MEDALS OF THE
IRISH DEFENCE FORCES

ÓGLAIGH NA hÉIREANN
MEDALS OF THE
IRISH DEFENCE FORCES

1st Edition (October 2010)
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INTRODUCTION

The award of medals for services rendered is generally associated with the military. Military medals are bestowed in recognition of specific acts or service which can vary in significance from routine duty to bravery and valour. Irrespective of their provenance, military medals are highly valued and are regarded as representing all that is best in the field of human endeavour. They are seen as being earned and merited by the recipient and in the Defence Forces this sense of worth is enhanced by the strict conditions attaching to the awards.

Medals in the Defence Forces fall into two broad categories: medals awarded by the Minister for Defence on the recommendation of the Chief of Staff and medals awarded to qualifying personnel for service overseas on Government approved missions. The first category comprises the Military Medal for Gallantry and the Distinguished Service Medal, which can be awarded for acts of bravery, gallantry, courage, leadership or devotion to duty and the Military Star, a posthumous decoration awardable to personnel killed as a direct result of hostile action. These medals may only be awarded following rigorous investigation by a board of officers appointed by the Chief of Staff. Also in this category are the Service Medal, which recognises service in the Defence Forces for a minimum fixed period and the United Nations Peacekeepers Medal, which recognises service overseas with a UN mandated mission.

The second category consists of medals awarded for overseas service, which are extensive in number reflecting the long tradition of participation by members of the Defence Forces on overseas missions.

All of these medals are described in detail in this valuable and well produced booklet, the brainchild of RDF member and medal collector Battery Quartermaster Sergeant Ger O’Connor, 54 Field Artillery Regiment, whose enthusiasm and drive has contributed greatly to this project. With the approval of the Chief of Staff, A Administration, DFHQ has compiled this very attractive publication which will be of interest to the professional soldier and the amateur enthusiast alike.
IRISH DEFENCE FORCES MEDALS
MEDALS OF THE IRISH DEFENCE FORCES

An Bonn Míleata Calmachta  The Military Medal For Gallantry
An Bonn Seirbhise Dearsca  The Distinguished Service Medal
An Bonn Dea-lompair  The Good Conduct Medal
An Bonn Seirbhise  The Service Medal
An Bonn Seirbhise (FCÁ agus SM)  The Service Medal (FCÁ and SM)
An Bonn Seirbhise Éigeandála  The Emergency Service Medal
An Bonn Chosantóirí Síochána na Náisiún Aontaithe  The United Nations Peacekeepers Medal
An Réalt Míleata  The Military Star
AN BONN MÍLEATA CALMACHTA
The Military Medal for Gallantry

Medal Award:
In 1944 a medal to be known as “An Bonn Míleata Calmachta” or, in English, “The Military Medal for Gallantry” was introduced. This medal may be awarded to officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the Defence Forces and to members of the Army Nursing and Chaplaincy Services in recognition of the performance of any act of exceptional bravery or gallantry (other than one performed on war service) arising out of, or associated with, military service and involving risk to life and limb.

Classes of Award:
The medal may be awarded in the following classes:-

(a) with Honour;
(b) with Distinction;
(c) with Merit.

Bar to Medal:
The medal in any one of the classes shall not be awarded more than once to any one person but, for each succeeding act sufficient to justify a further award in the same class, a bar to the medal in that class shall be awarded.
**AN BONN MÍLEATA CALMACHTA LE hONÓIR**

*The Military Medal for Gallantry with Honour*

**Medal:** Silver  
**Obverse**  
The surrounding ring is in the form of a laurel wreath and each arm of the cross bears a St. Brendan’s knot. In the centre are the words “DE BARR CALMACHTA” (For Gallantry).

**Reverse**  
The inscription “ÁN BONN MÍLEATA CALMACHTA” above a scroll for the particulars of the recipient and a hallmark with the makers initials on the bottom.

**Ribbon:**  
35mm green with 3mm crimson stripe in the centre.

**Suspension:**  
The ribbon is slotted through a straight bar suspender which is attached to the top of the cross by ornamental arms, all integral with the medal. The ribbon hangs from a pin-back brooch bearing a raised celtic design.

**Bar:**  
There is provision for “bars” for subsequent acts of gallantry, that take the form of 7mm metal discs bearing a celtic triquetra design, affixed to the ribbon.

**Note:**  
To date this Medal has not been awarded. It was renamed from 1st Class to “Honour” in Jan 1984.
AN BONN MÍLEATA CALMACHTA LE DEARSCNACHT
The Military Medal for Gallantry with Distinction

Medal: Bronze

**Obverse**
The surrounding ring is in the form of a laurel wreath and each arm of the cross bears a St. Brendan’s knot. In the centre are the words “DE BARR CALMACHTA” (For Gallantry).

**Reverse**
The inscription “An Bonn Míleata Calmaċta” above and a scroll below for the particulars of the recipient.

**Ribbon:**
35mm Green with 6mm crimson edges.

**Suspension:**
The ribbon is slotted through a straight bar suspender which is attached to the top of the cross by ornamental arms, all integral with the medal. The ribbon hangs from a pin-back brooch bearing a raised celtic design.

**Bar:**
There is provision for “bars” for subsequent acts of gallantry that take the form of 7mm metal discs bearing a celtic triquetra design, affixed to the ribbon.

**Note:**
To date this medal has been awarded on six occasions. It was renamed from 2nd Class to “Distinction” in Jan 1984.
AN BONN MÍLEATA CALMACHTA
LE TUILLTEANAS
The Military Medal for Gallantry with Merit

Medal: Bronze

Obverse
The surrounding ring is in the form of a laurel wreath and each arm of the cross bears a St. Brendan’s knot. In the centre are the words “DE BARR CALMACHTA” (For Gallantry).

Reverse
The inscription “An Bonn Míleata Calmachta” above and a scroll below for the particulars of the recipient.

Ribbon:
35mm Green with 3mm crimson edges and a 3 mm crimson centre stripe.

Suspension:
The ribbon is slotted through a straight bar suspender which is attached to the top of the cross by ornamental arms, all integral with the medal. The ribbon hangs from a pin-back brooch bearing a raised celtic design.

Bar:
There is provision for “bars” for subsequent acts of gallantry, that take the form of 7mm metal discs bearing a celtic triquetra design, affixed to the ribbon.

Note:
To date this medal has been awarded on two occasions. It was renamed from 3rd Class to “Merit” in Jan 1984.
Medal Award:
On 18 February 1964 a medal to be known as “An Bonn Seirbhíse Dearscna” or, in English, “The Distinguished Service Medal”, was introduced by the Defence Forces. The medal may be awarded to officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the Defence Forces and to members of the Army Nursing and Chaplaincy Services in recognition of individual or associated acts of bravery, courage, leadership, resource or devotion to duty (other than any such acts or duty performed on war service) arising out of, or associated with, service in the Defence Forces and not meriting the award of An Bonn Mileata Calmachta.

Classes of Award:
The medal may be awarded in the following classes:-

(a) with Honour;

(b) with Distinction;

(c) with Merit.

Bar to Medal:
The medal in any one of the classes prescribed shall not be awarded more than once to any one person but, for each succeeding act sufficient to justify a further award in the same class, a bar to the medal in that class may be awarded.
AN BONN SEIRBHÍSE DEARSCNA LE hONÓIR
The Distinguished Service Medal with Honour

Medal: Silver

Obverse
A design of the ancient Irish warrior Cuchulainn with upraised sword standing in a war chariot drawn by two horses at the gallop. A charioteer crouched beside him whips the horses.

Reverse
Plain with the inscription “An Bonn Seirbhís Dearscna” (The Distinguished Service Medal) around the outer edges.

Ribbon:
35mm wide in dark green with 6mm black centre stripe.

