women and children, played football and had face painting for the children. Several clowns also made an appearance at the event, where they led dancing and games for the children. In all, more than 600 residents attended the activities.



 **BRAZILIAN
BATTALION 1**





Giving the Gift of Life

PHILCOY troops show that you don't need to be heroic to save a life - and you can do it laying down!

Peacekeepers from the Philippine Company (PHILCOY) gave the people of Haiti an early Valentine's Day gift this year - one that cannot be manufactured in factories or sold in stores - and even more appreciated than the holiday's usual gifts of jewelry, flowers or candy. On Feb. 10, under the supervision of the Red Cross Volunteers of Haiti, headed by Dr. Uric Jean Babtiste, soldiers from the Company gave their own blood during a blood donation drive at PHILCOY headquarters at Camp Delta, Port-au-Prince.



After carefully filling out detailed information sheets, each PHILCOY member was carefully checked Dr. Babtiste, who took each soldier's blood pressure and screened each for donation.

A total of 157 PHILCOY personnel participated in the activity, from coordination to actual extraction, with 97 PHILCOY soldiers giving blood. Members of the Filipino community in Haiti were also present during the activity.

According to SN1 Marilou S. Galido, PN, a clerk assigned to the office of the Deputy Force Commander, donating blood held a special meaning.

"As a first timer for this kind of activity, it is my honor to be a part of this very meaningful occasion to share my blood to our brothers and sisters here in Haiti as a gesture of generosity and to help one another," said Galido. "I am very proud to be a part of it."



The Project wrapped up later in the afternoon, when Col. Jimmy Larida, PN(M), Commander of the Philippine Contingent, turned over the collected blood to the head of the Haitian Red Cross.

Col. Larida commended the very important contribution of the Red Cross volunteers and those who donated blood.

“To serve MINUSTAH better, the blood letting activity is PHILCOY’s own little way of sending a message to all stakeholders that we do care for a Haitian life,” said Larida. “The activity motto “Donate blood, Save Life” speaks for itself. It is indeed our pleasure to help save the life of someone we do not even know. He could be anybody on the street.”

As a token of appreciation, Col. Larida pinned a Philippine Flag ornament on the collar of each Red Cross volunteer on behalf of the PHILCOY.



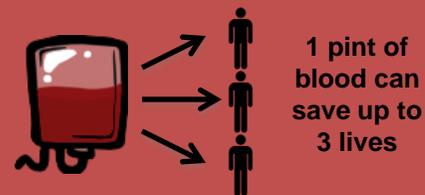
More than 100 pints of blood were collected - almost enough to fill the gas tank of a UN Nissan Patrol vehicle!



**PHILIPPINE
COMPANY**

THE PEACEKEEPER

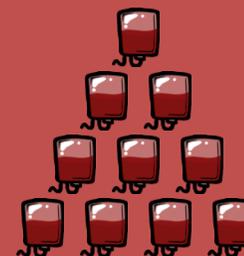
Quick Facts on Blood Donation



1 pint of blood can save up to 3 lives



Every 2 seconds, someone needs a blood transfusion



An adult has about 10 pints of blood in their body. 1 pint is given during a blood donation.



OPERATION HERCULES: THREE CITIES, ONE MISSION

On February 6th, Argentinian Battalion (ARGBAT) conducted “Operation HERCULES,” which, like the mythical god it was named after, included a demonstration of strength and a security presence. At the same time, the operation included several simultaneous civil-military activities in three major cities of the ARGBAT area of operations: Saint Marc, Dessalines and Gonaives. Operation HERCULES had an important dual purpose: to provide a show of force for the criminal element, and to support those residents most in need.



The operation involved 22 transport and support vehicles, along with more than 150 men of the two ARGBAT Infantry Companies and THE Command and Support Company.

HERCULES began before dawn with the establishment of the column of vehicles in the ARGBAT field. At 0600 hours the movement began with the first destination: the town of Saint Marc. Upon arrival, the infantry troops deployed, and for more than two hours patrolled every corner of the city, experiencing a positive reception from the population.

