



Defence Forces' Annual Report 2004


ÓGLAIGH NA HÉIREANN

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Statement by the Chief of Staff



I present herewith the Defence Forces' annual report for the year ending 31 December 2004. The year 2004 proved to be one of the busiest for the Defence Forces in recent times and I want first of all to put on record my sincere thanks to the men and women of the Defence Forces who performed so admirably over the past year, both at home and overseas. Frequent deployments both within the State and overseas are part and parcel of military life, what we signed up to; nevertheless I am very conscious of the disruption to personal and family life that this brings and I applaud our personnel for the professional manner in which they get on with the business of soldiering while organising their personal lives accordingly.

Despite our recent equipment acquisitions we will never be a very "high tech" Defence Forces; our strength, in the past and for the future, lies in the quality of our personnel. We must always balance the needs of force protection with dealing with

the people, wherever we operate, in an open and friendly manner. As we deploy to ever more complex and demanding situations, maintaining this proper balance becomes all the more difficult. We must continue to prepare our personnel with this in mind and this is done through education, training and exercising. Considerable emphasis was placed on these areas in 2004.

Uncertain and ambiguous situations are part and parcel of peace support operations today and these are best dealt with by well trained troops with leaders at all levels who are flexible, resourceful and adaptive. During 2004, we have carried out a review of a number of our schools and training centres. Significant changes will be brought forward during 2005, not least of which will be the development of a Leadership Centre at the Military College, where our officers and NCOs will undergo short intensive sessions to keep them abreast of new developments and help them to develop their own leadership.

There was a time when peace support operations were carried out under Chapter VI of the UN Charter (peacekeeping) and usually involved securing a peace agreement or arrangement between two warring states. Today when troops are deployed on peace support operations it is more often the case that there is no peace to keep, that the protagonists are non-state actors, less amenable to any international sanctions and the deployment is usually under Chapter VII (peace enforcement). In fact, of ten Blue Helmet peace support missions mounted since 2000, nine have been under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, including UNMIL, where we are presently deployed. While some like to hark back to the earlier scenario, our duty is to prepare troops for the reality of today and this can only be done through robust, challenging training and exercising.

2004 saw a continued increase in the numbers being exercised at company and battalion level in the field and as the range of deployments increases, we are now developing tailored mission specific exercises before each deployment.

Demanding and challenging training is necessary for the preparation of soldiers; it is not incompatible with our Dignity Charter. During 2004 we continued to work on the issues raised in the "Challenge of the Workplace" and a response report was issued that outlines the measures already taken and those that remain to be put in place.

At the start of the year we had 832 personnel deployed overseas. The majority of postings are for six months and this means that about 20% of our army strength rotates through overseas each year. The new approach for raising units - the 'Lead Brigade Concept' - with Brigades taking turns for raising units, has worked extremely well. Overseas units are now "Force Packages" rather than battalions, each tailored to the specific mission with elements drawn from the Brigade units as required.

The Quick Reaction unit we deploy to Liberia is the Force Commander's Reserve unit prepared for any situation that might arise and was described by the Deputy Head of UN Peacekeeping Operations as **"Going far beyond traditional peacekeeping and providing the cutting edge for the force"**. We can take pride in the manner that peace was restored and has been maintained in that country, not least by the very successful disarmament and demobilisation process, which has disarmed over 100,000 fighters, and paved the way for elections in October 2005. Furthermore 10,000 Liberians have been repatriated from neighbouring countries and 100,000 displaced persons have been resettled. In December, Uachtarán na hÉireann, Mary McAleese accompanied by the

Minister for Defence, Mr. Willie O'Dea T.D. paid a visit to our personnel serving in Liberia. This recognition of the work of our troops overseas was deeply appreciated by the personnel of the 92nd Battalion and indeed by all personnel of the Defence Forces.

On St. Patrick's Day 2004, ethnic violence erupted throughout Kosovo with the Serbian enclaves coming under sustained attack. Our troops quickly deployed to protect those under attack, and the Irish unit's professionalism, training and experience helped to ensure that large-scale loss of life did not occur. In the aftermath of the violence, Brigadier-General Anders Brannstrom, the Swedish head of the Multinational Brigade Centre in Kosovo praised our soldiers' bravery in the face of riotous crowds saying: **"Without the intervention of these Irish personnel, I believe that the majority of the people saved would have been killed"**.

Our contribution over the year was not just in terms of formed units; individual personnel made valuable contributions in places such as the Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia and the Middle East. An example of this would be the contribution made by one of our officers in support of the African Union (AU) effort in Darfur. Towards the end of the year, we deployed a military police team and weapons verification team as well as experienced staff officers in support of the most significant European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) mission to date: OPERATION ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Significantly, at the end of the year we had a unit deployed under UN leadership in Liberia, under NATO-PfP leadership in Kosovo and under EU leadership in Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the turn of the year we deployed a small number of logistics experts to Sri Lanka as part of the tsunami relief effort there.

It was not only in the field that Defence Forces' personnel contributed to peace support and crisis management operations. The posting of staff to key appointments at the United Nations Headquarters, including that of the Chief of Staff at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, helped to shape UN policy while our personnel at the European Union played a significant role in developing EU Security and Defence policy particularly as part of our EU Presidency.

With the increasing reliance of the UN on regional organisations, the Defence Forces in May 2004, as part of our EU Presidency, arranged a two-day conference on EU-UN synergy in crisis management. Key personnel from both organisations attended the event, which was acknowledged by all sides to have made a significant contribution to developing the relationship between the UN and the EU.

Our assistance to An Garda Síochána continued to form an important part of our work during the year. As part of this work the Defence Forces had 2,700 troops and associated equipment deployed on duties in the Phoenix Park during the May Day security period. During the visit of President George Bush to Ireland in June, the Defence Forces again deployed 2,260 troops in support of the Gardai in the Shannon area. Both of these Defence Forces' operations were at minimal extra costs.

Troops continue to be provided on an ongoing basis to cash escorts, prisoner escorts, prison guards, explosive escorts, and other aid to the civil power duties. During the year the Defence Forces continued to provide bomb disposal cover for the State and also developed its expertise in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear areas. Troops prepared and equipped to deal with such incidents were deployed for both the May Day events and the visit of President George Bush in June 2004. The Defence

Forces also continued to provide its complement of personnel to the Department of Defence Office of Emergency Planning, including a highly qualified and experienced technical expert. The Defence Forces also trained and prepared almost 2,000 personnel for prison duties at the request of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

The Air Corps and Naval Service continued to carry out a range of functions during the year. The Air Corps provided aerial surveillance for cash and prisoner escorts and fishery protection; aircrew and maintenance of Garda aircraft; air ambulance tasking and, especially during "our EU Presidency", ministerial air transport services. The Air Corps acquired the new Pilatus fixed wing aircraft and an order was placed for a number of utility helicopters. Regrettably, during 2004 the Air Corps lost one of its fine young pilots when Lt Raymond Heery was killed in an air accident. I would like to convey, on behalf of the Defence Forces, our deepest sympathy and condolences to Raymond's family and friends. Go raibh rath Dé ar a anam.

The Naval Service continued to meet its roles as the State's principal seagoing agency not least that of fishery protection, particularly in the inhospitable waters of the North Atlantic. Once again the Naval Service succeeded in increasing its number of seagoing days over and above that of the preceding year.

In regard to the Reserve Defence Force, the work of study and consultation on the future of the reserve came to a head with the launch in July of the Reserve Defence Force's Review Implementation Plan. Work is ongoing particularly in the area of the administrative regulations and procedures that have to be put in place by October 2005, when the formal establishment of new reserve units takes place.

As part of the modernisation process, the delegation of financial authority to the military continued during 2004 and now 53% of the Defence Forces' spend, excluding pay and compensation, is delegated to the Chief of Staff.

During 2004, the Government decision on decentralisation continued to be progressed within the Defence Forces. A site for the new Defence Forces' Headquarters has been identified at the Curragh and much of the initial planning completed. The Curragh Camp, which is our most significant installation, provides the ideal home for the Defence Forces' Headquarters. It is planned that the Chief of Staff and both Deputy Chiefs with a small Strategic Planning staff will relocate to Newbridge as part of the decentralisation of the Department of Defence.

As we pass the half way stage in the life of the White Paper on Defence 2000, it is not an exaggeration to say that the Defence Forces have been transformed. The strengths have been reduced to 10,500 while many new and much more demanding overseas missions have been taken on, staffed by young vibrant soldiers, the product of ongoing recruitment, motivated and led by experienced officers and NCOs.

Significant amounts of Defence property have been sold and the proceeds invested in equipment and infrastructure, achieving the critical 70:30 ratio in terms of personnel costs to equipment and infrastructure, as has been recommended by so many reviews down the years.

We have a Defence Forces who have now embraced ongoing change as part of our culture, a Defence Forces that is efficient and effective, vibrant and confident and ready to take on new challenges. All of this has been achieved so far at no extra cost to the State, through the process of downsizing and property sales, sources that we cannot depend upon forever. We are committed to the continued development of a first class military organisation in terms of effectiveness and efficiency.

In September 2004 Mr Willie O'Dea T.D. was appointed Minister for Defence and I want to thank the Minister for his great support and encouragement of Óglaigh na hÉireann. I would also like to thank the personnel of the Department of Defence for their continued support throughout the year.

Finally I wish to thank the members of the public for their great support to their Defence Forces down through the years and look forward to their continued support in the future.



**Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff**

Defence Overview



Introduction

The White Paper on Defence 2000 emphasised the need to ensure that Ireland has conventionally organised Defence Forces, that are affordable, sustainable, and capable of carrying out the roles assigned by Government. It also assessed the prevailing national and international security environments and mapped out a restructuring process for the Defence Forces.

Since the publication of the White Paper, the general security environment has changed considerably following the attacks of 11th September 2001 in the United States, and 11th March 2004 in Madrid. These events have highlighted a global terrorist threat bringing with it the need for measures to detect and disrupt the threat and the requirement for 'consequence management' in relation to terrorist incidents. The agreement of the European Security Strategy, as well as developments in European Security and Defence Policy, not least the Headline Goal 2010, also impact on the current security environment. Notwithstanding these developments, the key objectives mapped out in the White Paper of 2000 remain valid:

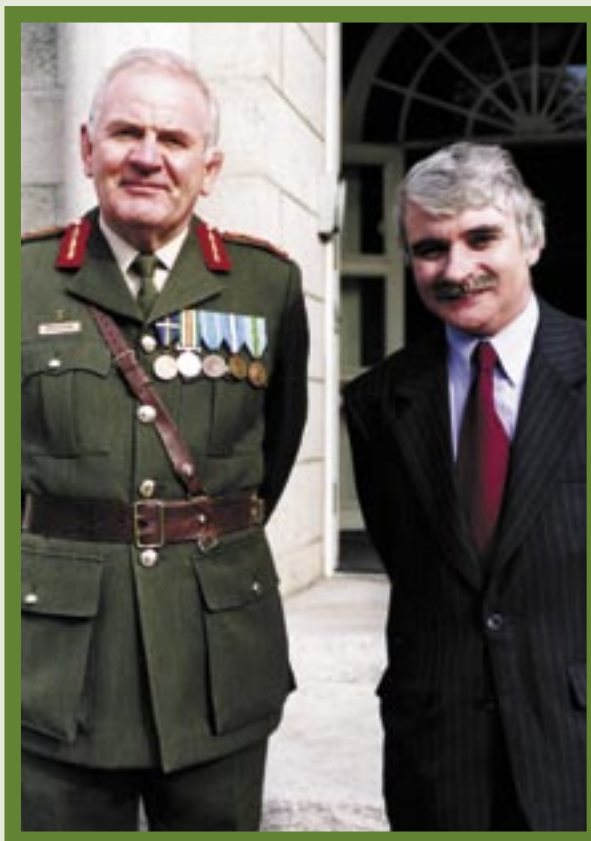
- To provide a light infantry-based force with an appropriate level of all-arms capability.
- To provide sufficient forces and capabilities to meet needs at home and to make a significant contribution abroad.
- To put in place a more cohesive and better-equipped force than existed in 2000.
- To provide significant additional resources for equipment and infrastructure broadly within the existing level of financial allocation.

The Defence Forces, through its Strategy Statement (2003-2005), aims to improve its capacity to deliver on all core activities, while at the same time fulfilling the other roles assigned by Government efficiently and effectively. The statement outlines four realistic, attainable but challenging strategic goals to be progressed during the lifetime of the statement. The main part of this Annual Report describes the

progress achieved in each of the four strategic goals during 2004, while the final part deals with the financial allocations associated with the Defence Vote for the reporting year.

Mandate

The Constitution of Ireland exclusively vests the right to raise and maintain military and armed forces in the Oireachtas and expressly prohibits the raising and maintenance of any other force for any purpose whatsoever. The Oireachtas enacted the Defence Act, 1954 as the primary legislative instrument from which the Defence Forces (*Óglaigh na hÉireann*) derives its legislative standing pursuant to the Constitution. The Defence Act has been the subject of several amendments; most recently, the Defence Amendment Act of 1998, which provides for the re-organisation of territorial boundaries and Defence Forces' Headquarters organisation.



Mr. Willie O'Dea T.D., Minister for Defence and Lieutenant General Jim Sreenan, Chief of Staff.

Defence Forces' Headquarters and Command Arrangements

The military element of the Department of Defence consists of a Defence Forces' Headquarters, which is headed by the Chief of Staff. The Chief of Staff is directly responsible to the Minister for the overall management of the Defence Forces. Mr Willie O'Dea T.D. was appointed Minister for Defence on 29 September 2004. The Chief of Staff is the principal military adviser to the Minister for Defence. Legislative provision enables the Chief of

Staff to delegate duties to the Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations) and the Deputy Chief of Staff (Support).

Military command is delegated by the Minister directly to the General Officers Commanding (GOCs) in each of the three territorial brigades (Eastern, Southern and Western), to the GOCs of the Defence Forces' Training Centre and the Air Corps and to the Flag Officer Commanding the Naval Service. Each of these officers is responsible to the Minister for the exercise of the command delegated to him.

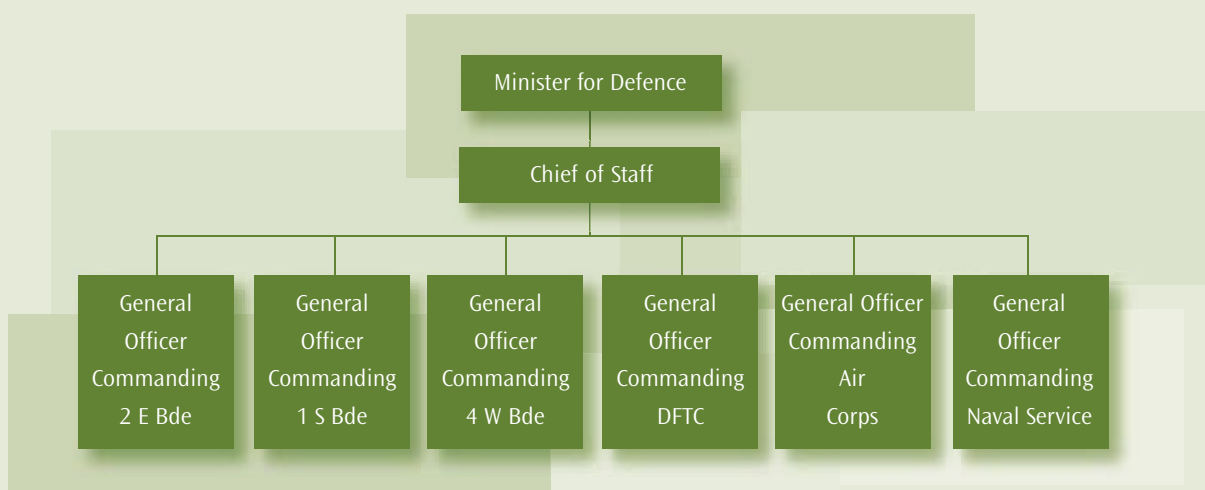
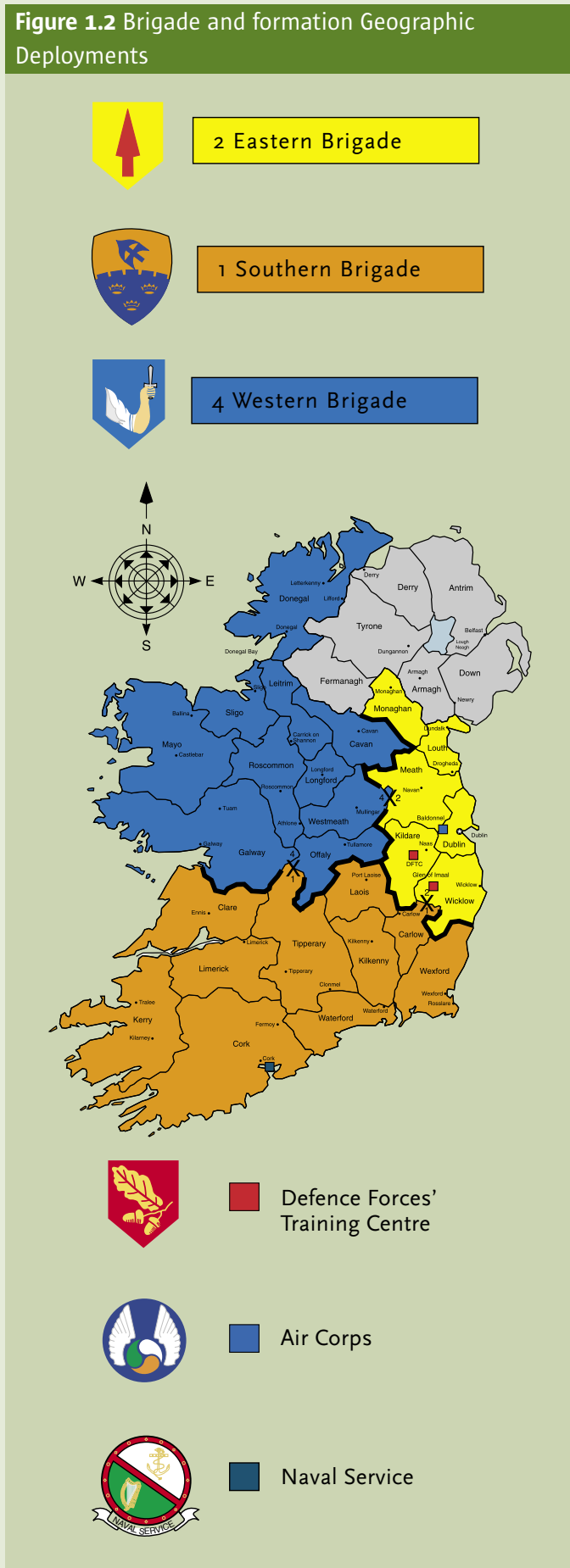


Fig 1.1 Defence Forces' Headquarters and Command Arrangements.