Suspension:
Ring affixed to the top of the medal and pin back brooch suspender in the appropriate metal bearing a design of lozenges.

Note:
It was renamed from 1st Class to “Honour” in Jan 1984.
AN BONN SEIRBHÍSE DEARSCNA
LE DEARSCNACHT
The Distinguished Service Medal with Distinction

Medal:
Obverse
A design of the ancient Irish warrior Cuchulainn with upraised sword standing in a war chariot drawn by two horses at the gallop. A charioteer crouched beside him whips the horses.

Reverse
Plain with the inscription “An Bonn Seirbhis Dearscna” (The Distinguished Service Medal) around the outer edges.

Ribbon:
35mm wide in dark green with 5mm black stripes at the edges.

Suspension:
Ring affixed to the top of the medal and pin back brooch suspender in the appropriate metal bearing a design of lozenges.

Note:
It was renamed from 2nd Class to “Distinction” in Jan 1984.
AN BONN SEIRBHÍSE DEARSCNA
LE TUILLTEANAS
The Distinguished Service Medal with Merit

Medal:

Obverse
A design of the ancient Irish warrior Cuchulainn with upraised sword standing in a war chariot drawn by two horses at the gallop. A charioteer crouched beside him whips the horses.

Reverse
Plain with the inscription “An Bónn Seirbhís Dearscna” (The Distinguished Service Medal) around the outer edges.

Ribbon:
35mm wide in dark green with black 3mm black edges and a centre stripe.

Suspension:
Ring affixed to the top of the medal and pin back brooch suspender in the appropriate metal bearing a design of lozenges.

Note:
It was renamed from 3rd Class to “Merit” in Jan 1984.
Medals of the Irish Defence Forces

AN BONN DEA-IOMPAIR
The Good Conduct Medal

Medal Award:
The medal known as “An Bónn Oeá-Iompáir” or, in English, “The Good Conduct Medal”, was awarded during the period from 16 September 1987 to 30 January 1990 to non-commissioned officers and privates who were eligible for the award. The medal was designed to recognise meritorious service characterised by exemplary conduct of an individual NCO or private.

Medal:
Obverse
The figure of Éire is placing a laurel wreath on the uncovered head of a kneeling soldier. The inscription “An Bónn Oeá-Iompáir” partially surrounds the form of the soldier and there is a small spray of laurel to the right.

Reverse
The inscription in English “The Good Conduct Medal” with the recipient’s number, initials and name in the centre.

Ribbon:
A significant departure from traditional styles, the ribbon is 35mm wide, orange with 5mm green stripes at 45 degrees from wearer’s right to left.

Suspension:
Ring.

Note:
This medal is no longer awarded.
Irish Defence Forces Medals

**AN BONN SEIRBHÍSE**

*The Service Medal*

**Medal Award:**
A medal known as “An Bonn Seirbhíse” or, in English, “The Service Medal”, may be awarded to an officer, a non-commissioned officer or a private of the Defence Forces or to a member of the Army Nursing or Chaplaincy Services who possesses the qualifying service for the award.

**Medal:**

*Obverse*
The figure of Éire is placing a laurel wreath on the head of a kneeling soldier. The inscription “An Bonn Seirbhíse” partially surrounds the form of the soldier, with a small spray of laurel to the right of Éire.

*Reverse*
Around the top the words “The Service Medal” with the recipient’s number, initials and name in the centre.

**Ribbon:**
The ten-year service medal has a 35mm plain St. Patrick’s blue ribbon, while the fifteen-year ribbon has a 5mm gold stripe in the centre. This latter ribbon is also used for officer’s medals.

**Suspension:**
From an ornate suspender to a bronze pin-back brooch with the inscription “Seirbhís” (Service).

**Award of the Service Medal:**

*Non Commissioned Officers and Privates*
After 10 Years service NCOs and privates are awarded this medal. After 15 years’ service they are awarded a bar and new ribbon with gold stripe in the centre.
**Commissioned Officers**
Officers are awarded the service medal after 15 years of service and a bar is awarded after 20 years of service.

**Bar:**
The bar is attached to the ribbon and is bronze with two laurel sprays on either side of the central cruciform design.
AN BONN SEIRBHÍSE FCÁ AGUS SM
The Service Medal FCÁ and SM

Medal Award:
In June 1961 a medal to be known as An Bónn Seirbhíse (FCÁ agus SM) was introduced for members or former members of An Fórsa Cosanta Áitiúil or An Slua Muirí who qualify for such award. Two bars to the medal are awarded to members or former members who qualify for such award. The second bar bears the inscription “21”.

Medal:
Obverse
A figure depicting an Irish Kern (warrior) with sword, spear and shield. Around the inscription “Faire Ḃíoḋgaċ Tus na Saoirse” (Active is the Foundation of Freedom).

Ribbon:
For seven years service a ribbon of St. Patrick’s blue with yellow edging and for the twelve year an additional yellow centre stripe.

Suspension:
From a bronze bar which is an integral part of the medal. Both ribbons hang from a bronze pin-back brooch on which is inscribed “Seirbhís” (Service).

Bars:
This medal is awarded after 7 years service, a bar is awarded after 12 years service with a second bar with 21 in the centre is awarded after 21 years service.
Medals of the Irish Defence Forces

RIBBON
12 AND 21 YEARS’ SERVICE

OVERSE
12 YEARS’ SERVICE

OVERSE
21 YEARS’ SERVICE
Irish Defence Forces Medals

**AN BONN SEIRBHÍSE ÉIGEANDÁLA**

*The Emergency Service Medal*

**Medal Award:**
In October 1944 a medal to be known as “An Bonn Seirbhíse Éigeandála” or, in English, “The Emergency Service Medal”, was introduced for officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the Defence Forces, members of the Army Nursing and Chaplaincy Services and members of the Construction Corps who, during the period which commenced on the 3 September 1939 and ended on the 31 March 1946, rendered the qualifying service.

**Bar to Medal:**
A bar to the medal is awarded to persons who have rendered the qualifying service for the award of a bar to the medal, provided that such service fulfils the conditions applicable to such qualifying service. The bar bears the inscription “1939-1946”.

**Medal:**
The medal is bronze coloured, 35mm in diameter and is awarded for the following qualifying periods.

- Persons who rendered not less than 365 days service, continuous or aggregate, in the Defence Forces and three reserve elements: the Local Defence Forces, the Chaplaincy service and the Army Nursing Service.

- Persons who rendered not less than 365 days service, continuous or aggregate, in the Local Security Forces, the Air Raid Precautions Service or the active divisions of the Irish Red Cross Society.

**Obverse**
All eleven medals carry the same obverse, a figure representing Éire with an Irish wolfhound and sword and the inscription “Ré na Práinne” (Emergency Period).

**Reverse**
A laurel spray, the dates 1939/1946 and the inscription of the organisation receiving the Medal.
Ribbons:
Two types issued; for the Regular Defence Forces and LDF (1-7) a red ribbon with two centre white stripes. For the other issues (8-11) Red with one white stripe.

Suspension:
The ribbon is threaded through a ring that is affixed to the top of the medal and hangs from a bronze pin back brooch bearing the words “Seirbhs Náisiúnta” (National Service).

Bar:
Bars were authorised for each additional two years’ service, consecutive or aggregate, beyond the qualifying period. A maximum of two bars were allowed. The bars which are attached to the ribbon are bronze and bear the dates 1939-1946 with a laurel spray between.

1. Na Fórsaí Cosanta (Defence Forces). Issued to regular Army, Air Corps and Marine Service.


3. An Fórsa Cosanta Áitiúil (LDF). Issued to members of this force who were organised as a Volunteer Local Force.


5. 26ú Cathlán (26 Battalion). Composed almost entirely from members of the Old Irish Republican Army, many of whom saw action against British Crown Forces prior to 1921 (Similar to LDF).