Three hours later, the movement started again, to the town of Dessalines, where ARGBAT began a similar procedure. While simultaneously conducting patrols, a CIMIC team established a distribution point of clean drinking water in one of the most deprived areas of the city, giving residents almost 5,000 liters of water.



Next, the third phase of the operation was launched in the city of Gonaives. Patrols walked the streets for more than three hours, while another 5,000 liters of drinking water were delivered in the Bigot neighborhood.

Operation HERCULES, as with all MINUSTAH’s security and CIMIC operations, are aimed at showing the people of Haiti the UN’s presence and commitment to helping those in need.



ARGENTINEAN BATTALION



Building a Safer Community

GUAMPCOY peacekeepers celebrated the inauguration of a Quick Impact Project in Carrefour Jan. 30.

In September of last year, peacekeepers from GUAMPCOY launched a QIP, or “Quick Impact Project” at the “Annexe Mahoudou” at the School Mixte de St. Roch in the Carrefour region. The project was developed upon the request of the Society of Priests of St. Jacques in Haiti, a religious congregation that runs the school and two other annexes in the area, serving a nearly 800 children and adolescents in all three locations.



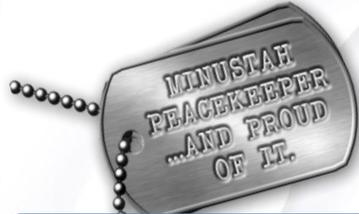
For more than two months, the troops were at work, constructing a sports court; building a fenced wall around the school’s perimeter to increase security for its students; and making many improvements to the school’s multipurpose room, including a concrete slab with gravel and a newly-installed electrical system.



The complex is located at the rural area of Carrefour and is more than just a school - it is also a space for social gathering for over 3000 members of the community of St. Roch, Dufresnay. This QIP will provide benefits for the local population today and will serve the community for years to come.



**GUATEMALAN
MILITARY POLICE**



The Profession of Peace



In 2012, Uruguay commemorated 60 uninterrupted years of United Nations peacekeeping. As 2013 begins, soldiers from Uruguay continue to make considerable strides to bringing peace to the people of Haiti.

Peacekeepers under many flags have supported MINUSTAH since its inception. Each contributing nation has unique experiences and stories to tell. A little-known story, but one that its peacekeepers hold with pride, is how significantly the country of Uruguay has contributed to peacekeeping operations over the past 60 years.

At the end of February, Uruguay contributed nearly 950 troops to MINUSTAH. Yet their history in supporting peacekeeping goes back even farther. Uruguay has supported United Nations actions since 1952, when they sent observers to the border between India and Pakistan. Even before the creation of the UN, four Uruguayan officers had participated in 1935 in an international peacekeeping mission in the Chaco Boreal, after an armed conflict between Bolivia and Paraguay, which is the farthest antecedent of a Uruguayan military action in the service of peace outside borders. Overall, Uruguay has participated in 29 operations, with 37,000 men and women involved.

In fact, Uruguay contributes more peacekeepers in proportion to its population than any other country

on earth, and ranks the tenth in the world for their contribution in number of military personnel.

At the end of 2012, 2,434 Uruguayans were deployed with the United Nations, with 91 observers and 2,400 as contingents. Another interesting fact is that 4.24% of Uruguayans deployed in peacekeeping missions worldwide are women.

Uruguay's commitment to peacekeeping is recognized at the highest levels. In June 2011, during his speech at the National School for Peacekeeping Operations in Uruguay's capital of Montevideo, UN Secretary Ban Ki Moon praised Uruguay's commitment to global peacekeeping.

"When adjusted for population, no country contributes more troops than Uruguay. Your efforts directly help millions of people by providing security and promoting reconciliation, clearing land-mines and demobilizing combatants, strengthening institutions and the rule of law, delivering aid and repatriating refugees and displaced persons, supporting democratic elections, reforming the security sector, and so much more."