Figure 1.2 Brigade and formation Geographic Deployments



In practice, matters in relation to command are channelled through the Chief of Staff. In effect, this means that day-to-day operational control of the Defence Forces rests with the Chief of Staff for which he is directly responsible to the Minister.

Defence Policy

The State's defence policy is set out in the White Paper on Defence. This policy is stated with a view to ensuring an appropriate level of defence capability having regard to the changing defence and security environment both at home and abroad. The defence and security environment is analysed in the Defence Forces Strategy Statement (2003-2005), as are the new challenges arising, including the development of the European Security and Defence Policy. The Agreed Programme for Government, published in June 2002, also outlines the Government's commitments in the area of defence.

Organisational Structure

The Defence Forces are organised on conventional military lines providing a sufficiently flexible structure to carry out all the roles assigned by Government. The Defence Forces consist of a Permanent Defence Force (PDF) and a Reserve Defence Force (RDF). The PDF is a standing force and provides the primary capabilities for joint military operations at home and combined military peace support operations abroad. The RDF provides the necessary contingent conventional military capability to augment and assist the PDF, when necessary. Defence Forces' Headquarters acts as the strategic headquarters for the Army, Air Corps and Naval Service, and as the operational controlling headquarters for the Army.

Air Corps operational Headquarters is at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnel and Naval Service operational Headquarters is at Haulbowline, Co Cork.

Permanent Defence Force

The Permanent Defence Force consists of an Army, an Air Corps, and a Naval Service.



Army

The Army is structured into three all-arms brigades, consisting of combat, combat support and combat service support elements. Each brigade is designated a territorial area of responsibility, specific garrison locations and a recruitment area as outlined in Figure 1.2.

The Defence Forces' Training Centre (DFTC) and Defence Forces' Logistics Base at the Curragh support the training and logistics functions for the Permanent and the Reserve Defence Forces.

Air Corps

The Air Corps, based at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnell, consists of an operational headquarters, two operational wings, two support wings, an Air Corps Training College, and a Communication and Information Services Squadron. The operational wings consist of a training/light strike squadron, helicopter squadrons, a maritime squadron, a transport squadron and a fixed wing reconnaissance squadron. The support wings are tasked with specialist maintenance of the aircraft fleet.

Naval Service

The Naval Service, based in Haulbowline, Co. Cork, has a flotilla of eight ships, an operational headquarters, an operations command, a logistical support command and a Naval Service College. The flotilla consists of a helicopter patrol vessel squadron, a large patrol vessel squadron, an offshore

patrol vessel squadron and a coastal patrol vessel squadron. The support command is responsible for personnel and all logistical, engineering, and maintenance functions.

Reserve Defence Force

The Reserve Defence Force, at present undergoing restructuring, will mirror the PDF. Units will be rationalised and amalgamated to facilitate the new structure. The RDF will be organised into the First Line Reserve and a Second Line Reserve. The First Line Reserve will comprise former members of the PDF and the Second Line Reserve will comprise an Army Reserve and a Naval Service Reserve.

Army Reserve

The Army Reserve will be organised into integrated and non-integrated elements. In total, there will be nine reserve infantry battalions and eighteen combat support and combat service support units, with three air defence batteries. A reserve brigade headquarters will also be established in each PDF brigade area and will mirror the PDF brigade headquarters.

Naval Service Reserve

The Naval Service Reserve will be divided into two groups known as the Eastern Group and the Southern Group. Each group will consist of two companies: Dublin and Waterford in the East and Cork and Limerick in the South.

Defence Forces' Mission Statement

“To contribute to the security of the State by providing for the military defence of its territorial integrity and to fulfil all roles assigned by Government, through the deployment of well-motivated and effective Defence Forces.”

Mission

The Defence Forces' mission is: **“To contribute to the security of the State by providing for the military defence of its territorial integrity and to fulfil all roles assigned by Government, through the deployment of well-motivated and effective Defence Forces.”**

The mission statement identifies the core activity of the Defence Forces, points to a diverse range of additional tasks, which may be assigned by Government, and emphasises the importance of Defence Forces' personnel and the need for a flexible operational capacity.

Roles

The roles assigned by Government are:

- To defend the State against armed aggression; this being a contingency, preparations for its implementation will depend on an ongoing Government assessment of threats.
- To aid the Civil Power (meaning in practice to assist, when requested, the Garda Síochána, who have primary responsibility for law and order, including the protection of the internal security of the State).
- To participate in multinational peace support, crisis management and humanitarian relief operations in support of the United Nations and under UN mandate, including regional security missions authorised by the UN.
- To provide a fishery protection service in accordance with the State's obligations as a member of the European Union.
- To carry out such other duties as may be assigned to them from time to time e.g. search and rescue, air ambulance service, ministerial air transport service, assistance on the occasion of natural or other disasters, assistance in connection with the maintenance of essential services, assistance in combating oil pollution at sea.



Mr Willie O'Dea T.D., Minister for Defence, Lieutenant General Jim Sreenan, Chief of Staff and Mr Michael Howard, Secretary General, Department of Defence.



Strategic Goals

Arising from the roles and mission of the Defence Forces, the Defence Forces' Strategy Statement (2003-2005), outlines four strategic goals for the organisation:

- To enhance the Defence Forces' capability in contributing to the security of the State.
- To provide the military capability to enable the Defence Forces' to participate in multinational peace support, crisis management and humanitarian relief operations.
- To prepare and implement a human resources' management strategy, which will ensure that military personnel have the requisite skills, abilities, and motivation to effectively and efficiently execute assigned duties and responsibilities.
- To utilise Defence Forces' resources efficiently and effectively in the provision of Government support services.

In the next part of this report each of the above goals are examined and the progress achieved during 2004 for each goal is outlined.



State Defence

“To enhance the Defence Forces’ capability in contributing to the security of the State.”



Context

Defence is a core responsibility of the State and an expression of the nation’s sovereignty. The primary role of the Defence Forces is to contribute to the security of the State by providing military defence of its territorial integrity. Defence Forces’ personnel train for conventional operations at individual, unit and formation level. This training by its nature meets the requirement to have forces capable of conducting conventional operations either at home or overseas and also provides the basis for mission specific operations either in aid to the civil power (ATCP) or across the spectrum of Peace Support Operations. Increased funding has been provided for the Defence Forces in recent times which has facilitated infrastructural improvements and an equipment procurement programme focused on both domestic and peace support operations.

The launch of the “Reserve Defence Force’s Review Implementation Plan” by the Minister for Defence in July 2004 marks the beginning of enhanced co-operation and mutual support between the RDF and the PDF. This will ensure that the PDF have better-trained reserve personnel available to support it in the future. The effectiveness of the Defence Forces in relation to this strategic goal may be assessed in terms of progress in the following areas:

- **Intelligence.**
- **Internal Security Operations.**
- **EU Presidency Operations.**
- **Education Training and Exercises.**
- **Defensive Equipment Procurement Programmes.**
- **Capital Infrastructure Developments.**
- **Utilities Management.**
- **Reserve Defence Force’s Review Implementation Plan.**



Intelligence

Events post September 2001 have required the Defence Forces' to refocus their intelligence effort. The organisation has been reviewed and new improved procedures for analysis introduced. The Defence Forces' intelligence effort is closely harmonised with that of An Garda Síochána. Deployment to Africa, the Balkans and Afghanistan raises the question of force protection for our personnel. Increased efforts have been made in this regard.

Internal Security Operations

Since the foundation of the State, the Defence Forces have supported An Garda Síochána in a wide variety of ATCP operations combating serious subversive threats to the State. During 2004 Ireland held the presidency of the EU and as a result there was an increase in larger Internal Security Operations.

The Defence Forces conducted significant operations for the visits of EU Justice Ministers in January, the visit of EU ministers to Dromoland Castle in March, the EU Accession events in May and the visit of US President Bush in June for the EU/US Summit.

Army ATCP Operations

ATCP operations include border operations such as familiarisation patrols and checkpoints and non-border operations which consist of cash, explosive

and prisoner escorts; military presence at blastings and prisons; specialist search operations and explosive ordnance disposal operations; specialist operations such as counter hijacking, escorts, installation and VIP protection.

Armed Security Escorts

Armed security escorts, explosives escorts, prisoner escorts and cash-in-transit escorts continue to be conducted by the Defence Forces; by the Army on the ground and with the Air Corps providing aerial support as and when required. Explosive escorts have assumed a new importance in the context of international terrorism while the movement of large amounts of cash presents a target for various subversive and criminal elements.

Security of Key Installations

The key installations that continued to be secured by the Defence Forces during 2004 were Government Buildings, the Central Bank, Portlaoise Prison and Hospital, the Irish Industrial Explosive factory at Enfield, and Dublin Docklands (during loading and unloading of munitions on ships). The Defence Forces carried out patrols to the following key installations: airports, docklands, prisons, courts, RTÉ, ESB, CIE installations, and fuel storage facilities. A total of 1,982 armed guard parties were required to secure the installations, and 1,384 patrols were conducted.



Defence Forces Personnel form up on route to Operation Munster Summit, Shannon, June 2004.

EU Presidency Operations

The Irish Presidency of the EU from January to June 2004 brought an increased number of ATCP operations at a number of locations across the State. Two brigade level operations were carried out, one in Dublin on the occasion of the accession of the new member states (Operation Mayfly) in May 2004, and one in the Shannon Region (Operation Munster Summit) on the occasion of the EU-US Summit at Dromoland Castle in June 2004.

Operation Mayfly, 1st May 2004

As part of the accession of ten new member states to the EU, a Heads of Government meeting and cultural events were scheduled for Dublin in the Phoenix Park, including Farmleigh Estate, Áras an Uachtaráin and Dublin city centre on 1st May 2004. The Defence Forces deployed a joint force of 2,700 personnel, and associated equipment to assist An Garda Síochána in the maintenance of Public Order and to provide security for the Heads of Government meeting on 1st May 2004.

The Defence Forces operated in an ATCP role and GOC 2 Eastern Brigade had overall command responsibility for the operation. Troops and equipment were provided from all formations and services. The following areas were secured, Farmleigh Estate, Dublin Airport, Casement Aerodrome and Government Buildings.

Naval Service assets were positioned in the Irish Sea and Dublin Bay to provide additional air defence security, and security on commercial sea approaches to Dublin and Dún Laoghaire. Air Corps fixed wing and helicopter assets were positioned

for air exclusion, air interdiction, small airfield reconnaissance, troop transport, airfield security, casualty evacuation and VIP transport. In addition a Defence Forces' chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) team was on standby throughout the period.

Operation Munster Summit

As part of the EU Presidency agenda, Ireland hosted the EU-US Summit at Dromoland Castle, Co. Clare in June 2004. The President of the United States of America was the most high profile visitor to attend the Summit. The Defence Forces were involved in a



joint military operation in ATCP with all Formations, Services and Corps deployed from 14th to 24th June 2004, with land, sea and air assets integrated to provide security for this summit. A total of 2,263 personnel were involved in the operation.

The operation tested and proved the interoperability of all Services and Corps of the Defence Forces. GOC 1 Southern Brigade deployed his Brigade headquarters and brigade units for the operation. This facilitated the affiliation and smooth integration of attached troops from other Formations and Services. The joint headquarters of 1 Southern

Brigade deployed to Shannon for the critical period of the operation and afforded freedom of movement for the Brigade Commander and his headquarters in the immediate area in which the operation was conducted.



Air Corps ATCP Operations

Air Corps ATCP operations involve the provision of aircraft in support of other Defence Forces' components, for example, aerial surveillance of cash, and/or prisoner escorts in support of the Army. In 2004, the Air Corps supported the Army's cash-in-transit escorts with a total of 270 flight missions, comprising 629 flying hours.

Air Support Unit to the Civil Power

The missions undertaken by the Air Corps in support of An Garda Síochána during the three years 2002-2004 are outlined in Table 3.1. The Air Corps maintains and pilots the three Garda aircraft. The duties performed on behalf of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform are traffic control, monitoring large public assemblies, sporting events and providing back-up air support to Garda ground units. The EC-135 light helicopter completed its second year of operation in 2004, leading to a 24% increase in the number of hours flown by the unit.

Table 3.1 Missions flown by the Air Corps Garda Air Support Unit 2002 to 2004

	2002		2003		2004	
	Missions	Flying Hrs	Missions	Flying Hrs	Missions	Flying Hrs
Ecuriel Light Helicopter	919	587	904	633	849	572
Defender Fixed Wing Twin Aircraft	451	537	452	514	404	453
EC 135 Light Helicopter	48	46	897	626	1,468	1,053
Total	1,418	1,170	2,253	1,773	2,721	2,078

Naval Service ATCP Operations

In an end of year review of activities, the Naval Service has identified increases in patrol activity as a significant achievement. Throughout 2004, the Naval Service undertook regular patrols through all of the sea areas over which Ireland has rights and beyond where the State has an interest. Overall, Ireland has actual or potential sovereign rights of varying significance over almost a quarter of a million square nautical miles of sea area. In addition the Naval Service deployed out of area delivering services and showing the flag throughout Western Europe, Canada, and North America.

The Naval Service also provided offshore surveillance in its Drug Interdiction role as part of the Joint Task Force (Naval Service, Gardaí and Customs & Excise) in the fight against drugs importation.

Education, Training and Exercises

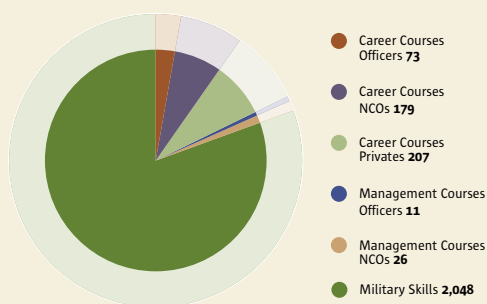
In very broad terms, education is concerned with the development of the individual while training is concerned with the teaching of skills; these are not of course mutually exclusive. Education and training courses are concerned with individual training while exercises provide collective or team training. Small Defence Forces, such as ours undergoing a restructuring, modernisation and re-equipment programme, as well as taking on many new and demanding missions, require a multi-skilled force. The soldier who is deployed overseas as a machine gunner today may well have to deploy as an APC driver next year with the consequent requirement for retraining at individual and collective level. This can place enormous demands on the training



organisation. It is also Defence Forces' policy as a matter of "Force Protection" to train "One up" e.g. in the event of a platoon losing its Sergeant, an NCO with the appropriate training will be available to assume the Sergeant's role. New equipment brings with it the requirement for individual, team and maintenance training.

To illustrate the demands of this training load, the average number of personnel that underwent organised courses of instruction throughout 2004 is illustrated in Figure 3.1.

Fig 3.1 Breakdown of Personnel undergoing Core Military Training during 2004



Army

The emphasis in 2004 was on conventional training and exercising at Company and Battalion level with particular attention to night operations, command and control issues, and maintenance in the field. Exercises involved the use of new equipment e.g. APCs, Javelin Anti-Armour system, night vision equipment. Each of the three Brigades conducted two major field exercises involving up to 500 personnel on each exercise.

Troops deploying overseas underwent a specially tailored period of training commencing with training to ensure each unit had all of the required individual skills, followed by collective conventional training, followed by mission specific peace support training. Clearly the requirements of a unit deploying to Kosovo will not be the same as one deploying to Liberia, and the preparation of each must be tailored accordingly.

United Nations Training School Ireland (UNTSI)

The Defence Forces' United Nations Training School Ireland (UNTSI), which is based at the Curragh, develops doctrine, training and conducts courses and seminars to enhance the performance of Defence Forces' personnel prior to serving overseas. The school also trains Irish and international students for UN Peacekeeping Operations. In addition to courses and seminars UNTSI receives and briefs members of the Diplomatic Corps, Irish and foreign academics, and Defence Attaches accredited to Ireland. Staff members attend and participate in peacekeeping seminars both nationally and internationally. On a national basis this includes the Royal Irish Academy, the Institute of European Affairs, the University of Limerick, Trinity College, and the University of Ulster. UNTSI staff also participates in instructor exchange programmes with a number of peacekeeping training institutions in other countries. During 2004 UNTSI conducted a broad range of courses and seminars and this is detailed in Table 3.2.



fixed wing Pilatus aircraft conducted simulated strike and close air support missions for these training exercises.