7. An Seirbhís Séiplíneachta (Chaplaincy Service).


9. Ranna Céad Cabhrac Cumann Croise Deirge na hÉireann (Irish Red Cross Society, Volunteer Aid Section).

10. Ranna Cabhair Dheontachta Cumann Croise Deirge na hÉireann (Irish Red Cross Society, First Aid Division).

11. Na Seirbhísí Réamhcuraim in aghaidh Aer-Ruathar (Air Raid Precautions Origanisation.).
**AN BONN CHOSANTÓIRÍ SIOCHÁNA NA NÁISIÚN AONTAITHE**  
*The United Nations Peacekeepers Medal*

**Medal Award:**  
In 1989, a medal to be known as “An Bónn Chosantóirí Síochána na Náisiún Aontaithe” or, in English, “The UN Peacekeepers Medal”, was introduced. It may be awarded to a member or former member of the Permanent Defence Force or to a member or former member of the Chaplaincy Service who qualifies or has qualified for the award of a medal in respect of service with a United Nations mission or a United Nations mandated mission and who is otherwise eligible for the award of the UN Peacekeepers Medal.

The UN Peacekeepers medal may not be awarded more than once to any one person.

**Medal:**  
*Obverse*  
A female figure representative of Éire standing on a shoreline releasing a dove over the sea. The dove holds an olive spray in its beak and on the horizon is a skein of wild geese.

*Reverse*  
The legend UNITED NATIONS FOR PEACE in Irish and English.

**Ribbon:**  
35mm wide with a 12 mm orange centre stripe bearing a 3mm stripe of UN blue. 5mm white and green stripes on either side, green outer.

**Suspension:**  
Straight unswivelled bar through which the ribbon is threaded.

**Posthumous Awards:**  
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on overseas assignment. In such cases, the medal will be awarded posthumously to the next of kin.

**Note:**  
This Medal was designed by Comdt William Campbell (Retd) and Mr Jim Hogan.
AN RÉALT MÍLEATA

The Military Star

Medal Award:
A Medal to be known as “An Réalt Míleata” or, in English, “The Military Star”, may be awarded posthumously to members of the Permanent Defence Force and to members of the Chaplaincy Service killed or fatally wounded as a direct result of a hostile action or act perpetrated by an enemy, opposing armed force, hostile belligerent or other party, involving the use of firepower or other lethal weapon, in the course of service outside the state on approved military duties overseas.

Members who died in service in the circumstances specified above on or after 28 June, 1958 shall be eligible for consideration for the award of the medal.

(It has been proposed by the Medal Review Board 2008 that the Medal Award should be amended to read service on approved Military Duties. This recommendation is subject to final approval by Minister for Defence).

Medal: 
Obverse
The medal, which is an eight-pointed star, is of bronze, 35mm wide and 35mm high and depicted in the centre is the dead figure of Cuchulainn.

Reverse
The name of the deceased soldier, his army number, date of death and the name of country where he was serving at the time is engraved on the reverse.

Ribbon:
The ribbon has the following colours, left to right. 2mm Black, 6mm purple, 4mm green, 3mm white and a 2mm orange central stripe. The colours are continued white, green, purple and black to the right edge.

Suspension:
The top Suspender is again of bronze with the word ‘REMEMBRANCE’ in relief on the bar.

This Medal and Ribbon were designed by Corporal Daniel O’Connell (Retd) who was stationed in Ceremonial Section, ‘A’ Administration.
UNITED NATIONS MEDALS
UNITED NATIONS MEDAL

Origin
In 1966 the UN Secretary General established the United Nations Medal which is now awarded to personnel participating in United Nations peacekeeping missions worldwide.

The original UN Medal was awarded for the UN field operations “United Nations Observer Group In Lebanon” (UNOGIL) and “Operation Des Nations Unies Au Congo” (ONUC).

The United Nations emblem, the universally recognised symbol of the peace organisation came into existence at the same time the UN was created. The insignia, which now adorns every conceivable item of United Nations property from stationery and medals to helmets and ambulances, originated as part of an identification badge worn by attendees to the San Francisco Conference held in 1945.

Ribbon
A separate ribbon was created for each mission with the standard medal design used throughout. Each mission medal ribbon and its specific meaning are described in this book.

Medal
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Numerals
Since 1974, arabic numerals in metallic silver are awarded to personnel who have served more than one tour of duty with a specific peace-keeping mission. The numeral is affixed to the medal and service ribbon to indicate the total number of tours of duty. The ribbon itself represents the initial assignment; the numeral 2 indicate the second tour etc.
AUTHORISED MISSION MEDALS

UNITED NATIONS

1948 United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO)
1949 United Nations Military Observer Group India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP)
1958 United Nations Observer Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL)
1960 Organisation des Nations Unies au Congo (ONUC)
1964 United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)
1965 United Nations India-Pakistan Observer Mission (UNIPOM)
1973 United Nations Emergency Force (Sinai) (UNEF II)
1974 United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
1978 United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
1979 United Nations Headquarters New York (UNHQ)
1988 United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG)
1989 United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG)
1989 Organisation Nations Unies Central America (ONUCA)
1991 United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II)
1991 United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM)
1991 Mission Interim Nations Unies Republique Sahara Occidental (MINURSO)
1991 United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC)
1991 Organisation Nations Unies El Salvador (ONUSAL)
1992 United Nations Transitional Assistance Cambodia (UNTAC)
1992 United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR)
1993 United Nations Special Mission Afghanistan (UNSMA)
1994 United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH)
1994 United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR)
1995 United Nations Preventative Deployment (UNPREDEP)
1996 United Nations Military Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP)
1996 United Nations Transitional Authority Eastern Slavonia (UNTAES)
1997 Dag Hammarskjöld - United Nations
1999 United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo. (UNMIK)
1999 United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET)
1999 Unites Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNMISET/UNTAET)
2000 United Nations Mission Eritrea Ethiopia (UNMEE)
2003 United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)
2003 United Nations Mission in Cote d'Ivoire (MINUCI)
2004 Operations des Nations Unies en Cote d'Ivoire) (ONUCI)
2009 United Nations Mission in Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT II)
UNTSO – 1948
United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation

Mission:
This mission was established in June 1948 to assist the Mediator and the Truce Commission in supervising the Palestine Truce under the Security Council. Since its inception, UNTSO has performed various tasks entrusted to it by the Security Council, including the observation of the cease-fire in the Suez Canal area and the Golan Heights following the Arab-Israeli war of June 1967. At present, UNTSO assists and cooperates with UNDOF and UNIFIL in the performance of their tasks. Observer groups are stationed in Beirut and in Cairo with liaison offices in Amman and Gaza City. UNTSO also provided cadres of Military Observers for the initial set-up of UNGOMAP, UNIMOG, UNIKOM and UNPROFOR. The Mission continues to the present date.

Medal:
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “In The Service Of Peace” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon has the UN blue background with two narrow white stripes, the basic colours of the UN.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 180 days of service in the mission area.
**UNMOGIP – 1949**

*United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan*

**Mission:**
UNMOGIP was established in January 1949 to supervise the ceasefire between India and Pakistan, in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Mission continues to the present date. Since renewed hostilities in 1971, UNMOGIP monitors the ceasefire called for by the United Nations Security Council.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “In The Service Of Peace” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon bears a wide central band in various shades of green to represent the Himalayan Range and the Kashmir Valley, flanked by narrow white stripes representing the snow-capped mountains. Two equal bars of UN blue appear at either end of the ribbon.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 180 days of service in the mission area.
**UNOGIL – 1958**
*United Nations Observer Group in Lebanon*

**Mission:**
UNOGIL was established in May 1958, after an armed rebellion broke out in Lebanon near the Syrian Border over proposed constitutional changes by President Camille Chamoun, who wished to be elected to another term in office. Syria, now part of the United Arab Republic (UAR), was lending its support to the Muslim cause, by infiltrating arms and ammunition into Lebanon for use by Lebanese rebels. The UN Security Council set up UNOGIL to ensure personnel, arms and ammunition were not infiltrated across the Lebanese border. UNOGIL was withdrawn in December 1958.