URUGUAYAN PEACEKEEPERS AT WORK IN HAITI



Above: A peacekeeper from URUBATT 1 feeds children at the "Lt. Col. Gonzalo Martirené" School at Lascahobas Jan. 21. The battalion is working to build the school with the Evangélico Educative Center at Lascahobas.

A soldier from URUBATT 2 takes part in a potable water distribution project. From Feb. 15-21, 12,000 liters of water were distributed to multiple locations Fort Liberté City and Ouanaminthe - benefitting 1,285 Haitians.



Troops from URUBATT 2 conduct an "insertion and extraction" patrol in Mombin Crochu Town to promote a visible presence, conduct outreach to citizens, restoring and maintaining a safe and secure environment, and act as a deterrent to crime.



Troops from URUBATT 1 continue construction on the Educative Centre at Gimballo Feb. 8. Once completed, the project will ultimately benefit 110 children.

URUMAR: OPERATION BARRACUDA

On January 6, five nautical miles offshore from Anse a Galets port, URUMAR conducted two successful rescues of vessels in distress.

The first was a two-person canoe carrying a teenager and a child who were fishing in the area when their boat capsized and sank. A UN patrol boat was in the area conducting engine testing and came to help.

URUMAR also came to the rescue of a sailboat with manned by two locals carrying 10 adults and two children belonging to a U.S. NGO who were vacationing.



The rescues proved to be difficult as the rescue boats were above a shallow reef, so URUMAR personnel had to swim about 100 meters to aid the distressed vessels.





CHIBAT Makes the Goal with New Sports Field

Peacekeepers from Chile inaugurated a new soccer field built for the local population of "the Fossett," in downtown Cap Haitien Jan. 23.

CHIBAT, through the Department of Community Violence Reduction (CVR) of UN, opened the field after three weeks of debris removal, land-leveling and construction of the field, which also has solar energy powered lighting.

The project was initially conceived in 2004 by the then 1st Lieutenant Favio Santibanez, now Commander, who came to fulfill the mission by asking for local support from the "Lynx" Company 313 of the Marine Corps of the Navy, who assisted in developing the project.

Opening ceremonies were held Jan. 23 on the court and were attended by



Construction of the soccer field begins.



With a little paint, the field begins its transformation.

the Regional Officer Chief of MINUSTAH, Emilio Castaneda; CHIBAT Commander Lieutenant Colonel Sergio Estévez Valencia, UN officials, the mayor and all the troops who worked in construction. Altogether, about 1000 people attended the opening ceremony.



Officials cut the ribbon Jan. 23, officially opening the field for play.



Let the games begin!

This project aims to create awareness on the importance of sports in society and helping to introduce residents to a healthy lifestyle. The project also aims to reduce vices such as alcohol abuse and crime.

After the traditional ribbon cutting, the court's first soccer game began, which featured local Haitians, Chileans and Brazilians.

While the game ended with a score of zero to zero, the ultimate victors are the population of Cap Haitien who will be able to utilize this brand-new facility.



CHILEAN BATTALION





OPERATION VENICE FREEDOM: CRUSHING CRIMINALITY WITH COOPERATION

The streets of Port-au-Prince are one step closer to safety after a joint operation conducted Jan. 25.

Troops from the Brazilian Marines (BRAMAR) joined officers from the UN Police (UNPOL) and the Haitian National Police (HNP) in Operation VENICE FREEDOM, conducted in the neighborhoods of Bel-Air and Delmas.

The operation was held in response to gangs that were operating in the Bel-Air area. These criminals were involved in homicides, thefts, extortion and kidnappings. Often, these gang members possessed firearms and illegal drugs, and vied with one another for control of the land and commercial areas. This criminal element threatened the population and even put them at risk of gunfire between rival gangs.



Using cordon and sweep tactics, the troops, UNPOL and HNP officers were able to detain 50 suspected criminals and apprehend seven motorcycles. The operation also served another important goal: reinforcing the relationships between the military component, UNPOL and the HNP - an very important step in strengthening the rule of law and decreasing criminal activity.