Naval Service

During 2004, the Naval Service concentrated on multi-ship training exercises off the south west coast of Ireland. These training exercises were designed to test the ships companies for all eventualities in a multi-tasked role. These roles included gunnery shoots, replenishment at sea, towing exercises, damage control, casualty drills, station watch-keeping, helicopter operations, and armed boarding.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Developments (CBRN)

The Army continued to develop its CBRN defence capability. The CBRN defence platoon is one of the assets that the Defence Forces have included in its 'Palette of Offers' made available to the European Union Force Catalogue. During 2004 the Defence Forces continued to progress development of the CBRN defence platoon capability for deployment, at 30 days notice to move. The DFTC was the lead formation in the development of the CBRN defence platoon. The CBRN expertise is not only for overseas operations but provides a capability for domestic operations as well. The success of the DFTC effort was demonstrated in the fielding of the CBRN rapid response team (The CBRN defence platoon and an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team working in tandem) for both Operation Mayfly and Munster Summit. A CBRN defence exercise was also conducted

Table 3.2 Breakdown of activities and exercises conducted by UNTSI 2004

Activity/Exercise	No of Students
No 8 UNMO Cse	22
KFOR Staff Training	35
No 1 DF CIMIC Cse	19
No 9 UNMO Cse	3
APSO Training	15
91 Inf Bn UNMIL Trg	35
10 IMOSOC	24
No 10 UNMO Cse	20
KFOR Training	30
KFOR Jr Offr & Staff NCO Cse	13
3 IMPC	21
EUFOR Trg	20
ISAF Trg	7
92 Inf Bn UNMIL Trg	51
ISAF Trg	7
No 2 DF CIMIC Cse	31
EUFOR Trg	10
HQ KFOR Trg	3

Air Corps

During 2004, the Air Corps conducted 343 training missions totalling 394 flying hours. This involved air support for troops training for overseas deployments, utilising helicopters for tactical troop transport, reconnaissance and casualty evacuation. These Air Corps missions also included support to the DFTC training establishments. In addition, the





in the DFTC in November that confirmed the capability of the CBRN defence platoon.

In addition to the development of the CBRN defence platoon, the Defence Forces continues to develop CBRN individual defence capability for all personnel to the appropriate standard.

Distance Learning

The concept of Distance Learning (DL) was advanced considerably during the year and a draft policy document was produced. Distance Learning provides the Defence Forces with the means to enhance its training and educational capabilities using the communications and information services network (CIS). The DL project was initiated in two pilot sites, the Eastern Brigade Training Centre, and the CIS School. The Director of CIS provided hardware, software and appropriate training for selected personnel in the DL software package.

Distance Learning was incorporated into pre-course study for senior officers of the Defence Forces undergoing the Command and Staff Course in September 2004. The concept of distance learning will be further promoted and developed in 2005.

International Communications and Information Services (CIS) Interoperability Testing Workshop

Personnel from the CIS Corps took part in an international workshop, entitled "Combined

Endeavour (CE) 2004", that tested the interoperability of command, control, communications and computer (C4) systems.

The workshop took place in Germany in May 2004 and consisted of 40 participating nations/organisations.

The goal of the CE programme was to enable participating nations to deploy and integrate their telecommunications and information systems effectively as part of a multinational task force whether on a UN or NATO-PfP mission.

The primary focus of CE was to identify and document interoperability challenges. The concentration of effort was on tactical CIS equipment and adherence to international military and commercial standards. The secondary focus was to develop an effective network operations architecture facilitating command and control (C2) of a combined communications network. A senior officer from the Defence Forces' CIS Corps attended as the delegation chief and was involved in the planning of the way forward of the CE programme into 2005 and beyond. During the workshop three of our personnel received special merit awards for having made special contributions to the success of the workshop.



Company Sergeant James Eustace (left), CIS Base Workshops DFTC pictured at Combined Endeavour 2004.

Defensive Equipment Procurement Programmes

A focused equipment procurement programme is an integral part of the Defence Forces' modernisation



Javelin Anti-Armour Missile System.

programme. The purchasing priorities during the year were determined by a number of factors: the palette of forces offered to the Helsinki Headline Goal Catalogue; the Partnership Goals under Partnership for Peace (PfP) and the planning templates for units committed to peace support operations under the United Nations Standby Arrangements System (UNSAS). In the Air Corps the light utility helicopter project was advanced to the stage of pre-contract agreements and resulted in substantial down payments to Bell Augusta and Eurocopter in December 2004. In addition the Pilatus fixed wing aircraft was brought into service as a new trainer with nine qualified instructors. The aircraft went operational in the air-to-ground weapons role after successful completion of both rocket and machine-gun exercises at Gormanston in December 2004.

The main drivers of defensive equipment purchases were: protection, firepower and mobility; individual and collective CBRN protection; and major day and night surveillance capability.

Protection, Fire Power and Mobility

The Defence Forces took delivery of 25 Mowag armoured personnel carriers (APCs) representing an investment of €12.5 million in 2004 in the Mowag APC programme. This completes all deliveries of APCs



as part of Phase 2 of the Mowag APC procurement process and brings the total number of Mowag APCs in the Defence Forces to 65. 22 of these vehicles are employed in Liberia and 6 in Kosovo.

The Defence Forces took deliveries of the Javelin Anti Armour System in February 2004. Final deliveries are scheduled for 2005. This will complete the Javelin Anti-Armour procurement programme.

The Defence Forces continued to increase its stock of ammunition with an investment of €12.3 million in ammunition and explosives.

Individual and Collective CBRN Protection

The Defence Forces took receipt of the new Avon FM 12 respirator. The Defence Forces increased its operational capability with the procurement of CBRN improvised explosive device disposal (IEDD) equipment. This will further enhance the Defence Forces' capability in the area of CBRN emergency planning contingency.

Major Surveillance Day and Night Capability

The Defence Forces increased its night vision capability during the year. Additional Monocular Night Vision Sights, Maxi Kite for GPMG weapon sights and Sniper add-on Night Vision adaptors were procured.

Capital Infrastructure Developments

While the funding available for capital infrastructure projects was reduced from 2003's figure of €24 million, significant progress was made in 2004 with an expenditure of approximately €18.3 million. Priority was given to the upgrading of accommodation and training facilities throughout the Defence Forces.

Major projects completed during the year included:

- The refurbishment of accommodation facilities in the Naval Base, Haulbowline, and Aiken Barracks, Dundalk.
- The construction of a new NCOs' mess in Custume Barracks, Athlone.
- The construction of a Simulator Building in Casement Aerodrome Baldonnel.
- The upgrade of the Defence Forces' Equitation School riding arena.

A significant number of major construction projects were commenced in 2004 and are due for completion in 2005. This includes a provision for the refurbishment of the military museum in Collins Barracks, Cork.

Utilities Management

The Defence Forces published a Waste Management Strategy for the Defence Forces in 2002. The measures proposed were ambitious at the time and it was expected to take a number of years to implement the strategy in its totality. 2004 has seen a major advance in this area. Waste managers and waste teams have been appointed in each barracks and the necessary infrastructure work on the

construction of waste management centres has been completed in the majority of barracks. In addition the level of recycling in the Defence Forces is now of the order of 30% of waste generated. In recognition of the efforts made in the Defence Forces Utilities Achievements Awards were presented to seven barracks in 2004. The savings on waste management in 2004 have averaged €750,000 over the figures for 2003.

Reserve Defence Force's Review Implementation Plan

The White Paper on Defence, 2000 stated, "**Ireland provides for its core defence requirements through the Permanent Defence Force (PDF). The availability of supplementary forces, in the form of reserves, offers a cost-effective means of achieving an overall strength target through a judicious combination of standing and reserve forces**". It also stated that reserve forces should be "**...organised and equipped on a similar basis to regular forces in order to develop the interoperability necessary to train and conduct operations jointly**".

The significant event of 2004 for the Reserve Defence Force was the launch of the RDF Review Implementation Plan.

The restructuring proposals outlined in the plan are wide ranging and are intended to adhere more closely to the existing PDF brigade structure. The revised RDF will be based on the structure and organisation of the PDF. It will be made up of the Army Reserve and the Naval Service Reserve. The Army Reserve will follow the PDF Infantry Brigade model and will consist of two main elements:

- Three Reserve Infantry Brigades with an establishment of 9,292 personnel.
- An Integrated Reserve totalling 2,656 personnel, which will form part of the PDF unit structure.

The Naval Service Reserve will have an establishment of 400 and will be organised into two groups, each consisting of two companies.

Peace Support Operations

“To provide the military capability to enable the Defence Forces to participate in multinational peace support, crisis management and humanitarian relief operations.”

Context

The foundation of the State's approach to international peace and security is set out in Article 29.1 of the Constitution in which **‘Ireland affirms its devotion to the ideal of peace and friendly co-operation amongst nations founded on international justice and morality’**. The Defence Forces have a proud tradition of successful participation in peace support operations. The operational experience gained continues to form a solid foundation from which to face the challenges posed by the changing nature of international conflict prevention and crisis management. The Government decides on a case-by-case basis whether, when and how to commit Defence Forces' personnel to such operations. UN authorisation is a key factor that informs the Government's decision in the event of a request for Defence Forces' participation.

The current commitments are to:

- **UN led Peacekeeping Operations.**
- **EU led Crisis Management Operations.**
- **NATO-PfP led Peace Support Operations.**
- **OSCE led Operations.**

United Nations led Peacekeeping Operations

On 15 October 1998, Ireland signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations, which commits the Defence Forces to participation in the United Nations Standby Arrangements System (UNSAS). By subscribing to UNSAS, Ireland offers to provide up to 850 Defence Forces' personnel for UN peacekeeping operations at any given time.

European Union led Crisis Management Operations

In the Maastricht Treaty of 1992, the Member States of the European Union undertook to enhance co-operation on international affairs through a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). The Treaty of Amsterdam further developed the CFSP and the Treaty on European Union now reflects the Petersberg tasks:



- Humanitarian and rescue tasks.
- Peacekeeping tasks.
- Tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peacemaking.

At the Helsinki European Council of December 1999, it was agreed to develop the capability to conduct these tasks and Member States set themselves the Headline Goal:

“By 2003, to deploy rapidly within 60 days and sustain for up to one year, a military force of up to 60,000 persons capable of the full range of Petersberg tasks.”

NATO-PfP led Peace Support Operations

Ireland joined NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP) programme in December 1999 and in 2001 joined the PfP Planning and Review Process (PARP). Initial Partnership Goals were agreed, chosen with a view to enhancing interoperability for NATO-PfP led peace support operations.

Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe led Operations

Ireland is a signatory to the Helsinki Final Act and contributes personnel to OSCE operations.

These international commitments underscore the capacity and readiness of the Defence Forces to participate in multinational peacekeeping operations with countries with which we share a peacekeeping tradition, and ensure that Ireland is in a position to continue to make an important contribution in the field of peace support operations.

The effectiveness of the Defence Forces in relation to this strategic goal may be assessed by progress in the following areas:

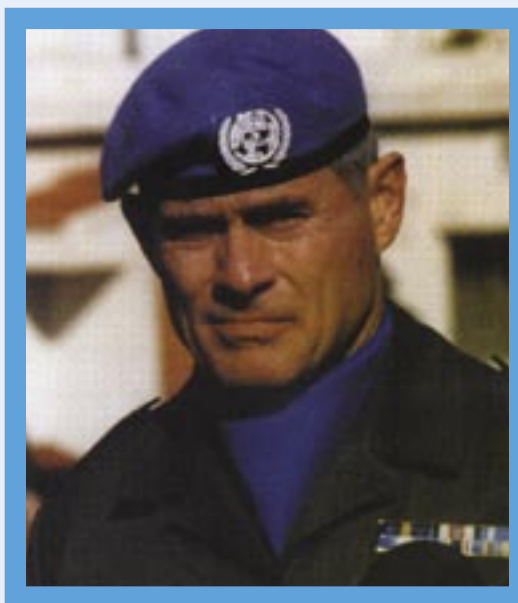
- Contribution to the development of UN Peacekeeping Policy and ESDP.
- Operations.



Contribution to development of UN Peacekeeping Policy and ESDP

In early 2003, the EU invited Member States to review the manner in which they offer force elements to the Headline Goal. As a consequence Ireland now offers a 'palette of forces', which allows for greater flexibility to Government in selecting the most appropriate contribution to future peace support operations.

Ireland held the EU Presidency from January to June 2004 during which Irish military personnel continued to engage in the development of ESDP.



Col Colm Doyle

In 2004 a Defence Forces' senior officer was appointed to the position of Chief of Staff of the Military Division at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), UN Headquarters. His primary responsibility is to coordinate all activities as they relate to the 18 ongoing UN field Missions.

The major achievement of this period was the agreement of the Headline Goal 2010 document, which maps out the course for developments out to 2010.

EU-UN Co-operation Conference

As part of the Irish Presidency Work Programme for the European Union Military Committee, the Chief of Staff organised and hosted a two-day conference on EU-UN co-operation in crisis management in Dublin on 11th and 12th May. An expert panel from the UN and the EU addressed this conference. The Under Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Jean-Marie Guehenno, gave the UN keynote address and the Deputy Director-General for Politico-Military Affairs in the EU Council General Secretariat, Mr. Pieter Feith, gave the EU keynote address. The attendees included delegates from EU member states; delegates drawn from the UNDPKO, EU Military Committee and EU Council General Secretariat; OSCE delegates; Defence Attaches and officials from the Departments of Defence and Foreign Affairs. The conference discussed the following three aspects of military crisis management operations.

- Parameters for Operations.
- Capacity Building for Operations (Routine Phase).
- Rapid Response and Effective Operations (Pre-Crisis, Crisis, and Post-Crisis Phase).



Mr Jean-Marie Guehenno, Under Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations inspects a guard of honour at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham.



Partnership for Peace (PfP) and the Individual Partnership Programme (IPP)

Partnership for Peace (PfP) was launched at the NATO Summit in Brussels in January 1994 as a co-operative security initiative designed to intensify political and military co-operation in Europe, promote stability, reduce threats to peace and build strengthened relationships by promoting practical co-operation amongst its participants.

Arising from membership of PfP, Ireland develops an Individual Partnership Programme (IPP) annually. The IPP contains statements of the political aims of the partner country, the assets that may be made available for PfP purposes, the broad objectives of co-operation between the partner and PfP in various areas of co-operation and the specific events that the country will be involved in during the year in question. In 2004, a fourth Individual Partnership Programme was undertaken for the period up to 31 December 2004 containing 121 events consisting mainly of training courses, tabletop exercises, seminars and conferences. It is activities such as these that enable the Defence Forces to reach the standards of interoperability required to participate in UN-authorized complex cross-regional operations.

Operations

UNMIL. (UN led)

The Defence Forces main effort in 2004, continued to be the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). Here the Defence Forces provide the Quick Reaction Force (QRF), encompassing 1,310 personnel throughout the year to the UNMIL Force Commander.

Fig 4.1 (below) depicts the area of operations of the Unit.

Fig 4.1 Area of operations (QRF)



Irish troops carry out a foot patrol in Liberia.

This unit is designed, equipped and trained to support any unit or element of UNMIL in extremis, and to engage in other specific operations as directed by the Force Commander.

This QRF is ready to operate at the highest operational threshold in its UN peace enforcement mission. Two units, the 91st and 92nd Battalions were provided to UNMIL in 2004. During the 91st Battalion's tour of duty in excess of 30 long range patrols were conducted lasting from 4 to 12 days each in demanding environmental and physical conditions.

The majority of troops were also trained in air operations in theatre on UN military helicopters, and participated in a variety of air operations. During their tour of duty (May to November), the 91st Battalion completed 557 training man hours in air mobility operations, 119 air operations, 2,388 personnel lifted, and 251 tons of resupply cargo delivered in air logistics support. This training will serve the Defence Forces well into the future in any airmobile operations at home or abroad.



UN Secretary General, Mr Kofi Anann meets Mr Willie O'Dea T.D., Minister for Defence at Defence Forces' Headquarters, October 2004.



Demanding road conditions in Liberia.

During serious rioting in Monrovia in October and November, the QRF played a major role by patrolling the capital with a superior and concentrated armoured force, thus quelling the civil strife and unrest.

Disarming and demobilising thousands of former combatants in Liberia was one of the major tasks during the year for UNMIL. The process ran into problems three months after the mission was established in October 2003, when a massive turnout of combatants overwhelmed the mission's capacity to deal with them. This process, termed the "Disarmament, Demobilisation, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration" (DDRR) programme, recommenced in April 2004 and the QRF provided a deterring presence at Disarmament and Demobilisation sites throughout the country. The DDRR process disarmed

Combatants queue to hand in weapons as part of the DDRR process.

more than 100,000 combatants during 2004, leading to relative peace throughout Liberia, the resumption of economic activities, and progress in the restoration of state authority in the country. Elections are due to be held in October 2005.

In addition to their military tasks, the Irish troops were busy on the humanitarian front. The major project contributed to by the Irish was the HIV/AIDS Hospice in Monrovia, run by the Sisters of Charity. The Battalion brought to completion the construction of a major extension to the Hospice at a cost of \$38,000. Funding was raised by the troops themselves and by donations from the Departments of Defence and Foreign Affairs.

Following her inauguration as President of Ireland for a second term in November 2004, President Mary McAleese visited troops in Liberia on 14th December. During her visit, Mrs. McAleese in an address to Irish troops remarked:

"...I know from my conversations earlier today with Chairman Bryant and Special Representative Klein, that this peace which you protect, is still fragile and vulnerable. That is why it needs champions like you as it struggles to grow and to flourish. Your role here is nothing short of critical. It is a task for the ultimate professionals, for that rare mix of expertise and interpersonal skills that Ireland's soldiers are renowned for.