**Medal:**

*Metal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Metal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon (same as UNTSO) has the UN blue background with two narrow white stripes, the basic colours of the UN.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 180 days of service in the mission area.
**ONUC – 1960**

*United Nations Operation in the Congo*
*(The acronym derives from the French, *Operation des Nations Unies au Congo)*

**Mission:**
ONUC was established initially in July 1960 to ensure the withdrawal of Belgian forces, to assist the Government in maintaining law and order, and to provide technical assistance. The function of ONUC was subsequently modified to include maintaining the territorial integrity and the political independence of the Congo, preventing the occurrence of civil war, and securing the removal from the Congo of all foreign military, paramilitary and advisory personnel not under the United Nations command, and all mercenaries. On completion of the mandate the Mission was withdrawn in June 1964.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
In 1963 it was decided that a distinctive ribbon should be issued. The ribbon subsequently awarded carries a broad centre band of green, symbolic of hope that was thought to be appropriate for a young nation, and also to represent the Congo Basin. The centre band is flanked by two narrow white bands, representing the UN Mission and at either end are two bars of UN blue.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of the service in mission area.

**Note:**
The First Medal awarded to personnel serving in the Belgian Congo was the same as the UNTSO Medal with a Clasp pinned in the centre of the Ribbon with the word CONGO.
UNTEA – 1962

*United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA)*
*United Nations Security Force in West New Guinea (West Irian) (UNSF)*

**Mission:**
The mission was established in October 1962 to maintain peace and security in the territory under the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) established by agreement between Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands. United Nations Security Force (UNSF) assisted and monitored the cease-fire and helped ensure law and order during the transition period, pending transfer to Indonesia. Upon completion of the mandate, the missions were withdrawn in April 1963. Only one medal was issued.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal ribbon has a background of UN blue with three centred narrow stripes in the colours dark green, white and light green. The dark green represents the jungle and the swampland, white indicates the snow-capped mountains and pale green represents the coral beaches of the region.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 180 days of service in the mission area.
**UNFICYP – 1964**

*United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus*

**Mission:**
Established in March 1964 to prevent the recurrence of hostilities between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots and, as necessary, to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of law and order and a return to normal conditions. Since the hostilities of 1974, the mandate has included supervising the cease-fire and maintaining a buffer zone between the lines of the Cyprus National Guard and of the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces. The mission continues to the present date.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal Ribbon has three equal bars, one of white in the centre and two of UN blue at either end. The bars are separated by two narrow bands of dark blue symbolising the Mediterranean Sea.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNIPOM – 1965**

*United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission*

**Mission:**
Established in September 1965 to supervise the cease-fire along the India/Pakistan border (except in the State of Jammu and Kashmir where UNMOGIP were deployed) and the withdrawal of all armed personnel to the positions held by them before 05 August 1965. The mission was terminated in March 1966 after the withdrawal of troops by India and Pakistan.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon bears a wide central band in various shades of green to represent the Himalayan Range and the Kashmir Valley, flanked by narrow white stripes representing the snow-capped mountains. Two equal bars of UN blue appear at either end of the ribbon. (The same as UNMOGIP)

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 180 days of service in the mission area.
UNEF II – 1973
United Nations Emergency Force II

Mission:
The mission was established in October 1973 to supervise the cease-fire between Egyptian and Israeli forces and, following the conclusion of the agreements of 18 January 1974 and 4 September 1975, to supervise the redeployment of Egyptian and Israeli forces and to control the buffer zones established under those agreements. The mandate for this mission expired in July 1979 and the troops were withdrawn.

Medal:
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon bears a wide central band of a sand or buff colour symbolising the Sinai Desert with two narrow dark blue lines through the middle, representing the Suez Canal. Two wide bars of UN blue appear at either end.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNDOF – 1974**

*United Nations Disengagement Observer Force*

**Mission:**
The mission was established in June 1974 to supervise the cease-fire between Israel and Syria; to supervise the disengagement (redeployment) of Syrian and Israeli forces; and, to establish a buffer zone, as provided in the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian Forces of 31 May 1974. UNDOF continues to perform its functions effectively with the cooperation of the parties.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon contains a central stripe of UN blue with a red line down the middle representing the UN patrolled Area of Separation; two narrow stripes of black, representing the volcanic rock of the Golan region appear on either side with two narrow bands of white, symbolic of the snow on Mt. Hermon, outside these. At either end are wide bands of burgundy, symbolising the purple haze at sunset and the native thistles of the Golan.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNIFIL – 1978

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

Mission:
This Mission was established in March 1978 to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon, to restore international peace and security, and to assist the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area. The Mission continues to the present date.

Medal:

**Medal Obverse**
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters "UN" on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

**Medal Reverse**
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon bears equal bands of UN blue, green and UN blue. The bands are separated by two equal sized white stripes, each bisected by a narrow red line. The colours represent the UN and Lebanese flags.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNHQ – 1979
United Nations Headquarters New York

Mission:
From time to time countries may provide, on a secondment basis, staff trained, military officers to serve in staff positions at United Nations Headquarters in New York to assist with the planning and implementation of new missions.

Medal:
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon is pure United Nations blue and represents service at United Nations Headquarters in New York rather than as part of a specific peace-keeping operation.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in UN HQ.
**UNIIMOG – 1988**

*United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group*

**Mission:**
This Mission was established in August 1988 to verify, confirm and supervise the cease-fire and withdrawal of all forces to the internationally recognised boundaries agreed to between Iran and Iraq. The Mission ceased in February 1991.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon has a broad central band of UN blue flanked on the left end by three equal stripes in green, white and red to represent the Iranian flag, and on the right end, by three equal stripes of red, white and black to represent the Iraqi flag.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNTAG – 1989**

*United Nations Transitional Assistance Group*

**Mission:**
UNTAG was established to ensure the early independence of Namibia through free and fair elections under the supervision and control of the United Nations. The mission was established April 1989 with a mandate for one year and closed in March 1990.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*

The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*

The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**

The centre of the UNTAG ribbon contains five equal stripes in black, yellow, red, green and royal blue, the colours of the five Olympic Rings and representing the five continental regions of the world, all of which were represented in either the military or civilian police components of UNTAG. The centre is flanked by equal bars of a buff or sand colour to represent the Kalahari and Namib deserts with equal bands of UN blue appearing at each end.