**BRAZILIAN MARINES
COMPANY**



Haiti's Children: Haiti's Future

Argentinian peacekeepers had the opportunity this month to makes the lives of Haitian children a little bit brighter.

On Saturday, Feb. 16th, peacekeepers from the Argentinian Battalion's CIMIC section visited the orphanage "Jesus Loves Me" in order to share a day with the children who live there. This orphanage is located in one of the poorest areas of Gonaives, in the West Bienac neighborhood, about 15 minutes from the ARGBAT camp.

The orphanage was established in 2002 and today is authorized by the Institute of Social Welfare and Research (IBESR). Currently, about 26 children of different ages are housed there.

The CIMIC section arrived at the orphanage around 10:00 a.m. and was welcomed by the orphanage manager, Mr. Delfin Cebien. The team consisted of about 20 men from a variety of specialties, including musicians, cooks, nurses, medical doctors and dentists.



The troops were greeted by the children, who were singing happy songs of welcome. The children were then reviewed by doctors and dentists, particularly those who were not in good health. The most common conditions found were flu and unfortunately, some cases of malnutrition. For these cases, the doctors gave the necessary medications and their commitment of to check the children again and monitor their progress.

Afterwards, the small ARGBAT music band played some typical Argentine songs for the children before sharing a delicious meal prepared by the chefs of the battalion.



**ARGENTINEAN
BATTALION**



Cooking up Success for Haitian Women



Forty Haitian women are more prepared to provide for their homes and families after graduating from two courses conducted by Chilean Battalion Jan. 25.

With the help of CHIBAT peacekeepers from the Army and Navy, the women received two weeks of instruction on baking and cooking, and first aid. Both classes were organized for Haitian women to empower them and provide them with vital living skills.

Army Captain Ignacio Olivares, health officer, taught theoretical and practical first-aid skills with several Chilean combat Battalion Sergeants.

The cooking and baking course was led by Sgt. Armada Pablo Contreras, with cooks who taught

the women various cooking techniques and methods of cooking dishes of Chile, in order to make the women aware of other cultures.

The 40 women received their diplomas Jan. 25 from CHIBAT Commander Lieutenant Colonel Sergio Estévez Valencia, the representative of the Chief Regional Officer of MINUSTAH, Soraya Adouane, and teachers of each branch.

This activity is part of the commitment of the Armed Forces of Chile in MINUSTAH in improve the education and lifestyle of Haitians.



CHILEAN BATTALION





Farewell, General Goulart



We bid farewell to Major General Fernando Rodrigues Goulart after a year of dedicated service to MINUSTAH. General, on behalf of all peacekeepers, thank you for your leadership, and we wish you the best in all your future endeavors!



During the official Force Commander handover ceremony March 27 at Camp Charlie in Port-au-Prince, Maj. Gen. Goulart officially turned his command of the military component over to Lt. Gen. Edson Leal Pujol, of Brazil. Afterward, Gen. Goulart received his United Nations medal from Mr. Nigel Fisher, acting Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) in recognition of his service to MINUSTAH over the past year. Photos by Igor Rugwiza, UN/MINUSTAH.

Maj. Gen. Goulart's leadership of MINUSTAH's military component spanned from March 2012 to March 2013. Here are just a few highlights of his dedicated service to the mission of peacekeeping in Haiti.



Maj. Gen. Goulart speaks to CHIBAT peacekeepers during a visit to Cap Haitien Oct. 23, 2012.



Maj. Gen. Goulart takes charge as Force Commander from outgoing Force Commander Maj. Gen. Luiz Ramos Mar. 27, 2012. Photo by Logan Abassi UN/MINUSTAH.



Maj. Gen. Goulart takes part in a press conference at the International Peacekeepers Day ceremony May 29, 2013.



Maj. Gen. Goulart meets ARGBAT peacekeepers during a visit to Gonaives Aug. 2, 2012.

Maj. Gen. Goulart returns a salute at the Nepalese Battalion Medal Parade Apr. 2, 2012.