That is why it was no surprise that when the United Nations was putting this operation together last year; it came to Ireland for help. Ireland has a proud history of serving the cause of peace in Africa, going back to our earliest involvement in the Congo..."



(Above) President Mary McAleese meets troops from the QRF who have returned from patrol, December 2004.

In an interview with the Defence Forces' magazine, 'An Cosantoir', dated December 2004, Mr Jacques Paul Klein, the UN special representative for Liberia stated:

"... The Irish have made an enormous contribution to UNMIL, because time and time again, in a crisis, they are the Force we generally call upon when we really need to show a maximum force very quickly that are determined and willing to execute the orders of their commanders..."



Brigadier General Chris Moore UNMIL Chief of Staff, presents medals to members of the Ukrainian air contingent.

KFOR (NATO led)

In Kosovo, the Defence Forces continue to provide a unit of over 200 personnel to the KFOR operation. Throughout most of 2004, the Irish operated as part



President McAleese with her Husband Martin, accompanied by the Minister for Defence, Chief of Staff, OC 92nd Bn and ADC to the President during her visit to Liberia, December 2004.

of a Finnish Battalion in a multi-national brigade environment. From November, they have been operating as an independent company reporting directly to the Finnish-led Brigade Headquarters. As part of a force of 17,000 drawn from over 30 countries, Irish troops have played a central role in making this UN-mandated mission a successful one. The unit is headquartered at Camp Clarke located approx 10 km south of the capital, Pristina and their area of operation includes a number of ethnic minority Serb villages.

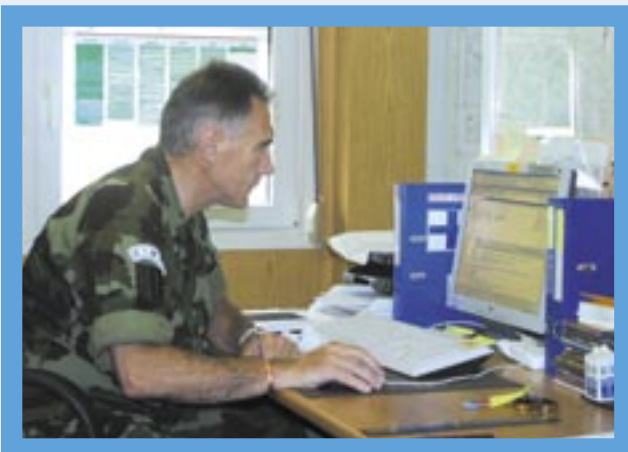
On St Patrick's Day 2004, the security situation in Kosovo deteriorated significantly and ethnic violence erupted throughout the province when the Serbian enclaves came under sustained attack from the Kosovo Albanians. The Irish troops were confronted with a serious breakdown in public order and



Irish troops react to riots in Kosovo, March 2004.



(Pictured above and below) Irish troops form a barrier to separate opposing factions during riots in Kosovo, March 2004.



Sergeant Major Pat Dunlea working in Finnish/Irish Headquarters, Kosovo.

played a major role in quelling clashes between the Kosovo Albanian and minority Serb population and in preventing the rioting Kosovo Albanians from entering and destroying the Serb villages located south of Pristina. The rioting on St Patrick's Day endured for almost 12 hours at varying levels of intensity, including exchanges of fire between the ethnic factions. In what was an extremely tense situation stretching over 4 days and nights, Irish troops were involved in a variety of tasks from anti-

riot duties and crowd control to rescuing stricken families, protecting patrimonial sites, patrolling and negotiating with Serbs and Kosovo Albanians in mixed ethnic villages. In Pristina, a small number of Irish troops were involved in a rescue operation of over 100 Serbs and internationals from a flats complex in the city, which was being attacked by rioting mobs. Over this period of serious unrest, the Irish contingent's professionalism, training and experience ensured that large-scale loss of life was prevented. The Irish Unit was singled out at NATO-PfP level and in the international media for special praise for their performance during these riots.

During the riots Irish troops protected men, women and children in Kosovo Serb settlements against vastly superior numbers of Kosovo Albanians.

In the aftermath of the violence, Brigadier-General Anders Brannstrom, the Swedish head of the Multinational Brigade Centre in Kosovo, praised our soldiers' bravery in the face of riotous crowds saying: **"Without the intervention of these Irish personnel, I believe that the majority of the people saved would have been killed."** Some few days after the riots, the Minister for Defence praised the performance of the Irish troops, remarking: **"The bravery of our troops is a tribute to the professionalism and training of the Irish Defence Forces. They managed to keep the situation under control despite a very tense atmosphere and it was a perfect example of Irish peacekeeping at its courageous best."**

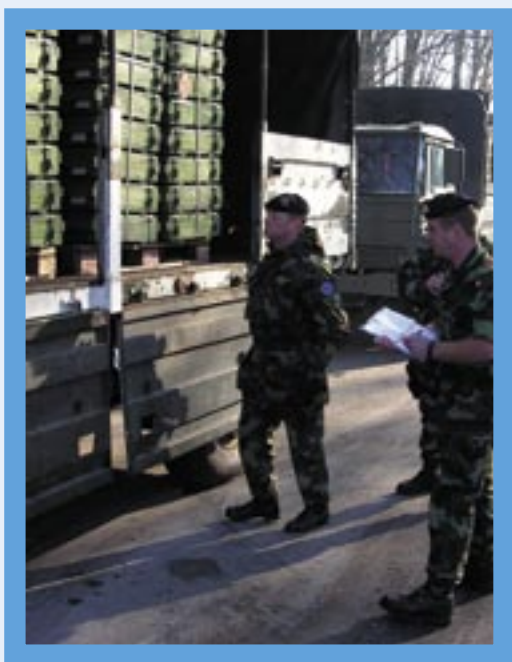
EUFOR (EU led) Operation 'Althea'

In early December 2004, the EU embarked on its largest ESDP crisis management operation to date - Operation ALTHEA. The operation is a follow-on mission to the NATO led UN-mandated SFOR mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Defence Forces' initial SFOR deployment involved a military police unit. The military police were withdrawn from SFOR in January 2003 but 12 members of the Defence Forces continued to serve at SFOR headquarters in Sarajevo. These personnel transferred to EUFOR headquarters when the mission was handed over to

EUFOR. Ireland deployed an additional 42 personnel to EUFOR as part of a Finnish-led multi-national Task Force based in Tuzla. Other countries contributing to this Task Force are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Greece, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden and Turkey. Within the Task Force, the Defence Forces provided personnel to the Task Force headquarters, the multi-national military police unit and verification teams.

Significantly, Ireland acts as framework nation for the military police unit and the verification teams, thus providing a central headquarters role in respect of these elements. The Defence Forces' military police role involves the provision of the Provost-Marshal for the Task Force and enables it to build on the experience of its previous military police deployment in the mission.

The verification teams, to which Finland and Portugal also contribute, are involved in inspecting weapon and ammunition storage sites, monitoring the movement of arms and troops and supervising the training of the two forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is to ensure both sides comply with their obligations under the Dayton accord. Irish personnel also have a liaison function with other agencies and play a leading role in civil-military relations and joint military affairs.



Irish personnel inspect ammunition trucks as part of the monitoring process of arms in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) – Afghanistan

The Defence Forces continue to deploy personnel to ISAF HQ and to the Kabul Multi-National Brigade (KMNB) as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan.



Pictured left to right; Sergeant Michael Smyth, Commandant Ciaran Cullen, Commandant Shane Fahy and Sergeant James Kenna outside the former Kings Palace, Kabul Afghanistan.

Darfur (Sudan)

In early 2004 the EU in response to the situation in the Darfur region of Sudan requested member states to contribute military observers to assist the African Union mission in this troubled region. The Government acceded to this request and a Defence Forces' senior officer Comdt Bernard Markey, took up duty on 1st August 2004. Comdt Markey is a veteran of overseas operations having served 3 tours of duty in Lebanon, 3 Tours in Bosnia, 3 Years serving in Chechnya and Central Asia and 1 year in Rwanda as an NGO with Concern. He has played a key role in assisting the African Union while keeping the EU fully informed on events in his area of operations.



Pictured on right, Commandant Bernard Markey with African Union colleagues.

Lebanon and Cyprus

The Defence Forces continue to contribute personnel to peace support missions in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and Cyprus (UNFICYP).

Observer Missions

A total of 30 officers and NCOs served abroad on six Observer missions from places as diverse as Darfur, Sudan, Western Sahara and the Ivory Coast in Africa, to Jerusalem and Damascus in the Middle East. In

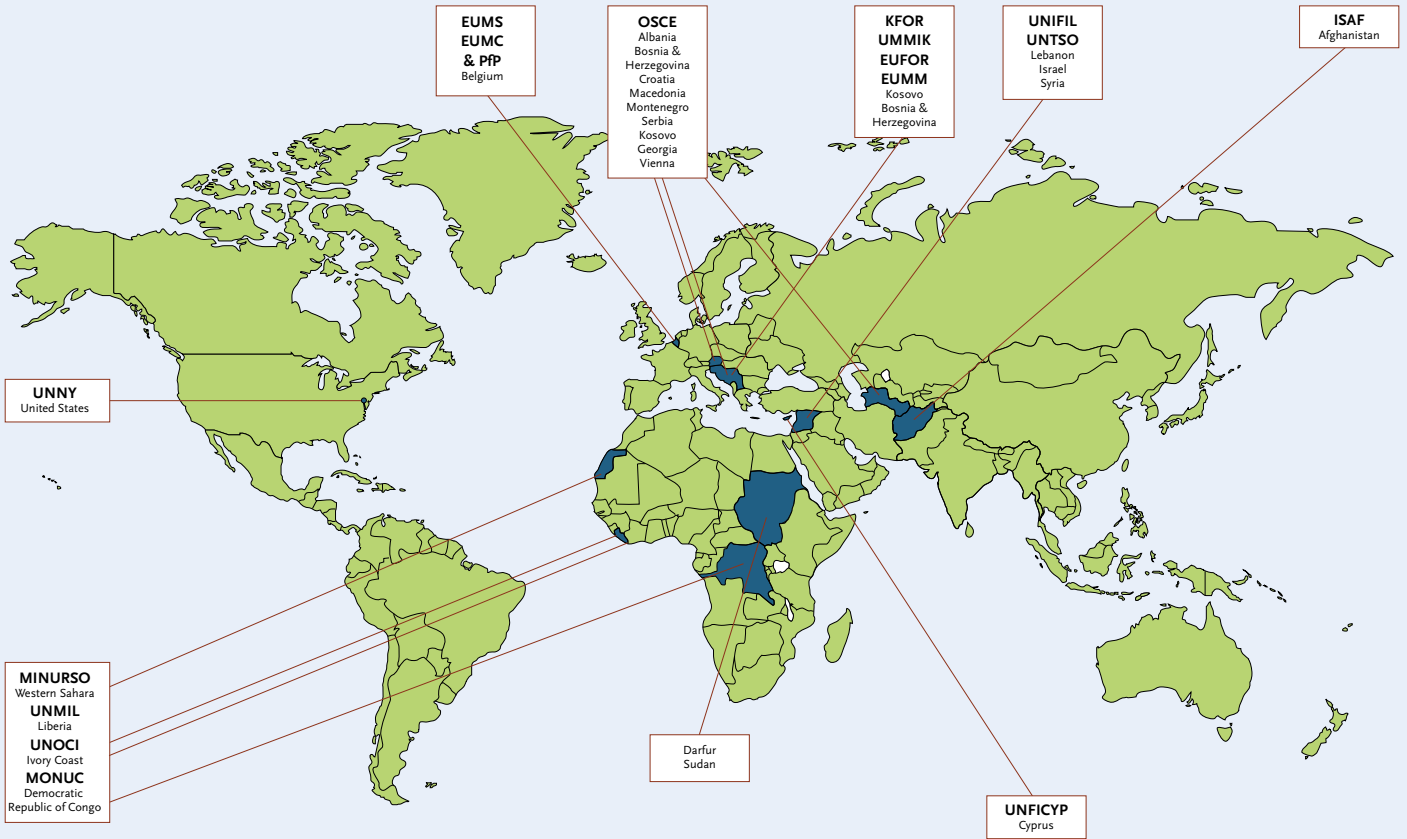
addition, 30 officers and NCOs served on observer missions, with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in the Balkans and Georgia and to the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) to the former Yugoslavia.

Table 4.1 outlines the number of Defence Forces' personnel serving overseas on 31st December 2004 while Figure 4.2 depicts the worldwide geographical deployment of Irish troops.

Table 4.1 Overseas Commitments as of 31st December 2004

United Nations' Troop Missions	Officers	Chaplains	NCOs	Privates	Total
UNIFIL	2		3		
UNFICYP	1				
UNMIL	42	1	154	237	
United Nations' Observer Missions					
UNTSO	13				
MINURSO	4				
UNMIK	2		2		
MONUC	3				
UNOCI	2				
European and Other International Missions					
EUFOR	12		41		
KFOR	27	1	90	90	
OSCE	11				
EUMM	5				
ISAF	4		3		
EU Sudan	1				
Irish Delegation UN, EU, OSCE Headquarters Staff					
Military Advisor Permanent Mission to UN, New York	1				
Department of Peace Keeping Operations, UN New York	2				
Military Advisor Irish Delegation to OSCE, Vienna	1				
EU Military Staff Brussels	5		1		
ESDP/PfP	7				
Total	145	2	294	327	768

Figure 4.2: Worldwide geographical deployment of Irish troops



UN Secretary General Mr Kofi Annan meets Sergeant Paddy King at McKee Barracks, Dublin, during the Secretary General's visit to Ireland in October 2004.

Human Resources

“To prepare and implement a Human Resource Management strategy, which will ensure that military personnel have the requisite skills, abilities and motivation to effectively execute assigned duties and responsibilities.”



Context

The personnel of the Defence Forces are its most valuable resource, and thus the effective management and leadership of that resource is of critical importance. Human resource management within the Defence Forces is a key aspect in the achievement of the Defence Forces' roles and mission as laid down by Government.

Human resource management in the Defence Forces is recognised as a strategic goal in the Defence Forces' Strategy Statement 2003-2005. The commitment of the Defence Forces in advancing this goal during 2004 can be assessed by reference to the following areas of policy:

- **Human Resource Policy Development.**
- **Organisational Strength and Recruiting.**
- **Human Resources' Training and Development.**
- **Provision of a Safe and Supportive Work Environment.**
- **Human Resources' Management Support Systems.**

Human Resource Policy Development

During 2004 the Defence Forces introduced a range of human resource (HR) policy initiatives, which serve to cement our commitment to best HR practice. A draft HR strategy statement was produced. This statement draws on the Integrated Personnel Management System (IPMS) proposals submitted to the Minister for Defence in March 2002. The Defence Forces recognise that a change of HR strategy will take time to implement and to this end, a consultative process commenced in 2004 with all stakeholders to ensure the best possible input into the implementation of the draft HR statement. The effect of pension changes brought about by the enactment of legislation in April 2004, work-life balance factors and the dynamic Defence Forces' environment will all impact on the successful publication of a future Defence Forces' HR policy document.



Officer Promotion System

The agreement of a new officer promotion system in the latter end of 2004 was a major policy achievement. A sub committee of Conciliation and Arbitration Council (C&A), with agreed terms of reference, was established in November 2003 to deal with this matter. Agreement was reached in December 2004 to cover the period up to 2010.

Partnership Structures

In the Defence Forces the concept of partnership was embraced by all parties with the signing of a conciliation council agreed report in February 2003. Partnership reflects a new and exciting type of relationship between the Department of Defence, military management, personnel and their representative associations. New partnership structures were agreed and launched in December 2004. These partnership structures represent three levels within the Defence organisation.

- The Defence Forces' National Partnership Steering Group.
- Seven Brigade/Formation Partnership Committees.
- Partnership working groups on specific partnership goals.

Partnership is a long-term policy matter, requiring cultural change, and a genuine commitment to the process by all parties associated with the Defence Forces.

Ombudsman

The Ombudsman (Defence Forces) Act 2004 was passed in the Dail on 10th November 2004. The new Office of the Defence Forces' Ombudsman will provide an independent statutory body where people can forward their complaints if they feel dissatisfied with the response they received from the military authorities to a formal complaint under the Defence Act provisions for redress of wrongs. The Ombudsman will function as an entirely independent entity. The Act provides clear and precise statutory powers of independent enquiry and investigation, closely modelled on those of the original Ombudsman legislation of 1980, but reflecting the military environment. The Act provides for the investigative functions of the Ombudsman, sets out the general procedures to govern the making of complaints to the Ombudsman, and describes the nature of those matters, which may be referred to the Ombudsman by members of the Defence Forces for investigation and determination by the Ombudsman.

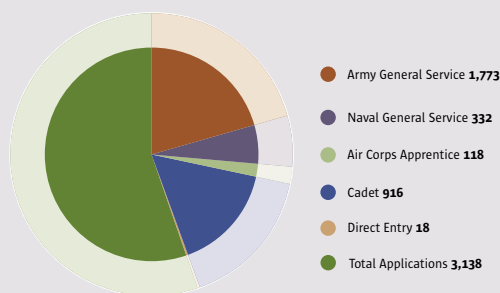
Organisational Strength and Recruiting

Effective management of the strength of the Defence Forces is important, as the number of personnel serving to a large extent determines the nature of the contingent capability and the ability to carry out effectively assigned tasks and roles.