**Qualification:**

Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**ONUCA – 1989**

*United Nations Observer Group In Central America*

*(The acronym derives from Spanish, Observadores de las Naciones Unidas en Centroamerica)*

**Mission:**
This Mission was established in December 1989 to conduct on-site verification of termination of aid to irregular forces and insurrectionist movements, and the non-use of the territory of one state for attacks on other states in the countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The Mission terminated in January 1992.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal ribbon contains five narrow green stripes to represent the five countries involved. These five green stripes are separated by four equal white stripes. The central group is flanked by two equal bands of sea blue to represent the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, flanked in turn by two broad bands of UN blue to represent the United Nations’ presence in the area.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNAVEM II – 1991**

*United Nations Angola Verification Mission*

**Mission:**
UNAVEM II was established in May 1991 to verify the redeployment northward and the phased and total withdrawal of Cuban troops from the territory of the People’s Republic of Angola in accordance with the timetable agreed between the parties. The mission was terminated in February 1995.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon contains a central broad band of light blue flanked by three equal stripes of black, white and red, with wide yellow bands at either end. The yellow, red and black are representative of the Angolan national flag, with the light blue and white representing the UN presence in the country.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNSCOM – 1991**

*United Nations Special Commission*

**Mission:**
On 3 April 1991, the Security Council established the terms and conditions for a formal cease-fire between Iraq and the coalition of Member States in cooperation with Kuwait. Section C of resolution 687 deals with the elimination, under international supervision, of Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles with a range greater than 150 Kilometres (Km), together with related items and production facilities. It also calls for measures to ensure that the acquisition and production of prohibited items are not resumed. The Special Commission was set up to implement the non-nuclear provisions of the resolution and to assist the International Atomic Agency (IAEA) in the nuclear areas. The precise terms are laid out in paragraphs 7 to 13 of the resolution.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The UN Special Services Medal was issued for this mission. The colour combination consists of a large blue stripe framed between two white stripes. In order to identify the theatre in which the personnel have earned the medal, a clasp is added with the name of the country or the United Nations organization (UNHCR, UNSCOM, UNSMA, MINUGUA etc).

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**MINURSO – 1991**

*United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara*

*(The acronym derives from French, Mission des nations unies pour le referendum dans le Sahara Occidental)*

**Mission:**
MINURSO was established in May 1991 following the agreement between the Government of Morocco and the Frente Polisario. MINURSO was deployed to monitor the ceasefire and to organise and conduct a referendum which would allow the people of the Western Sahara to choose freely between integration with Morocco or independence. The mission continues to this date.

**Medal:**

*Metal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Metal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal Ribbon has a very wide central band of a sandy brown colour, representing the Sahara Desert, with two narrow bands of UN blue at either end.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNIKOM – 1991
United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observer Mission

Mission:
UNIKOM was established in April 1991 following the forced withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Its task was to monitor the demilitarised zone established along the Iraq/Kuwait border, deter border violations and to report on any hostile action. The mandate of the mission was completed in October 2003.

Medal:

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon contains a narrow central stripe of UN blue, surrounded by two broad bands of a buff or desert colour, representative of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti Deserts.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNAMIC – 1991**

*United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia*

**Mission:**
UNAMIC was established in October 1991 to assist the Cambodian parties to maintain their ceasefire during the period prior to the establishment of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and to initiate mine awareness training of the civilian population. Later, the mandate was enlarged to include training in mine clearance and the initiation of a mine clearance programme. The mission and its functions were subsumed by UNTAC in March 1992.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal ribbon contains a white central stripe flanked by dark blue, gold and red stripes, representing the Cambodian flags. A band of UN blue borders these on either side.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
ONUSAL – 1991

*United Nations Observer Mission In El Salvador*

*(Spanish acronym, Observadores de las Naciones Unidas en El Salvador)*

**Mission:**
This Mission was established on 20 May 1991 to monitor all agreements between the government of El Salvador and Frente Farabundo Marti para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN), including a ceasefire and related measures, reform and reduction of the armed forces, creation of a new police force, reform of the judicial and electoral systems, human rights, land tenure and other social and economic issues. The mission was terminated in April 1995.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal Ribbon has five equal bars, the centre being white, flanked by dark blue, and, at either end, by UN blue. The dark blue and white represent the national flag of El Salvador.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNTAC – 1992
United Nations Transitional Authority In Cambodia

Medal Award:
UNTAC was established in February 1992, incorporating the existing Mission, UNAMIC. The mandate for this mission relates to human rights, the organisation and conduct of free and fair elections, military arrangements, civil administration, the maintenance of law and order, the repatriation and resettlement of the Cambodian refugees and displaced persons, and the rehabilitation of essential Cambodian infrastructures during the transitional period. After the elections, the mission was closed on 15 November 1993 and replaced by the United Nations Military Liaison Team (UNMLT). Consisting of 20 military observers, their task was to maintain close liaison with the Cambodian government, to report to the Secretary-General on matters effecting security in Cambodia and to assist the government in dealing with residual military matters related to the Paris agreement. UNMLT was established for a single period of six months. Military observers were eligible to receive the UNTAC medal.

Medal:

**Medal Obverse**
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

**Medal Reverse**
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal ribbon features green, to depict the paddy fields which cover most of the country. The white central stripe is flanked by red stripes representing all the factions’ flags. These are bordered on either side by a band of UN blue and Supreme National Council blue.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNPROFOR – 1992
The United Nations Protection Force

Medal Award:
UNPROFOR was established in February 1992 as an interim arrangement to create the conditions of peace and security required for the negotiation of an overall settlement of the Yugoslavian crisis. The role of the UN troops was to ensure that areas designated as “UN Protected Areas” (UNPA) became and remained demilitarised and that all persons residing in these areas were protected from fear of armed attack. The force also assisted the humanitarian agencies of the UN in the return of all displaced persons who so desired. There were several extensions to this mandate. This mission was restructured in April 1995, leading to UNCRO, UNPREDEP and UNPF.

Medal:
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The colour combination of the ribbon consists of a background of UN blue, with a central wide band of red, representing the United Nations Protected Areas (UNPAs), flanked by thin stripes of the white. On the left side there is a narrow band of green, representing forests, and on the right side, a narrow band of brown, representing the mountains.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNOSOM II – 1992**

*United Nations Operation in Somalia*

**Mission:**
UNOSOM II was established in April 1993 to take appropriate action, including enforcement measures, to establish throughout Somalia a secure environment for humanitarian assistance. UNOSOM II was to complete, through disarmament and reconciliation, the task begun by the Unified Task Force for the restoration of peace, stability, law and order. UNOSOM II was withdrawn in March 1995.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The background of the ribbon is sand or buff coloured symbolising the desert, with a wide centre band of UN blue flanked by narrow stripes of dark green symbolizing hope.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNSMMA – 1993**

*United Nations Special Mission in Afghanistan*

**Mission:**
This mission was set up in December 1993 and continued until it was amalgamated with the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan (UNOCHA) in 2004. The purpose of the establishment of UNSMA was to encourage dialogue between the warring factions in Afghanistan, particularly the Taliban and the Northern Alliance.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The UN Special Services Medal was issued for this mission. The colour combination consists of a large blue stripe framed between two white stripes. In order to identify the theatre in which the personnel have earned the medal, a clasp is added with the name of the country or the United Nations organization (UNHCR, UNSCOM, UNSMA, MINUGUA etc).

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNMIH – 1993**

*United Nations Mission in Haiti*

**Mission:**
The United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) was established in September 1993 to help implement provisions of the Governors Island Agreement of 03 July 1993. The mandate was later revised to enable the mission to assist the democratic government to sustain a stable environment, assist in modernising the armed forces of Haiti and establishing a new police force and establish an environment conducive to free and fair elections. The mission terminated in June 1996.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The red and blue central stripes are representative of the colours of the flag of the Republic of Haiti. The flanks are of UN blue while two stripes of white, which signify friendship, dissect the two.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNAMIR – 1994**
*United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda*

**Mission:**
UNAMIR was established in October 1993 to monitor the ceasefire, the security situation and the process of repatriation of refugees. It also assisted with mine clearance, the coordination of humanitarian assistance and contributed to the security of the city of Kigali. UNAMIR also contributed to the security of personnel of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and of human rights offices in Rwanda and assisted in the establishment and training of a now, integrated national police force. The UNAMIR mandate came to end in March 1996. Irish personnel did not serve in UNAMIR but members of the Irish-Rwandan support group were awarded this medal by the UN.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon contains a wide centred stripe of UN blue flanked by a narrow stripe of white and three equal stripes of black, green and red. The black colour represents the volcanic lava and the world famous gorillas of the area, green is the colour of the local bush vegetation and red represents the African soil.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNPREDEP – 1995
United Nations Preventative Deployment Force

Mission:
UNPREDEP was established in March 1995 in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. This mission replaced UNPROFOR. The mission mandate was essentially preventative, to monitor and report any development in the border areas that could undermine the confidence and stability in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia or threaten its territory. The mission terminated in February 1999.