Maj. Gen. Goulart overlooks Port au Prince during a reconnaissance flight Aug. 26, 2012, to ascertain the situation after tropical storm Isaac passed over the island. Photo by Logan Abassi UN/MINUSTAH.

Maj. Gen. Goulart greets a child during Operation ADSUMUS III in Port au Prince Feb. 15, 2012, a CIMIC operation held to promote the rule of law and connect with the Haitian population.



Maj. Gen. Goulart receives a lesson in dental care from a dentist with the Sri Lankan Battalion during his visit to SRIBAT Oct. 27, 2012.



Following an INDOENGOY tradition, Maj. Gen. Goulart plants a tree during his visit to Indonesian peacekeepers Apr. 14, 2012.



Maj. Gen. Goulart awards the UN medal of recognition to a Guatemalan peacekeeper in recognition for his service to MINUSTAH in Port au Prince April 13, 2012. Photo by Logan Abassi UN/MINUSTAH.

Farewell Message from General Goulart



My dear Peacekeepers,

A year ago, in the month of March, I arrived in Haiti to take charge of MINUSTAH's Military Component, ready to lead this magnificent United Nations Force.

Now, one year later as I depart the mission, I take some time to reflect on the many accomplishments we have made together during this past time - instances that continue to impress on me the distinctive caliber of our military force.

Throughout this past year, you assisted the Haitian authorities in keeping Haiti's security situation stable, deterring criminality despite the volatile political environment, the passage of hurricanes and tropical storms and the dire socio-economic conditions affecting the population. You conducted frequent and well-planned operations that reinforced the rule of law and allowed MINUSTAH, UN agencies and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to operate safely in the country. And, just as importantly, nearly each day you performed projects that helped making the lives of Haitians better - engineering projects, water and food distribution, medical and dental fairs, orphanage and school visits, and countless other civil-military projects and activities.

Since 2004, honorable soldiers from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Jordan, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, United States and Uruguay, and more recently joined by Indonesians, Japanese and Koreans, have been writing pages of success

and goodwill in the highlands, plains and coastal areas of Haiti. During my time at MINUSTAH, I was a first-hand witness to their integrity, dedication and determination. Day and night, no matter how different our flags and cultural backgrounds are, we worked together as a team, united under the UN banner with the ultimate goal of helping the Haitian people. Now, as I return to my homeland, I am confident that you will continue to live this tradition and will remain committed to the Mission in everything that you do.

I wish you all the best in your endeavors. Well done!

FERNANDO RODRIGUES GOULART

Major General

Force Commander, March 2012-March 2013

MINUSTAH





Beyond the ceremonial...

For each Peacekeeper, the Medal Parade is an intense moment pride, prestige, and recognition for one's hard work and dedication to the United Nations mission. The ribbon bears a band of four colors: The Blue represents the United Nations; the Green symbolizes the lush green countryside and economic potential of Haiti; the Royal Blue symbolizes the ocean surrounding the island of Hispaniola; and the White symbolizes the promise of peace for the Haitian people. The qualifying service for receipt of the medal is 90 days continuous service with the Mission.



**BRAZILIAN
BATTALION
MARCH 21, 2013
CAMP CHARLIE
PORT-AU-PRINCE**





The medal parades also are an occasion for peacekeepers to present their traditions and culture through shows of dance or sport. And, after the ceremony is over, it is time for sharing and fraternity between the nations that constitute our big family of peacekeepers.





PERUVIAN COMPANY

Peacekeepers from PERCOY and PARENGCOY visited the orphanage “Hope House” in the town of Fonds Pariesen Feb. 22, home to 359 boys and girls. The female comedic group “Funny Time” and the clown troupe “Funny Bone” – all PERCOY peacekeepers – kept the children entertained before they shared a snack of rice pudding and juice. A day earlier, PERCOY delivered 10,000 liters of drinking water to the orphanage, and an additional 3,000 liters to 70 families living nearby.