Recruitment and Selection

The Chief of Staff is the delegated authority for recruitment. He also has responsibility for the advertising of all competitions for entry into the Defence Forces. The Defence Forces' recruitment policy embraces the concepts of equality and diversity. Careers in the Defence Forces are open to both male and female applicants and are also open to EU- and non-EU nationals (provided they satisfy the residency/work requirements laid down by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment). The aim of the Defence Forces' recruitment and selection policy is to ensure that the requisite quality and quantity of new entrants are attracted and efficiently inducted. In 2004, the Defence Forces experienced a relatively high increase in interest from the general public relating to careers within the organisation. The Defence Forces participated in two major Careers Exhibitions during 2004, the FÁS Opportunities Fair from 16th to 19th January in Croke Park, and the Higher Options Exhibition from 22nd to 24th September in the RDS. The numbers of applicants for careers in the Defence Forces, is outlined in Fig 5.1.

Fig 5.1 Breakdown of Number of Applicants for Careers in the Permanent Defence Force

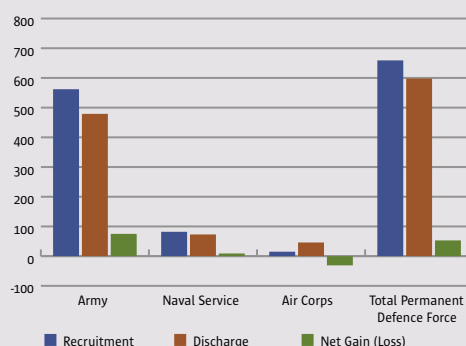


Recruitment versus Discharge

In 2004, a total of 659 personnel were enlisted into the PDF, of which; 571 were general service recruits, 66 were cadets, and 22 were direct entry personnel. A total of 598 personnel left the PDF in 2004. This figure represents a turnover rate in personnel terms of 5.7 % of the overall PDF strength.

Figure 5.2 outlines the recruitment versus discharge of PDF personnel in 2004.

Fig 5.2 Recruitment versus Discharge of Personnel from the Permanent Defence Force in 2004



74 Recruit platoon passing out parade, Gormanstown Camp. (Left to right) Private David Laurence, Private Gareth Laurence and Sergeant Jackie Laurence. Private Gareth Laurence was a member of the 74th Recruit Platoon.

Human Resources Training and Development

A key component of HR policy within the Defence Forces is training and continuous professional education. Training and development foster a culture of self-improvement and professional competence in the individual soldier. The Defence Forces' Annual Training Directive 2004 laid out the organisation's training policy for the year.

Annual training plans were produced by each formation and service. The Defence Forces provided training and development opportunities for its personnel as follows:

- "In House" Training.
- Education and Training through External Establishments.

"In House" Training

Continuous professional education and training in the Defence Forces can be categorised as follows.

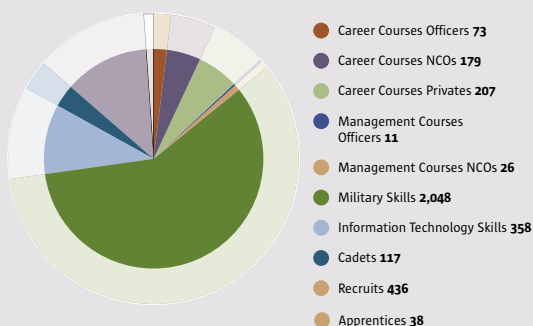
- Core Military Skills.
- Career Courses.
- Senior/Middle Management Training.
- Cadet/Recruit Training.

The majority of formal education and training is conducted at Brigade Training Centres, the Defence Forces' Training Centre, and in the Naval Service and Air Corps Colleges.

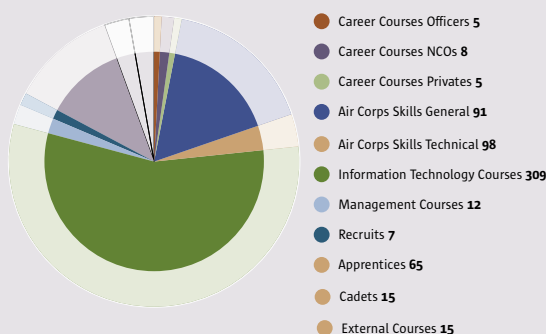
Figure 5.3 shows the breakdown by service of personnel who participated in this type of activity in 2004.

Fig 5.3 Breakdown of number of personnel by service who underwent training & development courses in 2004

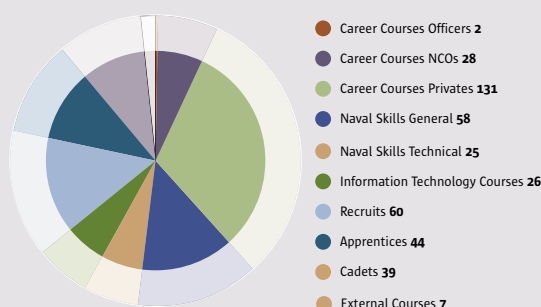
Total Number of Army Personnel on Training and Development Courses in 2004.



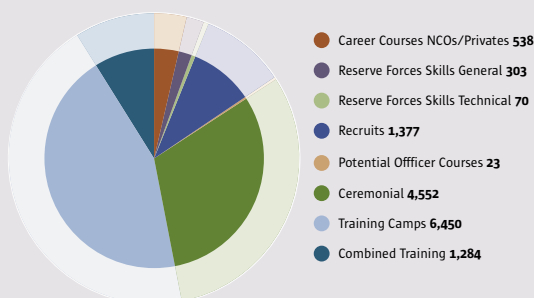
Total Number of Air Corps Personnel on Training and Development Courses in 2004.



Total Number of Naval Service Personnel on Training and Development Courses in 2004.



Total Number of Reserve Force Personnel on Training and Development Courses in 2004.

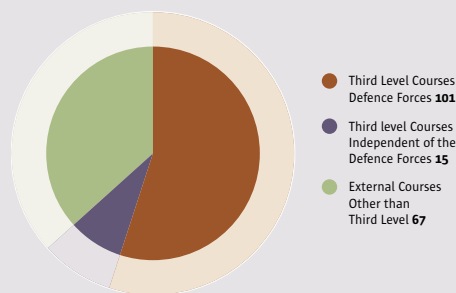


Education and Training through External Establishments

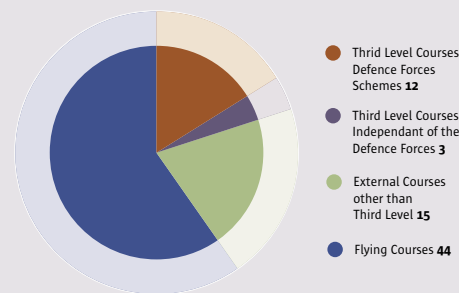
The Defence Forces operate a comprehensive scheme to cater for external education and foreign courses/visits. This form of education covers a broad skills base ranging from military, academic, technical and other forms as required. Personnel from the Defence Forces participated in third level courses, overseas courses, conferences, visits and seminars both at home and abroad. Fig 5.4 outlines the breakdown of external education courses in 2004.

Fig 5.4 External Education, Defence Forces' 2004

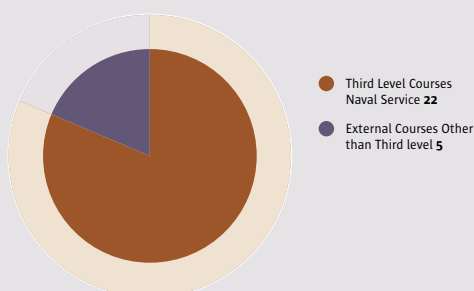
External Education and Training Army 2004



External Education and Training Air Corps 2004



External Education and Training Naval Service 2004



Provision of a Safe and Supportive Work Environment

A safe and supportive work environment has, over the past number of years, been given a high priority by senior management of the Defence Forces. The level of progress in this area has been substantial and can be assessed under the following headings:

- Response to the Challenge of a Workplace.
- Risk Management.
- Health and Safety.
- Compulsory Random Drug Testing.
- Freedom of Information.
- Work Life Balance Initiatives.

Response to the Challenge of a Workplace

The report entitled "Response to the Challenge of a Workplace" was published in September 2004. This report produced by the Independent Monitoring Group (IMG) chaired by Dr Eileen Doyle and comprising senior military management, RACO, PDFORRA, and a senior official from the Department of Defence, met 39 times up to June 2004. The report sets out the progress already made on the issues raised in the original report and outlines an agenda for further action. Arising from the publication of the report, a Defence Forces' wide campaign was conducted to raise awareness at all levels to the reports' contents. Other initiatives already underway in 2004 prior to the reports publication were:



Lieutenant General Jim Sreenan, Chief of Staff and Dr. Eileen Doyle, Chairperson of the IMG.

- An effective “interpersonal skills for leaders course” for personnel in supervisory and management positions.
- Training Circular 06/04 entitled “Military Code of Conduct for Students and Instructors in all Training Environments” was published. This was followed by an extensive series of associated workshops for all relevant personnel.
- A total of 177 designated contact persons were trained to facilitate the informal resolution of interpersonal difficulties and a consultative team was established to guide them.
- The Freedom of Information Officer took on the equality brief to become the Equality and Freedom of Information Officer for the Defence Forces.
- The external helpline continued to be available to all personnel.

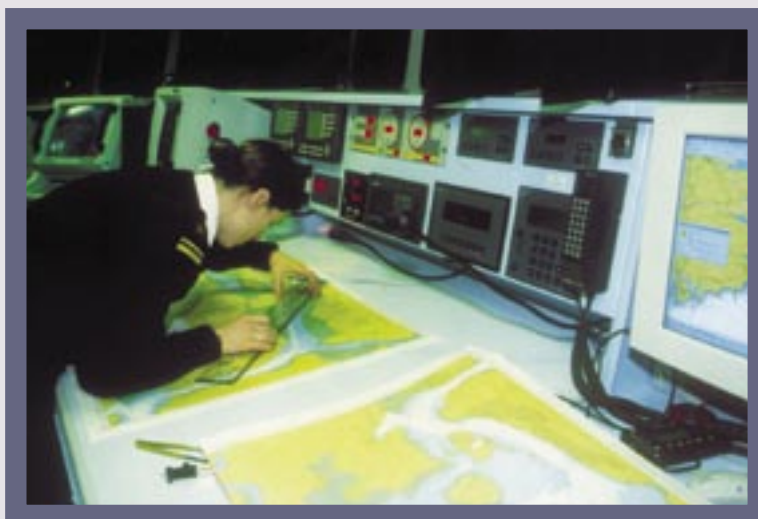
Risk Management

The Risk Management Policy for the Defence Forces was launched in August 2004 with a view to developing an integrated risk management strategy for the organisation. This policy details the responsibilities and structures for the implementation of an all services risk management strategy.

A training hazard analysis board was set up in 2004 to deal with risk management in the area of military training.

Health and Safety

During 2004, a board of military health and safety experts conducted a study of hazards in each barracks with a view to further improving standards of health and safety across the organisation. In addition, the risk advisory section of the State Claims Agency carried out reviews of various military workshops in accordance with its statutory duty to provide risk advice to the Defence Forces. The advisory section of the State Claims Agency also carried out a risk review of occupational health & safety management in the Defence Forces in 2004. The executive summary of this report states:



“The Defence Forces are exemplary in the professional approach that they have taken to managing occupational health and safety risk particularly in recent years.”

Compulsory Random Drug Testing

Compulsory random drug testing (CRDT) completed its second year of operation in 2004. 1,110 personnel were tested and four (4) personnel were administratively discharged as a result of a positive test. Planning for CRDT in the RDF was completed with the initial introduction to take place in 2005.

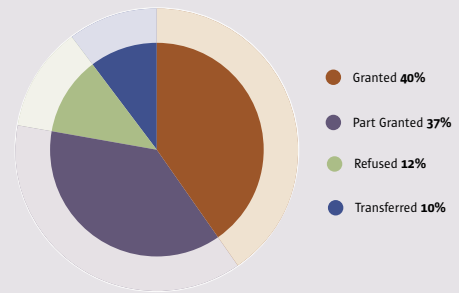


Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information Office received a total of 202 requests in 2004, which represented a 32% decrease from 2003. The majority of these were from serving personnel (57%) and retired personnel (39%) and were requests for personal information. Decisions were made on a total of 207 requests during the year. The majority of requests were granted (40%) or part-granted (37%) with 12% being refused. 10% of requests received were dealt with outside of Freedom of Information or transferred to the Department of Defence. Ten requests were received for internal review in 2004 and five of these internal review decisions were appealed to the Office of the Information Commissioner.

Figure 5.5 outlines the statistical breakdown of FOI decisions made by the Defence Forces in 2004.

Fig 5.5 Breakdown of FOI Decisions, Defence Forces 2004





Work-Life Balance Initiatives

The Defence Forces are committed to the continued development of policies in this area, in order to maximise the individual soldiers work-life balance. Current schemes in force are the Term Time Scheme, Parental Leave, Paternity Leave, and Force Majeure Leave.

Human Resources' Management Support Systems

The overall objective of the Personnel Management System (PMS) is to automate Unit administration in the Defence Forces with a view to facilitating informed decision making through access to repositories of accurate, timely, real time information. The result will be enhanced transparency and efficiency leading to improved value for money.

The PMS has been rolled out to all of the PDF Units of the Defence Forces. The range of functionality includes personal details, security, medicals, health

and safety, ranges, time and attendance, leave, security duty administration, overseas and unit returns.

User Training was initially conducted at the Military Administration School in the DFTC. This has now been devolved to Brigades and Services. To date, 500 users have been trained in the operation of the system.

The paper based unit administrative system, under constant review, has been radically streamlined with the implementation of the PMS to date. Electronic Unit Administrative inspections have been facilitated through use of the new automated system and this has engendered the growth of a more proactive administrative culture within the Defence Forces.

The PMS, whilst in its infancy, has been met with considerable enthusiasm and approval. Its successful implementation has laid the foundation for its integration into the forthcoming Management Information Framework in 2005.

Government Support Services

“To utilise Defence Forces’ resources efficiently and effectively in the provision of Government support services.”

Context

Support of essential services in an emergency, or an industrial dispute, is primarily the responsibility of the functional Government Department. The Defence Forces has varying capabilities that can be utilised, when available, to provide a range of services to Government Departments/Agencies. Occasions arise when the civil authorities may request the assistance of the Defence Forces in carrying out the task of maintaining and restoring essential services.

The Defence Forces, as required, will assist in maintaining essential services and will provide assistance in the event of natural disasters occurring. Every effort is made by the Defence Forces to respond swiftly and effectively in the prevailing circumstances. Contingency planning for Aid to the Civil Authority (ACA) operations is an ongoing process to provide for the various ACA operations that may occur. As part of the planning process, co-ordination and liaison with relevant Government Departments and Local Authorities (including Interdepartmental Working Groups and other agencies) is conducted on a regular basis, to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to meet contingencies. The primary focus is to successfully support the Civil Authorities in maintaining and restoring essential services.

One of the major Government Support Services provided by the Defence Forces is fishery protection. The Naval Service and Air Corps are responsible for the joint delivery of this support service to the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources.

The effectiveness in relation to this goal may be assessed in terms of progress in the following areas:

- **Provision of services in Aid to the Civil Authority.**
- **Provision of a Fishery Protection Service.**
- **Provision of a Search and Rescue Service.**
- **Provision of a Ministerial Air Transport Service.**
- **Provision of an Air Ambulance Service.**



- **Provision of Military Ceremonial Services.**
- **Development of Memorandums of Understanding, and Service Level Agreements with customer Departments.**

Provision of services in Aid to the Civil Authority

Defence Forces' personnel provide assistance to local and civil authorities across a broad spectrum of activities. The wide range of professional services provided is indicative of the depth of expertise and professionalism available within the Defence Forces. For operational and procedure purposes, ACA operations are categorised as follows:

- Major emergencies and natural disasters such as fires, explosions, floods, gas releases, spillage of dangerous substances, animal disease (foot and mouth), blizzards or major accidents.
- Maintenance of essential services arising from industrial disputes such as bus, ambulance, fire, prison, fuel supply, water supply, or refuse strikes.
- Provision of non-emergency tasks such as courier service (elections or referenda), technical engineer advice and assistance, and catering and transport.

The Army Medical Corps covered emergency medical support during the prison doctors' dispute in May 2004, and military personnel provided support to local communities during flooding in Clonmel in October 2004.

Ongoing Emergency Planning

The Defence Forces are continuously involved in contingency planning in relation to the provision of emergency services when public services are threatened by strike action such as transport, and emergency fire and ambulance support services. The Defence Forces are represented on the Government Task Force on Emergency Planning and the Interdepartmental Working Group on Emergency

Planning. These are the top-level structures, which co-ordinate and oversee the emergency planning activities of all Government Departments and public authorities. Two Defence Forces officers are members of the staff of the Office of Emergency Planning, Department of Defence, which supports the Minister for Defence as chairman of the Government Task Force on Emergency Planning.

Provision of a Fishery Protection Service

The third role of the Defence Forces is **'to provide a fishery protection service in accordance with the State's obligations as a member of the European Union'**. Ireland's exclusive fishery limits extend to 200 nautical miles and encompass an area of 132,000 square miles. In this sea area Ireland, together with other members of the EU, has sovereign rights over the sea fisheries. In addition to this sea area, Ireland has exclusive sovereign rights, of varying significance, over almost 250,000 square miles of sea area.



Ireland's sovereign rights over the seabed and the sub-seabed resources in this area are not open to other EU member states. The fishery protection service is jointly delivered to the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources by the Naval Service and the Air Corps. The Naval Service is the main provider and is assisted in an air-monitoring role by the Air Corps.

Naval Service Patrol Days

From a target effort of 1,600 patrol days, the Naval Service achieved 1,568 days on patrol. Of these days, 1,488 days (or 95% of the total) were dedicated to fisheries protection duties. This figure amounts to an increase of 135 days over that which was achieved in 2003, which represents an increase of just over 9%. This increase is consistent with the Naval Service Implementation Plan for Fishery Protection.