Medal:
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon has the UN blue background, representing peace, upon which is a broad red field with yellow bands in the middle bordered by thin white bands, representing the UNPREDEP command presence in Macedonia.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNMOP – 1996**

*United Nations Military Observers Mission in Prevlaka*

**Mission:**
This mission was established in January 1996 to take over from the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation (UNCRO). The mandate was to monitor the demilitarisation of the Prevlaka peninsula, a strategic area disputed by Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Following the successful completion of its mandate, the mission was terminated in December 2002.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon has a dark blue background, which represents the waters of the Prevlaka peninsula. The yellow central stripe represents the sun that rises, promising a peaceful and prosperous future and is flanked by thin white stripes. These are followed on either side by a band of dark blue and UN blue representing peace.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**Medals of the Irish Defence Forces**

**UNTAES – 1996**

*United Nations Transitional Administration For Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium*

**Mission:**
UNTAES was established on 15 January 1996 by Security Council Resolution 1037 for an initial period of twelve months with both military and civilian components. The mandate was to supervise and facilitate the demilitarisation as undertaken by the parties (Government of the Republic of Croatia and the local Serbian Community), to monitor the voluntary and safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their home of origin in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and to contribute to the maintenance of peace and security in the region. Upon completion of the task, the mission was terminated in January 1998.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*

The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*

The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**

The ribbon has a blue background (representing peace), upon which is a broad red field in the middle bordered by thin white bands representing United Nations Peace Forces’ command. Centered to the left is a narrow light green field (representing forests) and centred to the right is a narrow yellow field (representing cornfields).

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNMIK – 1999**

*United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo*

**Mission:**
UNMIK was established on 10 June 1999 by adoption of Security Council Resolution 1244. The goal of the mission is the resolution of the grave humanitarian situation in Kosovo, through the implementation of return of refugees and prevention of the escalation of conflict between parties in the region. A NATO led force called KFOR provides an international security presence in support of UNMIK’s work.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The ribbon has two outer bands of light UN blue, symbolising the presence of the United Nations. The inner band in dark blue symbolises the International Security presence and the cooperation and support received from it. The two bands in white symbolise the overall objective to promote peace for all the people in Kosovo.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
Mission:
The UNAMET/UNTAET Mission was established on 25 October 1999 by the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1272. The mission was established to administer the territory, exercise legislative and executive authority during the transition period and support capacity-building for self-government. East Timor became an independent country on 20 May 2002. Also that day, UNTAET was succeeded by the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET) established by Security Council resolution 1410 of 17 May 2002 to provide assistance to core administrative structures critical to the viability and political stability of East Timor.

Medal:

**Medal Obverse**
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

**Medal Reverse**
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The ribbon has two outer bands of UN blue, representing the UN presence in East Timor. Inside the two bands, there are two equal bars - closest to the blue, the bar is crimson, with the bar closest to the centre being sunrise yellow. These colours represent the brilliant and spectacular sunrises and sunsets experienced in East Timor. The centre of the ribbon is a band of white, traditionally the colour of peace and hope, the goal this mission sought to achieve.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area. The same medal was awarded for all three missions.
**MONUC – 2000**

*United Nations Observer Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*

**Mission:**
The Mission was established on 24 February 2000 by the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1291. The main goals of the Mission are to monitor the implementation of the ceasefire agreement and to investigate violations of the ceasefire, to work with the parties to obtain the release of all prisoners of war and to supervise and verify the disengagement and redeployment of the parties’ forces. This mission is still ongoing.

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The Medal ribbon has two outer bands of UN blue, representing the UN presence in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Inside the two bands, there are two equal bars in yellow, they represent the dawn of peace and prosperity. The dark blue in the middle of the yellow represents the Congo River.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
UNMEE – 2000
United Nations Mission Eritrea and Ethiopia

Mission:
The Mission was established on 15 September 2000 by the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1320. The main goals of the mission are to monitor the cessation of hostilities, to assist in ensuring the observance of the security commitments agreed by the parties, to monitor and verify the redeployment of Ethiopian forces from positions taken, to monitor the positions of Ethiopian forces once redeployed and to monitor the positions of Eritrean forces. The mission was terminated in July 2008.

Medal:
Medal Obverse
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

Medal Reverse
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

Ribbon:
The medal ribbon has two outer bands of UN blue, symbolizing the presence of the United Nations. The inner band in green symbolises hope and the fertility of the land. The two bands in tan symbolise religious freedom and the ruggedness of the country.

Qualification:
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**UNMIL – 2003**

*United Nations Mission in Liberia*

**Mission:**
The United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) was established by Security Council resolution 1509 of 19 September 2003 to support the implementation of the ceasefire agreement and the peace process; to protect United Nations staff, facilities and civilians; to support humanitarian and human rights activities; and to assist in national security reform, including national police training and the formation of a new, restructured military. The mission is ongoing.

**Medal:**
*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The medal ribbon bears two outer bands of United Nations blue, representing the UN presence in the Republic of Liberia. Inside the bands of UN blue are two bands of white, which represents the dawn of peace and progress. The red and dark blue bands in the centre reflect the main Liberian national colours, and the Atlantic ocean coastline that is the symbol of unity throughout the country.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**MINUCI/ONUCI**


**Mission:**
Having determined that the situation in Côte d’Ivoire constituted a threat to international peace and security in the region, the Security Council set up, on 13 May 2003, a political mission - MINUCI - to facilitate the implementation by the Ivorian parties of an agreement signed by them (the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement) and to complement the operations of the peacekeeping force of the Economic Community of West African States and French troops. On 4 April 2004, MINUCI was replaced by a UN peacekeeping operation - the United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (ONUCI).

**Medal:**

*Medal Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medal Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The Medal Ribbon is UN Blue with orange, white and green centre stripes to represent the flag of Côte d’Ivoire. The ribbon depicted here is the one for ONUCI. The MINUCI ribbon is similar but the centre stripes are thicker.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**MINURCAT II – 2009**

*United Nations Mission in Central African Republic and Chad (Mission des Nations Unies en République Centrafricaine et Au tChad)*

**Mission:**
On 25 September 2007, the Security Council, by its resolution 1778, approved the establishment in Chad and the Central African Republic, in concert with the European Union, of a multidimensional presence intended to help create the security conditions conducive to a voluntary, secure and sustainable return of refugees and displaced persons. The Council decided that the multidimensional presence shall include a United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT).

**Medal:**
*Medital Obverse*
The medal bears a map of the world, bronze in colour, surrounded by olive branches and bearing the letters “UN” on the top inscribed in bas-relief.

*Medital Reverse*
The medal reverse contains the expression “IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE” inscribed in bas-relief.

**Ribbon:**
The Medal ribbon is of UN blue, with narrow stripes of blue, white, yellow, green and red from left to right which represent the colours of Chad and the Central Africa Republic.

**Qualification:**
Qualifying period of 90 days of service in the mission area.
**DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD MEDAL**

**Medal Award:**
The Secretary-General established the Dag Hammarskjöld medal for posthumous award to members of peacekeeping operations who lost their lives during service with a peacekeeping operation under the operational control and authority of the United Nations. Date of introduction of this award was 22 July 1997.

**Description:**
The Medal is composed of two parts: A clear colourless lead glass crystal ellipsoid, grit blasted (monaired) with the name and date of death of the recipient, the United Nations logo, and the inscription “The Dag Hammarskjöld Medal, In the Service of Peace”, in English and French. The presentation package is made of cardboard with the title of the medal and the United Nations logo imprinted on a blue United Nations field, the crystal Medal rests on a cushioned black velvet base with a blue United Nations ribbon affixed.