Above: A team from NEPBATT held a medical camp Jan. 22 at the Kan Teren IDP Camp in Belvil, treating 80 residents.
Below: Jan. 18-20, the medical team joined a medical fair in Croix-des-Bouquets, treating 439 Haitians.



NEPALESE BATTALION



On Feb. 21 troops from the Argentinean Aviation unit conducted a search and rescue exercise with two flight crews and a convoy team. This type of exercise is conducted at least once a month for crew training in search and rescue at sea, and involves insertion of divers in the water as well as the deployment of ground support, in case the exercise becomes a real emergency. This type of training is used to prepare for evacuating personnel in distress at sea.



ARGENTINEAN AVIATION



PARAGUAYAN ENGINEERS

BOLCOY's Odontology personnel conducted a CIMIC operation Feb. 18 in the orphanage "Foyer des Enfants Demunis d'Haiti (FEDD), located in Croix-des Bouquets" where they conducted dental exams and gave toothbrushes to the children living there. Troops also distributed several school supplies, including notebooks, rulers, erasers and pencils to the children.

BRAZILIAN ENGINEERS



Peacekeepers from BRAENCOY deliver food to 97 children of the Rose Mina de Diegue orphanage in Petionville.

BRAENCOY also delivers potable water to the orphanage each week. Below: BRAENCOY's perforation well team removes an underwater pump and cleans an artesian well at the Jean-Baptiste Pointe du Sable school. in Saint-Marc.



Peacekeepers from PARENCOY commemorates Paraguayan Women's Day Feb. 24 with a celebratory mass and barbeque dinner. The day is celebrated throughout Paraguay to remember the women of the "First Assembly of American Women" held in 1867 in the city of Asuncion, who willingly gave up all their jewelry and trinkets to help the cause of the War of the Triple Alliance.

BOLIVIAN COMPANY



PARAGUAYAN ENGINEERS

SMS - SMS



The Sri Lankan 16th Battalion constructed a bus shelter Jan. 16 in Leogane. Built by SRIBAT peacekeepers, the shelter accommodates 10 seats. The stop is located on National Highway No. 2, serving the North and the South of Haiti, and will offer passengers protection from the Haitian year-round elements of both sun and rain.



On Feb. 21 three PERCOY peacekeepers, under the supervision of Dr. Claudio Alvarez Lam, the doctor of the Peruvian Company "Chavin de Huantar" provided medical care and medical consulting to residents of Collégé Notre-Dame de la Fraternité in Croix Bouquets. The project benefitted 70 adults and children living at the facility.



Engineers from INDOENGLCOY carry out repair operations of the 40 kilometer road from Port de Paix to Jean Rabel, located in the north-west section of Haiti, near the coast. The project began in late November, 2012.



PERUVIAN COMPANY



SRI LANKAN BATTALION



INDONESIAN ENGINEERS



CHILEAN AVIATION



Ten peacekeepers from the Chilean Helicopters Group visited the 120 children that live at the "Good Samaritan" orphanage Feb. 4 and provided them gifts, candy, school supplies and clothing. The Chileans visited this orphanage regularly, and this was sadly the last visit for them before returning to Chile.



Peacekeepers from CHIECUENGOY deliver clean drinking water to the residents of the "Rose Mina" orphanage, located in Port-au-Prince on Feb. 11.



CHILEAN AND ECUADORIAN ENGINEERS



BRAZILIAN BATTALION 2

BRABAT 2 held a "Movie on the Square" Feb. 22 in Peace Square near Delmas 2. These CIMIC events are a regular effort to bring Haitians together for an evening of education and entertainment. The audience viewed the film "Faux Hougan," after which Cpl. Tony Eduardo Reis from the battalion provided musical entertainment and peacekeepers demonstrated "capoeira," a Brazilian martial art that combines elements of dance and music.



SMS - SMS



UN photo / Logan Abassi

*"Peacekeeping is not a job for soldiers,
but only soldiers can do it".*

Dag Hammarskjöld,
United Nations Secretary General 1953-1961.
Nobel Peace Prize 1961.