Table 6.1 breaks down the Naval Service fishery protection statistics, as of 31st December 2004.

Table 6.1 Naval Service fishery protection statistics 2004

Nationality	Boardings	Warnings Issued	Detentions
Irish	883	74	10
UK	166	17	8
Spanish	356	5	6
French	349	24	6
Belgian	37	2	0
Portugal	1	0	0
Netherlands	8	0	0
Germany	8	0	0
Norway	32	0	0
Faeroes	8	1	0
Russian	23	0	0
Icelandic	2	0	0
Danish	1	1	0
Other\ Unregistered	11		1
Total	1,885	124	31

Multi-role Tasking and Capabilities

In keeping with the Government's 'principal sea-going agency' approach, the Naval Service has considerable responsibilities to monitor and conduct general surveillance of all maritime activities, including fishery protection, in the Irish economic zone/ exclusive fishery limit. The individual ships of the Naval Service, while on patrol, effectively function as multi capable platforms servicing Irelands' maritime interests. In order to improve on levels of efficiency and effectiveness, these capabilities are constantly under development.

Air Corps

The Air Corps operates two CASA CN235 maritime patrol aircraft in support of the Naval Service. In 2004, the Air Corps flew 289 maritime surveillance missions in support of the Naval Service in their fishery protection role. These missions totalled over 1,525 hours and 3,931 sightings of fishing vessels were made.

Table 6.2 outlines the number of offshore patrols conducted by the Air Corps in 2004.

Table 6.2 Number of offshore patrols conducted by the Air Corps in 2004.

Aircraft	Patrols	Flight Hours	Vessels Logged
CASA	276	1,499	3,934
CESSNA	13	26	N/a
Total	289	1,525	3,931

Provision of a Search and Rescue Service (SAR)

During 2004 the Air Corps and the Naval Service continued to contribute to the provision of a vital Search and Rescue service in the State and around its coastline in support of the Irish Coast Guard.



Air Corps

Table 6.3 illustrates the total number of missions undertaken by the Air Corps in pursuit of this vital service up to the end of 2004. In December, the Minister for Defence announced the termination of Air Corps involvement in providing SAR to the Coast Guard.

Table 6.3 Search and Rescue missions undertaken by the Air Corps in 2004

Aircraft	Missions	Persons Assisted	Flight Hours
Dauphin	15	3	32.7
S-61 N	17	8	39.7
CASA	11	Top Cover	25.5
Total	43	11	97.9

Naval Service

Naval Ships were involved in a total of 25 Search and Rescue operations at sea in support to the Irish Coastguard. These included monitoring the international recovery operations surrounding the Canadian submarine HMCS "CHICOUTIMI", which caught fire off the Irish coast in October. In support of this function is the Naval Service Diving Section, which provides 365-day coverage to assist in SAR/ Recovery/EOD operations. The Diving Section were involved in 15 search operations totalling 33 days in 2004.

Provision of a Ministerial Air Transport Service (MATS)

The MATS provides secure transport to An tUachtarán, An Taoiseach, An Tánaiste, members of Government and their staff, both on and off island. International flights are carried out by the Gulfstream GIV executive aircraft. During 2004 the Learjet 45 was introduced into service flying over 600 hours with 100 % dispatch reliability. The Beechcraft is used when the GIV or Learjet 45 is not available; on-island flights are carried out in fixed wing or helicopters as appropriate.



MATS support to the EU Presidency resulted in an increase in operations of 200%. A total of 335 missions were flown with 1,202 flying hours recorded.

Table 6.4 illustrates the number of missions, and flying hours provided to MATS in 2004.

Table 6.4 Number of missions and flying hours for Ministerial Air Transport Service in 2004

Aircraft	Missions	Flight Hours
Gulfstream IV	102	512.8
Learjet 45	130	471.1
Beechcraft	103	218.5
Total	335	1,202.4

Provision of an Air Ambulance Service

The Air Corps supplies air transport services to the Department of Health and Children in a number of areas. These are:

- Inter-hospital transfer of seriously ill patients.
- Neo-natal transfers requiring immediate medical intervention.
- Air transport of organ harvest teams within the State.
- Air transportation of transplant patients to the UK.
- Air medical evacuations from offshore islands to on-shore hospitals.



Table 6.5 outlines the number of air ambulance missions carried out by the Air Corps in 2004

Table 6.5 Number of Air Ambulance missions carried out by the Air Corps in 2004

Aircraft	Missions	Persons Assisted	Flight Hours
Alouette	22	21	58.6
Dauphin	16	16	37.1
S61	17	17	43.2
CASA	5	5	28.6
Beechcraft	9	9	18.5
Cessna	5	5	28.6
Learjet 45	45	3	5.3
Total	79	79	143

Provision of Military Ceremonial Services

The Defence Forces continues to participate in a broad range of ceremonial events. Military involvement encompasses liaison with Government Departments, planning ceremonial activities, event co-ordination and military participation in the event. Participation may comprise one or more of the following elements: guards of honour (GOH); escorts of honour (EOH); artillery gun salutes; military bands; colour parties (i.e. flag bearers); military police; representative bodies and marshals. In addition, bearer parties, pallbearers, firing parties and route-lining troops may be required for State funerals. The number of personnel involved in a particular activity may vary from 3 in the case of colour parties to 107 for a captain's guard of honour.

State Ceremonial Events

A State ceremony usually comprises a number of the military elements mentioned above. For example, on the occasion of the presentation of credentials by an ambassador to An tUachtarán an escort of honour, guard of honour, military band, temporary aides-de-camp, marshals and military police, some 110 personnel in total will partake in the ceremony. While the actual ceremony is often brief, considerable additional time and effort is required



An Taoiseach Mr Bertie Ahern T.D., Lieutenant General Jim Sreenan, Chief of Staff, and Brigadier General Gerry McNamara, General Officer Commanding 2 Eastern Brigade pictured at Arbour Hill Church.



to train and prepare to the high standards expected of personnel representing the Defence Forces and the State. Ceremonial elements are also provided for non-State events such as ministerial reviews of units deploying overseas, or wreath-laying ceremonies by visiting dignitaries. In addition, there are numerous requests from organisations for military involvement in various civilian events. These range from the RDS Horse Show to local festivals countrywide. Normally, these requests are acceded to and may involve employing the Army Band or assigning a variety of ceremonial tasks to PDF or RDF troops.

On the occasion of the commencement of Ireland's EU Presidency, a Flag Raising Ceremony took place in Dublin Castle involving a guard of honour, a military band, a formation colour party, military police and marshals. A total of 126 personnel took part in this ceremony.

An EU Enlargement Ceremony commemorated the accession of ten new member states into the European Union. The ceremony took place in Áras an Uachtaráin on 1st May 2004.

The Defence Forces provided all ceremonial elements for this very high profile event at which all 25 Heads of State were present. The ceremony involved a cadet flag bearer party, a cadet flag raising party, a cadet guard of honour and elements of the band.

Presidential Inauguration

In November the Defence Forces were once again to the fore at the Presidential inauguration, which took place in Dublin Castle. As a major player in the inauguration ceremonies the Defence Forces supplied a Captains GOH, a Captains EOH an inside and outside band, an artillery gun salute and a fly past. Members of the Government, Judiciary, Diplomatic Corps and other distinguished persons attended this ceremony.

Table 6.6 outlines the number of major ceremonial events in which the Defence Forces participated during 2004.

Table 6.6 Defence Forces' participation in major ceremonial events in 2004

Ceremonial Event	Number of Events	Millitary Personnel Involved
State Visits (Outside State)	1	195
Official Visits (Outside State)	1	84
Official Visits (Inside State)	3	327
Presentation of Credentials	12	1,596
1916 Commemoration	1	238
Nat Day of Commemoration	1	395
UNMIL Review	2	1,032
KFOR Review	2	522
Chief of Staff (Foreign) visits	4	476
EU Flag Raising ceremony	1	126
RDS Horse Show	1	102
EU Enlargement Ceremony	1	162
Cedar Room Opening	1	196
COS Stand Down Parade	1	549
COS DSM Ceremony	1	37
Visit Foreign Naval Ship	1	30
Presidential Inauguration	1	285
Total	35	6,352

Military Bands

The bands of the Defence Forces contributed to many military and State ceremonial occasions throughout the year. The Defence Forces' School of Music consists of three bands, located in Dublin, Cork and Athlone. The School of Music also trains military musicians for the pipe bands. Personnel of the No 1 Army Band and the bands of the Southern and Western Brigades are appointed as full-time professional bandsmen, while those of the pipe bands are soldiers of operational units who perform their musical duties in addition to their normal military occupations.

Table 6.7 outlines the engagements of the military bands during 2004.

Table 6.7 Band Engagements 2004

Category	Army No.1 Band	Band 4 Western Brigade	Band 1 Southern Brigade	Total
Military	70	66	84	220
State Ceremonial	37	0	8	45
Free Public Recitals	8	14	24	46
Free to Festival	0	28	0	28
Civilian (paid)	11	0	1	12
School Concerts	7	26	19	52
Trumpet and Drummer	55	42	31	128
Instrumentalist (paid)	4	0	4	8
Total	192	176	171	539



Gaisce Awards

Each year, members of Defence Forces units assist and participate in the running of the President's annual Gaisce event. The participants endure a challenging army survival training programme in the Wicklow Mountains, where their leadership, team building and endurance skills are tested. A number of other skills are assessed including achieving a personal goal, physical recreation and community involvement. In February 2004, President McAleese presented the Gaisce Gold award to 4 members of the Defence Forces in recognition of their efforts in passing set tasks over a two-year period.



President Mary McAleese and the Chief of Staff present Gaisce Awards to Defence Forces' personnel, February 2004.

Development of Memoranda of Understanding and Service Level Agreements

One of the main objectives associated with this goal is to secure working protocols by means of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) and Service Level Agreements (SLA) with all client Departments, agencies and service recipients for the provision of services. While the Department of Defence negotiate specific MOUs and SLAs at an interdepartmental level, the Naval Service and Air Corps, as the main service providers, have significant input into the determination of services provided. In 2004, this objective has been progressed mainly by the Naval Service and Air Corps.

Naval Service MOUs

The Naval Service continued to develop MOUs and SLAs with the Irish Coastguard and the Marine Safety

Directorate. Apart from the MOU agreed with the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, the following are already in place:

- National University of Ireland, Cork, in relation to the Coastal Marine Resource Centre.
- Met Éireann for the provision of observational data.
- The Department of Education and Science with regards to the Naval Service's partnership with Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) and the National Maritime College of Ireland (NMCI).
- The Southern Health Board with regards to the provision of the Medico service, which is designed to provide emergency medical assistance at sea.

Foreign Deployments

Foreign Deployments/visits during the year included; LÉ NIAMH to the USA and Canada, LÉ ROISIN to Brussels, LÉ EMER to Bilbao and LÉ AOIFE to St. Malo. As in previous years and in conjunction with the continuing development of service agreements with other agencies, these visits were completed in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Enterprise Ireland, Bord Bia and other agencies allied to the promotion of Irish business interests.

Air Corps

Garda Air Support Unit (GASU)

The Air Corps provide pilots to fly the GASU aircraft. In 2004, the Air Corps negotiated a final draft SLA covering all aspects of the Air Corps commitments to flying the Garda aircraft. The final draft SLA with the Garda Air Support Unit was agreed and signed in 2004.

Air Ambulance Service

The Air Corps provides an air ambulance services to the Department of Health and Children as requested. In 2004, the Air Corps agreed a draft SLA for discussion at interdepartmental level with the Client Department for the provision of air ambulance services.

Financial Report



The 2004 Book of Estimates provision for Defence Subheads was €697.656 million. 99.62% of this provision was expended.

Table 7.1 Defence Expenditure 2004 and 2003

Subhead		2004 Provision €'000	2004 Outturn €'000	2003 Provision €'000	2003 Outturn €'000
A	DOD Administration (Note 1)	21,662	20,787	21,319	20,008
	Defence Forces & Pay Allowances				
B	Permanent Defence Forces Pay	400,000	394,108	384,338	371,465
C	Permanent Defence Forces Allowances	55,015	49,649	48,456	39,250
D	Reserve Defence Forces Pay	12,129	11,234	11,570	11,106
E	Chaplains' Pay & Allowances	1,180	1,071	1,119	1,024
F	Civilian Employees Pay	38,355	37,641	35,197	32,919
	Defence Forces Non-Pay Expenditure				
G	Defensive Equipment	34,540	37,332	29,816	33,046
H	Aircraft	44,800	55,392	33,522	47,305
I	Military Transport	8,292	11,957	11,911	15,803
J	Ships & Naval Equipment	9,284	10,835	10,996	10,842
K	Barrack Expenses & Engineering Equip	13,377	14,087	15,360	18,461
L	Buildings	30,331	29,791	33,597	34,911
M	Ordnance, Clothing & Catering	12,458	13,570	14,959	17,782
N	Communications & Info Technology	7,540	10,483	9,440	11,688
O	Military Training (Courses & Equipment)	3,569	3,568	2,489	3,651
P	Travel & Freight	3,853	4,904	3,265	3,785
Q	Medical Expenses	3,005	3,028	1,943	2,998
R	Land Maintenance & Rents	997	980	970	1,470
S	Equitation	929	1,008	900	1,013
T	Compensation	24,000	10,672	50,788	24,214
U	Miscellaneous Expenses	2,480	3,294	2,789	2,261
	Other Services				
V	Civil Defence	5,593	5,593	4,323	4,539
W	Irish Red Cross (Grant -in-Aid)	866	866	821	821
X	Coiste an Asgard	693	693	657	657
Z	Appropriation in Aid	(37,292)	(37,515)	(8,054)	(7,944)
	Total Defence Expenditure (Note 2)	697,656	695,028	722,491	703,075

Note 1: These figures include rollover savings carried forward under the terms of the Administrative Budget Agreement.

Note 2: There may be a slight discrepancy in the totals when the columns are added due to rounding.

Note 3: The large increase in Appropriation in Aid in 2004 over that of 2003, is due in the main to the proceeds of the sale of Clancy Barracks, which was offset against expenditure in the Military Subheads.

Table 7.2 Ratio of Pay to Non-Pay Expenditure

Pay to Non-Pay Ratios		
Year	Pay	Non-Pay
1997	78%	21%
1998	76%	24%
1999	74%	26%
2000	73%	27%
2001	66%	34%
2002	68%	32%
2003	69%	31%
2004	71%	29%

Source: Deputy Chief of Staff (Support) Financial Reports, 1997-2004.

Table 7.3 Government Financial Allocation to Defence 1995-2004

Government Financial Allocation				
Year	Defence Vote Outturn €'000	% GNP	Total Govt. Budget Outturn €'000	Defence Vote as % Of Govt. Budget
1995	471,482	1.3	13,035,960	3.62
1996	489,357	1.3	13,694,540	3.57
1997	541,218	1.1	16,311,872	3.32
1998	541,156	1.0	16,319,413	3.32
1999	577,421	0.9	18,338,006	3.15
2000	626,097	0.8	20,651,924	3.03
2001	712,054	0.8	25,340,212	2.80
2002	712,918	0.8	28,849,696	2.47
2003	703,075	0.7	30,736,653	2.28
2004	695,028	0.7	32,502,685	2.13

Source: The Dept of Finance Revised Estimates for Public Services 1991 to 2004 and the Annual Report of the Controller & Auditor General 2001 to 2003.

Table 7.4 Non-Pay Expenditure by Function

Comparison of Non-Pay Spending by Function						
Year	Spend €'000	Equipment €'000	Maintenance €'000	Operating Costs €'000	Buildings €'000	Training €'000
2000	168,800	74,900	27,900	40,000	22,800	3,200
	100%	44.50%	16.50%	24.00%	13%	2.00%
2001	217,000	86,000	31,000	39,000	55,000	6,000
	100%	39.50%	14.50%	18.00%	25.50%	2.50%
2002	209,547	85,191	34,308	41,250	41,076	6,722
	100%	41.13%	16.37%	19.69%	19.60%	3.21%
2003	205,016	97,720	32,155	45,718	24,248	5,175
	100%	48.00%	15.50%	22.00%	12.00%	2.50%
2004	200,229	95,932	34,037	46,619	18,439	5,200
	100%	47.91%	17.00%	23.28%	9.21%	2.60%

Delegation of Financial Authority

The Chief of Staff now has financial authority delegated to him in respect of approximately 53% of the Defence Forces spend excluding pay and compensation allocations.