**Award of the Medal:**
All awards of the medal to the next of kin of personnel of military or police components of a United Nations peacekeeping operation shall be with the consent of the participating state which contributed the personnel to the United Nations peacekeeping operation. The procedures for award of the medal shall be agreed upon between the Secretary-General and the Government concerned.

Awards of the Medal to personnel of the civilian component of a United Nations peacekeeping operation will be made by the Secretary-General or his representative to the next of kin or as designated by the next of kin.
NOTES

Defence Forces personnel also served in the following missions/agencies where medals were not awarded:

**UNGOMAP:** United Nations Good Office Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan:
**Year: April 1988 to March 1990:**
This mission was staffed by Military Observers temporarily reassigned from their parent mission: UNTSO, UNDOF and UNIFIL. Personnel would have been awarded a medal from their parent mission with a clasp indicating the mission.

**UNRWA:** United Nations Relief and Works Agency
**Year: February 1988 to June 1992:**
This is a United Nations Relief and Works Agency and is not a mission. Ireland has had personnel seconded to UNRWA at different times.

**OSGAP:** Office of the Secretary General Afghanistan/Pakistan:
**Year: March 1990 to January 1995:**
Personnel would have been awarded a medal from their parent mission with a clasp indicating the mission.

**OSGA:** Office of the Secretary General Afghanistan:
**Year: January 1996 to June 1996:**
Personnel would have been awarded a medal from their parent mission with a clasp indicating the mission.

**UNMLO-Y:** United Nations Liaison Office in Yugoslavia:
**Year: January 1992 to April 1992:**
This was a temporary arrangement in Yugoslavia at the start of the hostilities and was staffed from UNTSO: It was replace by UNPROFOR.

**UNHCR-Y:** United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Yugoslavia:
**Year: December 1992 to March 1993:**
This was a temporary arrangement in Yugoslavia at the start of the hostilities and personnel were seconded to UNHCR-Y for a few months.

**UNIT:** United Nations Inspection Team: Iran/Iraq:
**Year: June 1984 to July 1988:**
In the continuing hostilities between Iran and Iraq UNIT were tasked to communicate any attacks made on civilian populations.

**UNJLC:** UNITED NATIONS JOINT LOGISTIC CENTRE:
**Year: February 2004 to Date:**
UNJLC is an inter-agency common service designed to facilitate logistic coordination for complex and large scale emergencies under the custodianship of the World Food Programme.
EUROPEAN UNION MEDALS
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY/UNION MEDALS

1991  European Community Monitor Mission Service Medal (ECMM)

2000  European Union Monitoring Mission Service Medal (EUMM)

2003  European Union- ARTEMIS (Democratic Republic of Congo)

2004  European Union Force in Yugoslavia – EUFOR ALTHeA (BiH)

2004  European Union Support to AMIS (African Mission in Sudan)

2005  European Union AMM (Aceh (Indonesia) Monitoring Mission)

2006  EUFOR RD Congo (Democratic Republic of Congo)

2008  EUFOR tChad-RCA (Chad-RCA)

2009  EUNAVFOR - ATALANTA
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MONITOR MISSION MEDAL

Mission:
The European Community Monitor Mission was a program initiated by the European Community in July 1991 to monitor borders, inter-ethnic relations, refugee traffic and political and security developments in the former Yugoslavia. The ECMM program operated under the CFSP (Common Foreign and Security Policy) of the EU. The ECMM was renamed the European Union Monitoring Mission on 22 December 2000.

Medals:
The medals are silver alloy and round in form. The design on the obverse consists of twelve raised stars around the outer edge with a raised outline relief of the map of former Yugoslavia with the words “EC Monitor Mission” or “EC Task Force” (as applicable) in the centre. The reverse carries a raised dove of peace with an olive branch.

Medal Ribbon:
The medal is suspended from a ribbon 5 cms in length. The colour of the ribbon is blue with two narrow gold stripes and flanked on either side by red, white and blue stripes.

Qualifying Period:
Qualifying period (21) days continuous or thirty (30) days accumulated satisfactory service in the theatre.

Posthumous Awards:
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on EC assignment. In such cases, the medal will be awarded posthumously.
mission:
The European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) (previously ECMM, European Community Monitor Mission) is a program initiated by the European Union in July 1991 to monitor borders, inter-ethnic relations, refugee traffic and political and security developments in the former Yugoslavia. The EUMM program operates under the CFSP (Common Foreign and Security Policy) of the EU. The mission terminated in 2007.

medal:
The medal is silver alloy and round in form. The design on the obverse consists of twelve raised stars around the outer edge with the letters “EU in the centre. The reverse carries a raised dove of peace with an olive branch and the wording European Union Monitoring Mission.

medal ribbon:
The medal ribbon is suspended from a ribbon 5 cms in length. The colour of the ribbon is blue with two narrow gold stripes and flanked on either side by white and blue stripes.

Qualifiying Period:
Thirty (30) days accumulated satisfactory service in the EU theatre of operations.

Posthumous Awards:
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on EC assignment. In such cases, the medal will be awarded posthumously.
The European Union established the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) Service Medal for award, subject to the present implementing modalities, to all civil and military personnel who have actually participated in an EU-led crisis-management operation within the scope of Title V of the TEU.

This Medal is awarded to all ESDP missions. The only difference is that a clasp is attached in the centre of the ribbon indicating the mission in which the individual served. Members of the permanent staff or the EU military staff do not receive this medal.

**Medal:**
There are two categories of ESDP service medals. One is for service in the force headquarters and units in the area of operations and the other is for service with the operational headquarters, planning and support outside the area of operations.

The Medal is circular in form, made of sliver coloured metal and bears on the obverse the EU emblem set in a nearly closed circle of twelve stars. On the reverse is the title PRO PACE UNUM.

**Medal Ribbon:**
The ESDP service medal for HQ and forces is suspended from a ribbon in EU blue and yellow.

The ESDP service medal for operational headquarters, planning and support is suspended from a ribbon in EU Blue and White.

**Qualifying period:**
A period of 30 days of uninterrupted service in either the area of operation or in the planning and support headquarters of the mission.
European Union led military operation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This mission was conducted in accordance with the mandate set out in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1484 (2003). The resolution authorised the deployment from 12 June 2003 until 01 September 2003 of an interim emergency multinational force in Bunai (DRC) until the weakened MONUC Mission could be reinforced by the UN. The force was successful in stabilising the situation in Bunai and enforcing the UN presence in the DRC.

ARTEMIS was the first autonomous EU military mission outside Europe.
**EUFOR ALTHEA**

European Union Operation Althea is a military deployment in Bosnia and Herzegovina to oversee the military implementation of the Dayton Agreement. It is the successor to NATO's SFOR and IFOR. The transition from SFOR to EUFOR was largely a change of name and commanders. It replaced the NATO-led SFOR on 2 December 2004.
EU SUPPORT TO AMIS  
(African Mission in Sudan)

The European Union established an EU civilian-military action to support the African Union’s enhanced Mission to Sudan/Darfur, AMIS, at the request of the African Union (AU), on 18 July 2005.