Fig 7.1 Non-Pay Spending by Function

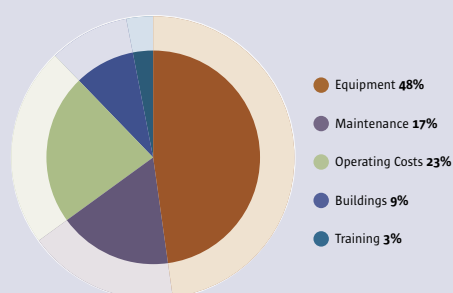


Table 7.5 Multi-Annual Expenditure

Major Ongoing Capital Investment Projects (excluding buildings)						
Project Description	Year Commenced	Pre 2004 €'000	Expenditure 2004 €'000	Balance €'000	Total €'000	Planned Completion Date
Light/Utility Helicopter	2004	-	14,170	46,830	61,000	2008
Trainer Aircraft (Pilatus)	2002	32,290	20,400	7,500	60,190	2005
APC (Phase 2)	2002	13,700	9,700	9,500	32,900	2005
Command & Staff Trainer	2001	2,500	1,100	1,250	4,850	2005
MIF Project	2003	500	4,129	2,370	6,499	2006
Digital Indoor Range Theatre (DIRT)	1999	2,200	-	350	2,550	2005
MRATGW - Javelin	2003	4,600	5,400	2,800	12,800	2005
NBC Equipment (Respirators)	2004	-	1,440	130	1,570	2005
Sophie HHTIs (Thermal Imagers)	2004	-	360	510	870	2005
Fuel Farm	2003	120	1,100	200	1,420	2005
STANAG HF Radio	2002	660	220	100	980	2005
PRR (Personal Role Radio)	2002	300	190	100	590	2005

The multi-annual framework has enhanced the procurement planning process by allowing programmes to be undertaken over a number of years. This is particularly useful and worked well with large and complex projects such as the Mowag APC and the Light/Utility Helicopter Programmes. This was further enhanced in 2004 with the introduction of a facility to carry over unspent monies (up to 10% of the budget allocation) in the area of capital projects as defined by the Department of Finance (ie buildings and IT equipment). This will assist future planning in these Subheads.

Financial Reform

The initial rollout of the Management Information Framework (MIF) in 2005 will see a fundamental change in the way business is conducted in the Defence Forces and the Department of Defence. An effective MIF system will present management with

timely and accurate information on the day-to-day workings of the organisation and greatly assist in the planning and decision-making process at all levels. The introduction of the MIF will take the on-going financial reform to a new level, contributing to improved efficiencies and transparencies in the area of financial management.

In recent years the layout of the Defence Forces' Financial Report has been brought in line with the standard format used in best business practice. This has allowed for a clear, accurate and transparent presentation of the financial performance of the organisation. All future Reports will follow a similar format and will be updated to make the best use of financial information provided by the MIF.



UN Secretary General Mr Kofi Annan views Defence Forces' equipment bound for Liberia.



Appendices

2 Eastern Brigade

1 Southern Brigade

4 Western Brigade

Defence Forces' Training Centre

Air Corps

Naval Service

Reserve Defence Force

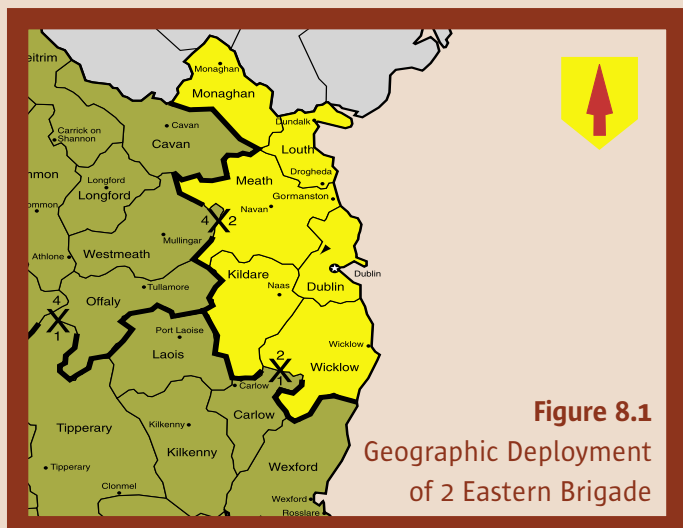


Figure 8.1
Geographic Deployment
of 2 Eastern Brigade

2 Eastern Brigade

Strength V Establishment

The establishment for the Brigade is 2,330 personnel. When the Brigade Special Establishments are included, this figure rises to 2,904 personnel. The average strength of the Brigade for 2004 was 2,343 personnel. This represents 80% of its establishment (inclusive of special establishments), with a net gain of 100 personnel. Table 8.2 outlines the quarterly figures for inflow and outflow of personnel during 2004.

Table 8.2 Quarterly Movements of Personnel
2 Eastern Brigade 2004

	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul- Sept	Oct- Dec	Total
Inflow	3	54	156	102	315
Outflow	51	29	62	73	215
Net gain/loss	-48	25	94	29	100

Conventional Military Training

During 2004, 2 Eastern Brigade conducted training exercises at battalion and company level to prepare troops for deployment on peace support missions. These exercises focused on conventional offensive and defensive operations. Particular emphasis was placed on tailoring the training to the specific mission location e.g. Liberia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, etc. A total of 809 personnel were exercised during the year. Table 8.1 outlines each type of exercise conducted during 2004.

Table 8.1 Military Exercises 2 Eastern
Brigade 2004

Exercise	Numbers Exercised
UNMIL Pre Deployment Training & Exercises	434
Mowag APC Training. Exercises	133
Troop Support to the DFTC	204
Artillery PSO Training	38
Total	809

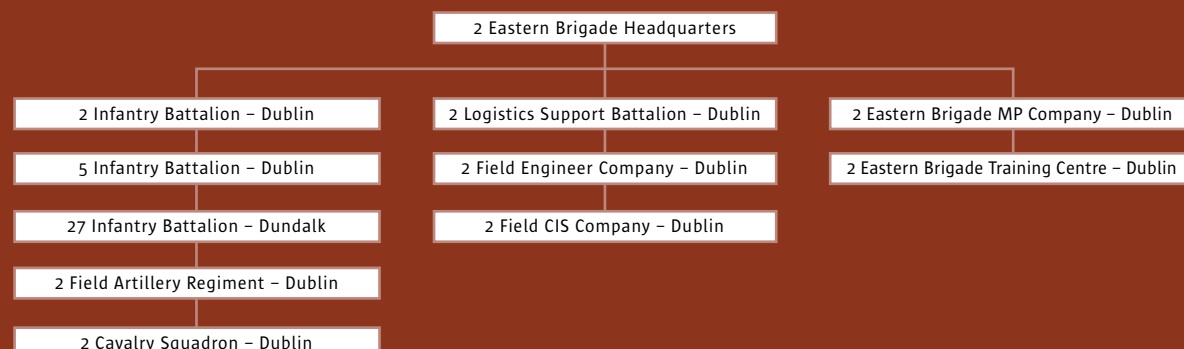
Personnel Deployed on Peace Support Operations

In keeping with the "Lead Brigade concept" outlined earlier in this report, 2 Eastern Brigade deployed the 91st Infantry Battalion to UNMIL. A total of 342 personnel were provided for this mission. In relation to other regions the Brigade contributed 201 personnel to KFOR, 15 to EUFOR and 32 to other missions around the world.

Operational Commitments

During 2004, 2 Eastern Brigade personnel carried out 2,088 duties in aid to the civil power. These duties included cash escorts, prisoner escorts, explosive ordnance disposal and patrols to vital installations. The Brigade also provided over 1,100 troops to special aid to the civil power operations as a result of Ireland's Presidency of the EU.

Figure 8.2 Organisation of 2 Eastern Brigade



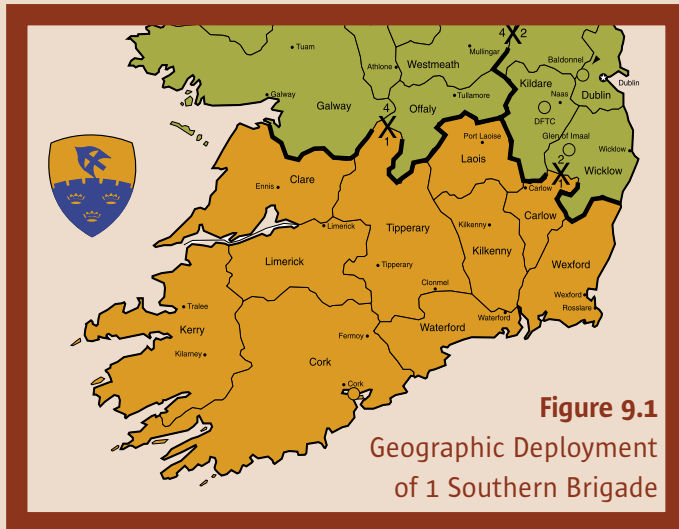


Figure 9.1
Geographic Deployment
of 1 Southern Brigade

Conventional Military Training

During 2004, 1 Southern Brigade conducted training exercises at battalion and company level to prepare troops for deployment on peace support missions. These exercises focused on conventional offensive and defensive operations. Particular emphasis was placed on tailoring the training to the specific mission location e.g. Liberia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina etc. A total of 1,281 personnel were exercised during the year. Table 9.1 outlines each type of exercise conducted during 2004.

Table 9.1 Military Exercises 1 Southern Brigade 2004

Exercise	Numbers Exercised
Mission Readiness Exercise – KFOR	136
CPX 'NOG ISLAND' – NATO/PfP	27
PSO Exercise 'NEW DAWN'	629
CIT Exercise	45
Fire Planning Exercise	140
Mission Readiness Exercise – UNMIL	290
Bn Level Simulated Exercise	14
Total	1,281

1 Southern Brigade

Strength V Establishment

The establishment for the Brigade is 2,330 personnel. The average strength of the Brigade for 2004 was 1,837 personnel. This represents 79% of its establishment, with a net gain of 27 personnel. Table 9.2 outlines the quarterly figures for inflow and outflow of personnel during 2004.

Table 9.2 Quarterly Movements of Personnel 1 Southern Brigade 2004

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	Total
Inflow	48	2	3	80	133
Outflows	35	31	27	13	106
Net Gain/Loss	13	-29	-24	67	27

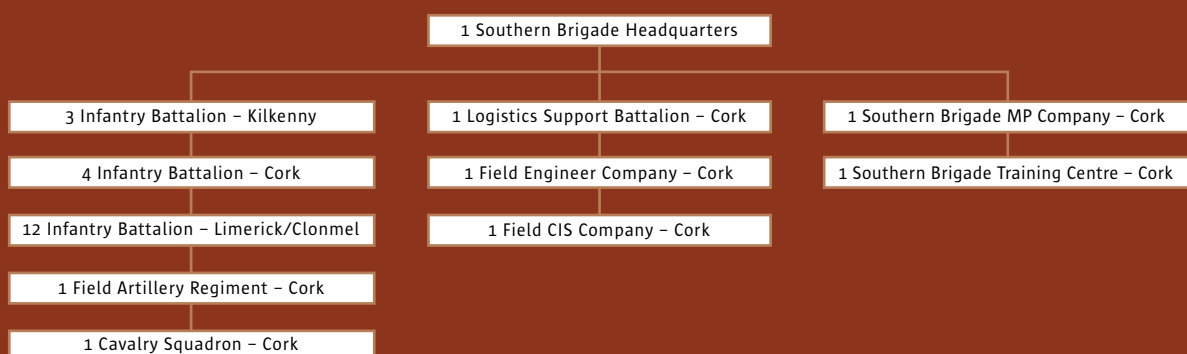
Personnel Deployed on Peace Support Operations

In keeping with the "Lead Brigade concept" outlined earlier in this report, 1 Southern Brigade deployed the 92nd Infantry Battalion to UNMIL, and the 28th Infantry Group to Kosovo. A total of 486 personnel were provided for these two missions. In relation to other regions, the Brigade contributed 95 personnel to other missions around the world.

Operational Commitments

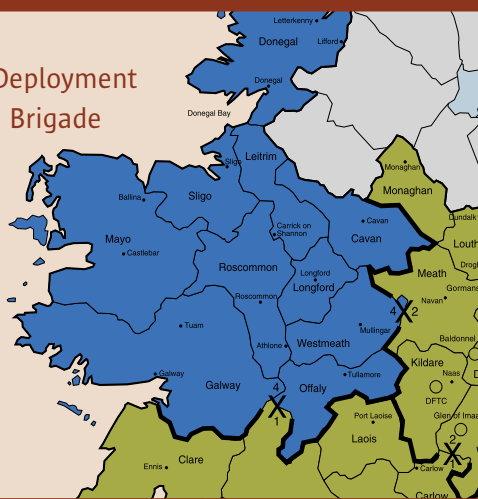
During 2004, 1 Southern Brigade personnel carried out 1,173 duties in aid to the civil power. These duties included cash escorts, prisoner escorts, explosive ordnance disposal and patrols to vital installations. The Brigade also provided over 895 troops to special aid to the civil power operations as a result of Ireland's Presidency of the EU.

Figure 9.2 Organisation of 1 Southern Brigade



4 Western Brigade

Figure 10.1
Geographic Deployment
of 4 Western Brigade



Strength V Establishment

The establishment for the Brigade is 2,330 personnel. The average strength of the Brigade for 2004 was 2,060 personnel. This represents 88% of its establishment, with a net loss of 48 personnel. Table 10.2 outlines the quarterly figures for inflow and outflow of personnel during 2004.

Table 10.2 Quarterly Movements of Personnel
4 Western Brigade 2004

	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul- Sept	Oct- Dec	Total
Inflow	41	3	3	0	47
Outflows	30	14	19	32	95
Net Gain/Loss	11	-11	-16	-32	-48

Conventional Military Training

During 2004, 4 Western Brigade conducted training exercises at battalion and company level to prepare troops for deployment on peace support missions. These exercises focused on conventional offensive and defensive operations. Particular emphasis was placed on tailoring the training to the specific mission location e.g. Liberia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina etc. A total of 1,393 personnel were exercised during the year. Table 10.1 outlines the detail of each type of exercise conducted during 2004.

Table 10.1 Military Exercises 4 Western
Brigade 2004

Exercise	Numbers Exercised
Exercise Blue Shield, Battalion Exercise.	674
Exercise Blue Sword. Rapid Response Training.	719
Total	1,393

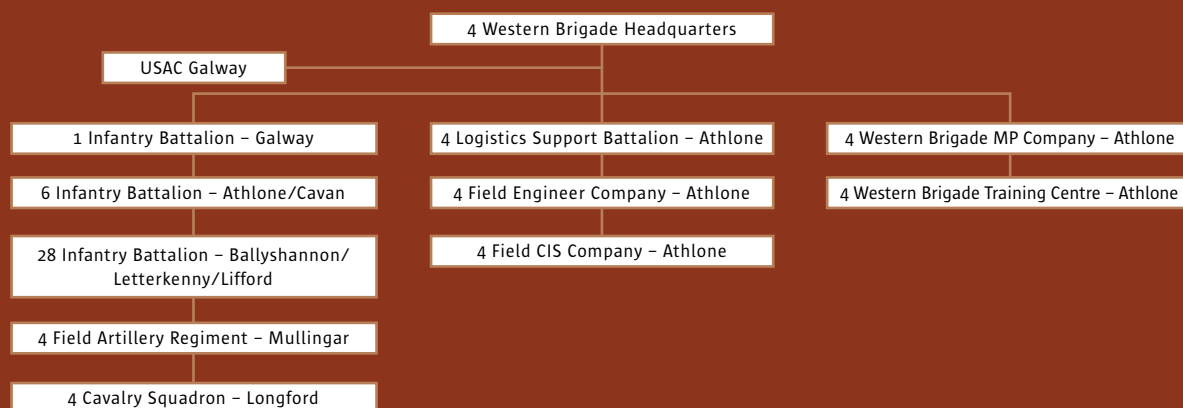
Personnel Deployed on Peace Support Operations

In keeping with the "Lead Brigade concept" outlined earlier in this report, 4 Western Brigade deployed the 29th Infantry Group to KFOR. A total of 170 personnel were provided for this mission. In relation to other regions the Brigade contributed 322 personnel to UNMIL, 9 to EUFOR and 30 to other missions around the world.

Operational Commitments

During 2004, 4 Western Brigade personnel carried out 1,075 duties in aid to the civil power. These duties included cash escorts, prisoner escorts, explosive ordnance disposal and patrols to vital installations. The Brigade also provided over 1,103 troops to special aid to the civil power operations as a result of Ireland's Presidency of the EU.

Figure 10.2 Organisation of 4 Western Brigade



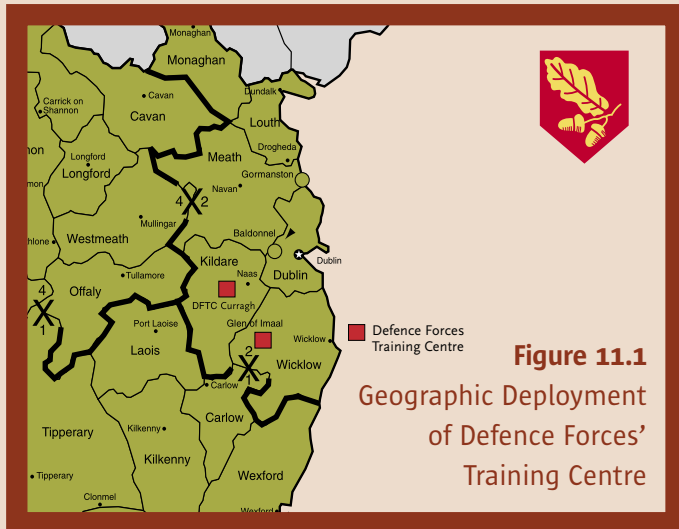


Figure 11.1
Geographic Deployment
of Defence Forces'
Training Centre

Conventional Military Training

The primary role of the DFTC is to provide professional military training and education to Defence Forces' personnel and to administer and control the Logistics Base and Defence Forces' Reserve units within the DFTC. During 2004, the DFTC provided direct support for training exercises at battalion and company level to prepare troops for deployment on peace support missions. These exercises focused on conventional offensive and defensive operations. Particular emphasis was placed on tailoring the training to the specific mission location e.g. Liberia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina etc. A total of 1,100 personnel were exercised during the year. In addition 3,500 personnel from throughout the Defence Forces completed courses and seminars in the various Defence colleges covering combat, combat support and combat service support.

Strength V Establishment

The establishment for the DFTC is 1,294 personnel. The average strength of the DFTC for 2004 was 1,488 personnel. This represents 115% of its establishment with a net loss of 36 personnel over the year. Table 11.1 outlines the quarterly figures for inflow and outflow of personnel during 2004.

Defence Forces' Training Centre

Table 11.1 Quarterly Movements of Personnel
Defence Forces Training Centre 2004

	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul- Sept	Oct- Dec	Total
Inflow	1	0	6	77	84
Outflows	18	11	64	27	120
Net Gain/Loss	-17	-11	-58	50	-36

Personnel Deployed on Peace Support Operations

The DFTC supplied a total of 228 personnel comprising 52 Officers, 176 NCOs and Privates to overseas missions in 2004. Included in this figure was an APC platoon for overseas service in Liberia with the 92nd Infantry battalion UNMIL in November 2004.

Operational Commitments

In addition to its ongoing ATCP commitment, the DFTC supplied a company group comprising elements of APC borne Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery to operations Mayfly and Munster Summit as part of Ireland's EU presidency. An EOD team and CBRN platoon were also on standby throughout the period.

CBRN training in the DFTC was significantly advanced during 2004. A CBRN platoon of 46 personnel were trained to an advanced level. This training culminated in a major two-day exercise in November 2004.

A DFTC Truck Cargo Container Company (TCCC) was fully constituted and carried out advanced training in December 2004.

The DFTC with brigade support maintains the capability to deploy a TCCC of 80 personnel. This company has a lift capacity of 600 tons and is required to be deployable in theatre at 30 days' notice with effect from 1st January 2005.

Figure 11.2 Organisation of the Defence Forces' Training Centre



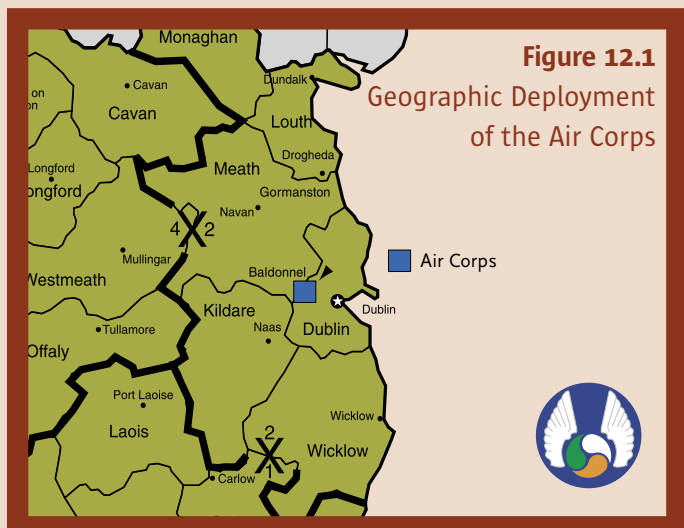


Figure 12.1
Geographic Deployment
of the Air Corps

Air Corps

Table 12.1 Quarterly Movements of Personnel
Air Corps 2004

	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul- Sept	Oct- Dec	Total
Inflow	2	3	9	18	32
Outflows	13	11	22	10	56
Net Gain/Loss	-11	-8	-13	8	-24

Conventional Military Training

During 2004, the Air Corps carried out a variety of missions in direct support of conventional military training. These missions primarily involved air support for troop training on mission readiness exercises prior to overseas deployments. Helicopters were used to train troops in tactical troop transport, reconnaissance and casualty evacuation procedures. The missions also included support to the DFTC training establishments such as the Military College, Combat Support College, and Combat Service Support College. In addition the new fixed wing Pilatus aircraft conducted simulated strike and close air support missions for training exercises. A total of 343 training missions were carried out comprising 394 flying hours.

Personnel Deployed on Peace Support Operations

A total of 44 Air Corps personnel served overseas in peace support operations during 2004. These missions ranged from peace support operations such as UNMIL and KFOR to observer missions such as UNTSO and UNMIK.

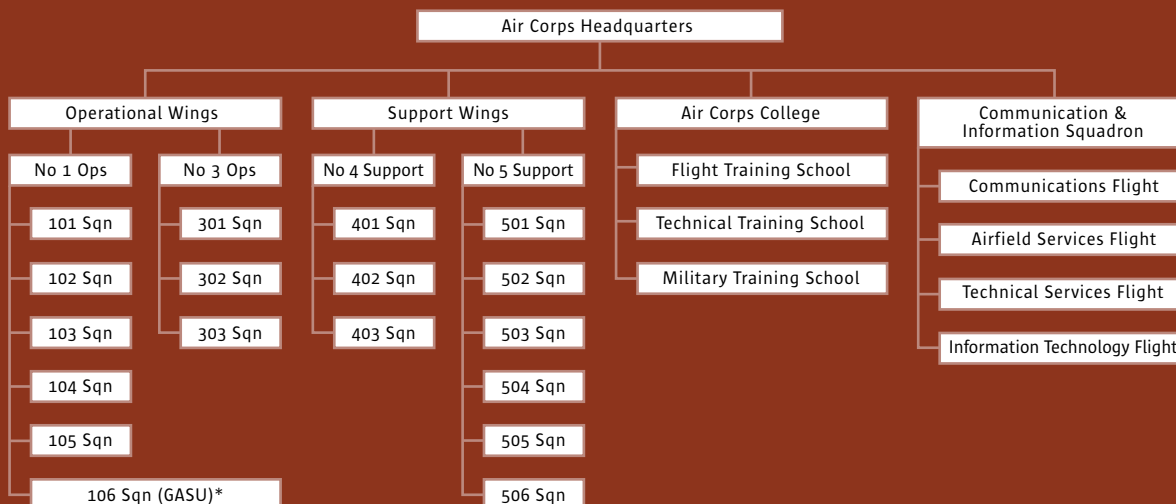
Operational Commitments

During 2004, Air Corps personnel carried out a broad range of duties in aid to the civil power. These duties included aerial surveillance of cash and prisoner escorts, sea air rescue and civil assistance. In addition there was an increase in normal ATCP flying duties as a result of Ireland's Presidency of the EU. In all, a total of 271 missions were carried out comprising 1,019 flying hours.

Strength V Establishment

The establishment for the Air Corps is 930 personnel. The average strength of the Air Corps for 2004 was 874 personnel. This represents 94% of its establishment with a net loss of 24 personnel. Table 12.1 outlines the quarterly figures for inflow and outflow of personnel during 2004.

Figure 12.2 Organisation of the Air Corps



*Garda Air Support Unit

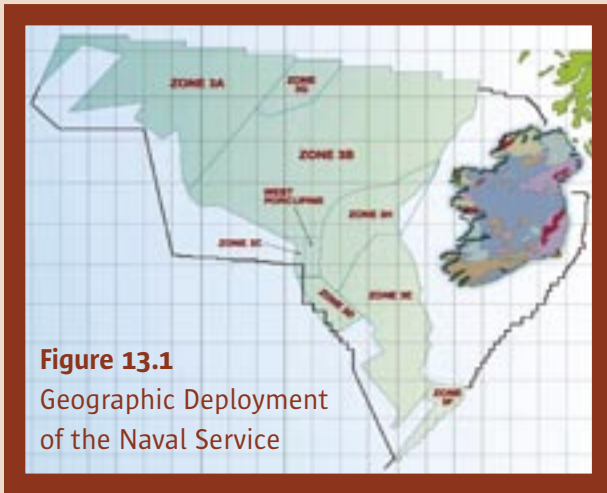


Figure 13.1
Geographic Deployment
of the Naval Service

Naval Service

Strength V Establishment

The establishment of the Naval Service is 1,144 personnel. The average strength of the Naval Service for 2004 was 1,075 personnel. This represents 94% of its establishment, with a net gain of 6 personnel. Table 13.2 outlines the quarterly figures for inflow and outflow of personnel during 2004.

Conventional Military Training

The Naval Service conducted three multi-ship training exercises off the south west coast of Ireland in May, June and August 2004. These training exercises were designed to test the ships companies for all eventualities in a multi-tasked role. These roles include gunnery shoots, replenishment at sea, towing exercises, damage control, casualty drills, station watch keeping, helicopter operations and armed boardings. The training exercise conducted in August included a drug interdiction element testing responses in an anti-drug scenario. A customs vessel also participated in this exercise. Table 13.1 outlines the detail of each type of exercise conducted during 2004.

Table 13.1 Naval Services Exercises 2004

Exercise	Numbers Exercised
Operation Halcyon	240
Operation Integrity.	250
Operation Judicious.	270
Total	760

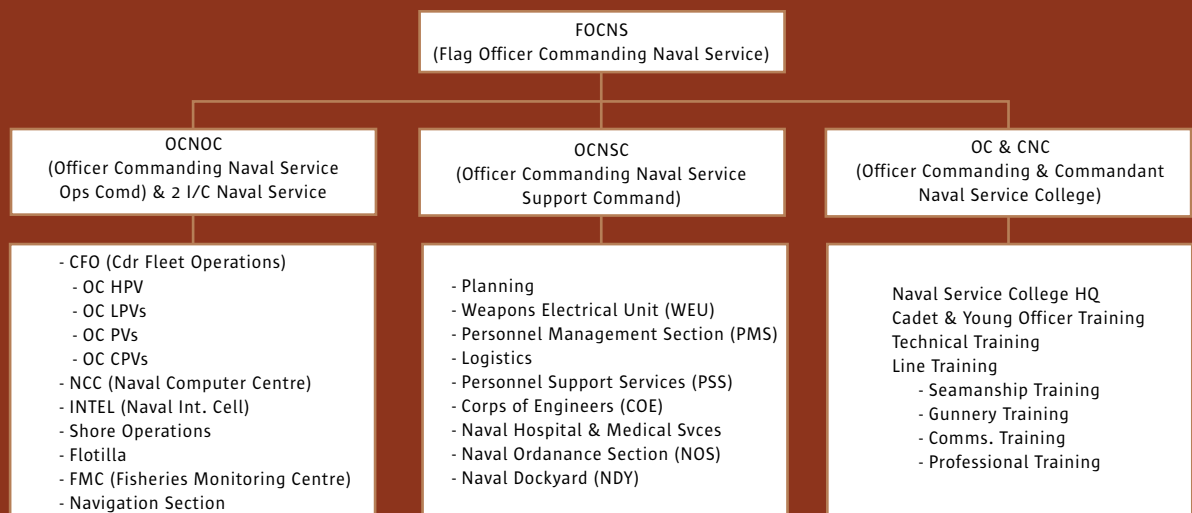
Table 13.2 Quarterly Movements of Personnel
Naval Service 2004

	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul- Sept	Oct- Dec	Total
Inflow	22	11	12	40	85
Outflows	23	9	21	26	79
Net Gain/Loss	-1	2	-9	14	6

Personnel Deployed on Peace Support Operations

A total of 31 Naval Service personnel served overseas in peace support operations during 2004. These missions included Afghanistan, Liberia, Kosovo, Bosnia and the Middle East. In addition the Naval Service maintains contingency plans for re-supply missions to overseas locations as required.

Figure 13.2 Organisational structure of the Naval Service



Operational Commitments

The primary operational role of the Naval Service is fishery protection. There was an increase of 9% in patrol days over 2003 figures. A total of 1,885 boardings were conducted. The Naval Service responded to 25 search and rescue operations in support of the Irish coastguard, and conducted 15 search operations relating to SAR recovery and EOD tasks. The Naval Service took part in ATCP operations as part of Ireland's presidency of the EU and a total of 20 days were allocated to these missions.

The new National Maritime College of Ireland (NCMI) became operational in October 2004. Focus Education Ltd constructed the facility under a public private partnership on a site owned by the Department of Defence. The college is unique in that it is the first 3rd level public private partnership project in the State, involving the Naval Service, Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) and Focus Education Ltd. It is jointly managed and operated by the Naval Service and the CIT. The college is fully equipped to meet the non-military training requirements of the Naval Service and the training requirements of the Nautical Studies School of CIT.



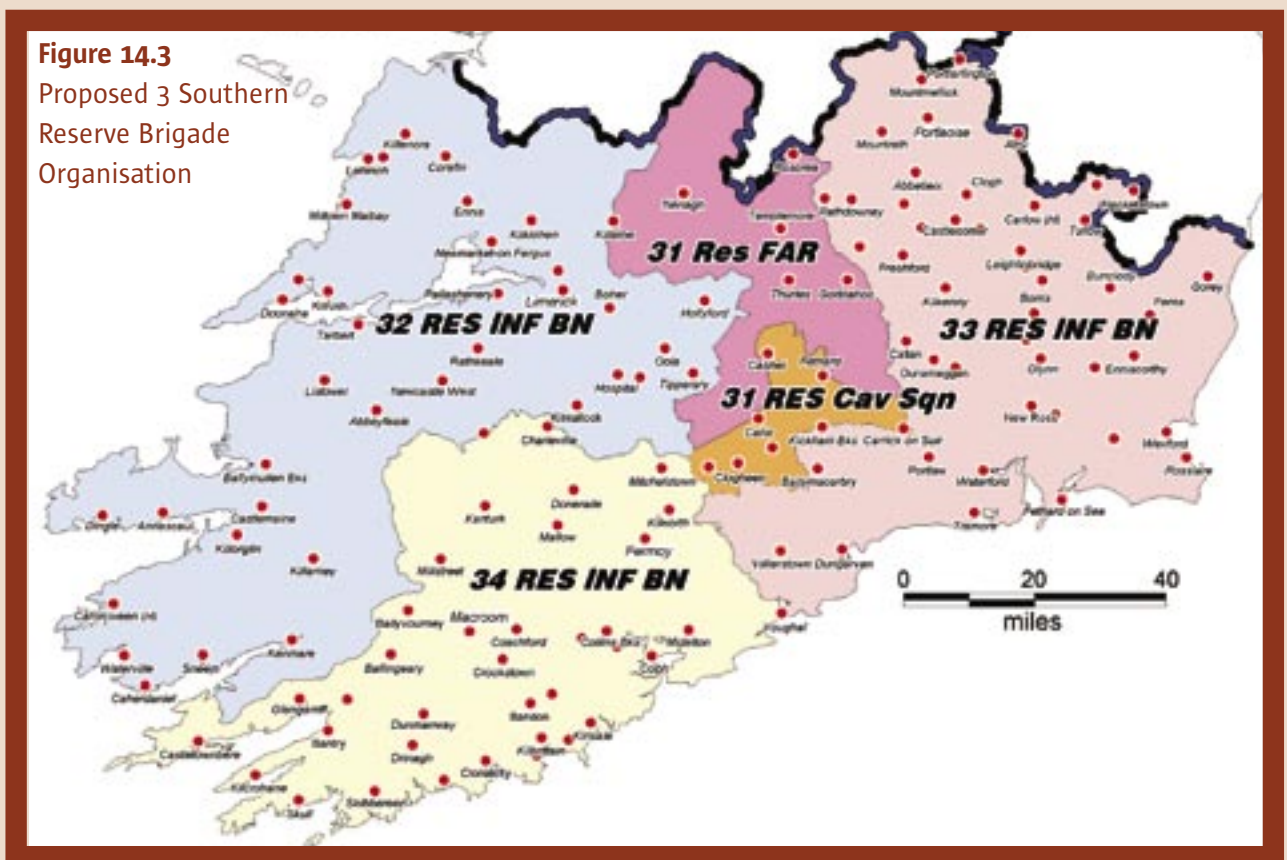
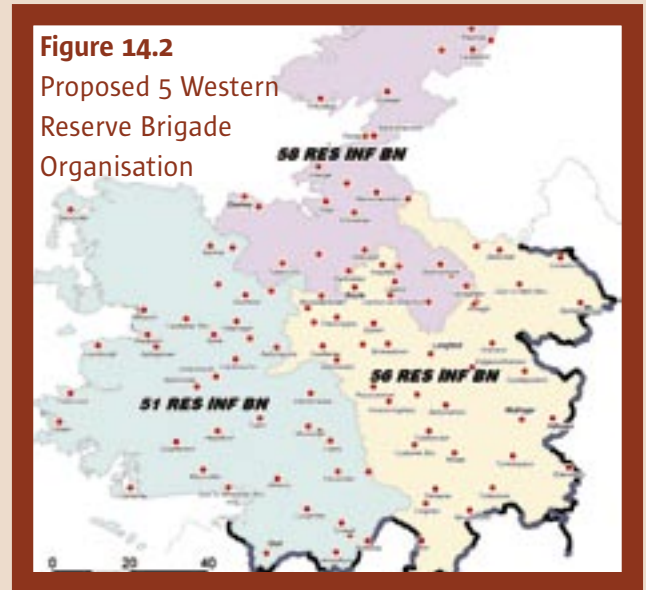
Reserve Defence Force



Location

The Reserve Defence Force is located in all permanently occupied military posts and has training facilities in a variety of locations in each of the twenty six counties.

Figures' 14.1, 14.2 and 14.3 depict the proposed organisational changes of the RDF as a result of the RDF Review Implementation Plan.



Organisation

The current RDF organisation and command structure was set up in 1979. In July 2004 the Minister for Defence launched the Reserve Defence Force Review Implementation plan. The plan will result in the current organisation changing to reflect the PDF 3 brigade structure. The process of change will see units amalgamating, unit designations changing and new specialised training units being set up. Figure 14.4 shows the proposed organisation of the RDF under the review implementation plan.

Personnel

The strength of the Reserve Defence Force in 2004 was 12,767. A total of 1,374 personnel were recruited during the year and 2,281 were discharged, representing a net loss of 907 personnel.

Training

RDF training is carried out in a variety of ways ranging from nightly training parades, weekend training, full time training and specialised training.

Figure 14.4 Proposed organisation of the Reserve Defence Force