The mandate for this supporting action by the EU came to an end on 31 December 2007 when AMIS handed over to the African Union / United Nations hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The purpose of the EU’s supporting action was to ensure effective and timely EU assistance to the AU’s enhanced AMIS II mission. In providing this support, the EU upheld the principle of African ownership and backed the AU and its political, military and police efforts aimed at addressing the crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan.
The European Union, together with contributing countries from Asia (Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, Philippines and Singapore), as well as with Norway and Switzerland, deployed a monitoring mission in Aceh (Indonesia): Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM). This mission was designed to monitor the implementation of various aspects of the peace agreement set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) on 15 August 2005. The AMM became operational on 15 September 2005, the date on which the decommissioning of GAM armaments and the relocation of non-organic military and police forces began. The AMM was successfully concluded on 15 December 2006 following local elections in Aceh held on 11 December 2006.
EUFOR RD CONGO
(Democratic Republic of Congo)

European Union Force Chad/RCA, also EUFOR Tchad/RCA (French acronym), was the European Union mission in Chad and the Central African Republic, authorised in late 2007. EUFOR Chad/RCA was authorised under the same United Nations Security Council resolution that mandated MINURCAT, a UN force tasked with training police and improving judicial infrastructure. The European Union Force’s mandate included “to take all necessary measures, within its capabilities and its area of operation in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic to protect civilians, facilitate delivery of humanitarian aid, and ensure the safety of UN personnel.”
Operation ATALANTA is a campaign of the EU to stop piracy off the Somali Coast. Frigates and maritime patrol aircraft are currently participating in Operation EU NAVFOR ATALANTA. The presence of several other naval forces in this zone (CTF 151, the NATO maritime group, Russian, Indian, Japanese and Chinese ships) that reinforce on a permanent or temporary basis the action of the EU naval force reflects the importance attached by the international community to the fight against piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.
UNUNITED NATIONS
MANDATED MISSIONS
UNITED NATIONS MANDATED MISSIONS

1992  International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia (ICFY)
1997  Stabilisation Force (SFOR) (Former Yugoslavia)
1999  Kosovo Force (KFOR)
1999  International Force for East Timor (INTERFET)
2002  Non Article 5 Medal
2002  International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)
ICFY

International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia

Mission:
In the summer of 1994, Yugoslavian President Milosevic tried to use a political gesture to achieve a relaxation of the international embargo against his country. He closed the border between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and the unmanageable ‘Bosnian Serb Republic’. The contact group for the former Yugoslavia demanded, however, that international observers be allowed to control the border. On 17 September, 1994, FRY agreed to a non-uniformed observer mission: the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia mission (ICFY). All the observers were granted diplomatic status.
The UN Security Council mandated the observer mission along the Serb-Bosnian border in resolution 943 of 23 September 1994.

Medal:
The medals are silver alloy and round in form. The design on the obverse consists of the wording International Confidence on the Former Yugoslavia around the edge and fifteen raised stars in the inner edge and with the United Nations Emblem in the centre. The reverse carries a mountain and the wording “OBSERVER MISSION” below.

Ribbon:
The medal is suspended from a ribbon 5 cms in length. The colour of the ribbon is a centre orange stripe flanked by two narrow grey stripes and two narrow white stripes flanked on either side by red edges.

Eligibility:
Medals are awarded to members of the Permanent Defence Forces who have the required qualifying service which is thirty (30) days accumulated satisfactory service in the theatre of operations.

Posthumous Awards:
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on EC assignment. In such cases, the medal is awarded posthumously.
**SFOR** (NATO MEDAL - WITH CLASP - FORMER YUGOSLAVIA)

*Stabilisation Force*

**Mission:**
NATO conducted its first-ever crisis response operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR) was deployed in December 1995 to implement the military aspects of the Dayton Peace Agreement and was replaced a year later by the NATO-led Stabilization Force (SFOR). SFOR helped to maintain a secure environment and facilitate the country's reconstruction in the wake of the 1992-1995 war. In the light of the improved security situation in both Bosnia and Herzegovina and the wider region, the Alliance brought SFOR to a conclusion in December 2004 and the European Union (EU) took on NATO's stabilization role establishing the European Union’s Mission, EUFOR Althea, on 2 December 2004.

**Medal Design:**
The medal is circular in form and made of bronze. The obverse bears a star set in a wreath of olive leaves. The reverse side has a band inscribed “NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION” at top and “ORGANISATION DU TRAITE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD” at the bottom. In the center is a sprig of olive between the inscription “IN SERVICE OF PEACE AND FREEDOM” above and “AU SERVICE DE LA PAIX ET DE LA LIBERTE” below.

**Medal Ribbon:**
The medal is suspended from a ribbon 5 cms in length. The colour of the ribbon is blue and white.

**Clasp:**
A clasp (Former Yugoslavia) to the medal denotes the specific theatre, or area of operations, or the specific operation in respect of which the medal is being awarded.

**Eligibility:**
The medal is awarded to members of the Defence Forces who have the required qualifying service that is

- Thirty (30) days within the land, sea, or air space of the Former Yugoslavia and the Adriatic Sea.
- Ninety (90) days continuous or accumulated service in direct support of SFOR Operations in areas adjacent to the Former Yugoslavia.

**Posthumous Awards:**
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on SFOR assignment. In such cases, the medal may be awarded posthumously.
KFOR (NATO MEDAL - WITH CLASP - KOSOVO)

Kosovo Force

Mission:
The Kosovo Force (KFOR) is a NATO-led international force responsible for establishing a safe and secure environment in Kosovo, the self-proclaimed, independent and partially recognised landlocked country in the Balkans. KFOR entered Kosovo on June 12, 1999 under a United Nations mandate, two days after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1244. At the time of UN Security Council Resolution 1244, Kosovo was facing a grave humanitarian crisis, with military and paramilitary forces from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) in daily engagement.

Medal Design:
The medal is circular in form and made of bronze. The obverse bears a star set in a wreath of olive leaves. The reverse side has a band inscribed “NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION” at top and “ORGANISATION DU TRAITE DE L’ATLANTIQUE NORD” at the bottom. In the center is a sprig of olive between the inscription “IN SERVICE OF PEACE AND FREEDOM” above and “AU SERVICE DE LA PAIX ET DE LA LIBERTE” below.

Medal Ribbon:
The medal is suspended from a ribbon 5 cms in length. The colour of the ribbon is blue with a centre white stripe and flanked by two narrow white stripes.

Clasp:
A clasp (Kosovo) to the medal denotes the specific theatre, or area of operations, or the specific operation in respect of which the medal is being awarded.

Eligibility:
The medal is awarded to members of the Defence Forces who have the required qualifying service which is

- Thirty (30) days within the land, sea, or air space of the Former Yugoslavia and the Adriatic Sea.

- Ninety (90) days continuous or accumulated service in direct support of KFOR Operations in areas adjacent to the Former Yugoslavia.

Posthumous Awards:
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on KFOR assignment. In such cases, the medal may be awarded posthumously.
INTERFET
The International Force East Timor Medal

Mission:
The International Force for East Timor (INTERFET) was a multinational peacekeeping taskforce, mandated by the United Nations to address the humanitarian and security crisis which took place in East Timor from 1999–2000 until the arrival of United Nations peacekeepers.

The INTERFET coalition forces began deploying to East Timor on 20 September 1999. Five months later, on 28 February 2000, INTERFET handed over command of military operations to UNTAET (United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor).

Conditions of Award:
In 1999, Australia led the international force that saw the removal of the occupying Indonesian power from the former Portuguese territory of East Timor. To recognise the importance of this operation, the International Force East Timor (INTERFET) medal was established in 2000. As well as being awarded to members of the ADF, the INTERFET medal was offered by Australia to all countries that provided contingents to the International Force in East Timor.

The Medal:
The INTERFET Medal is a cast metal medal with the obverse having an outline map of East Timor and its territories, combined with an outline figure of the dove of peace with olive branch, surrounded by the words ‘INTERNATIONAL FORCE EAST TIMOR’. The reverse has the words ‘TOGETHER AS ONE FOR PEACE IN EAST TIMOR’ around the circumference.

The Ribbon:
The ribbon has a central red stripe, flanked by stripes of green, white and pale blue. The white, green and blue stripes represent the Navy, Army and Air Force, with dual representation of white for peace, blue for the sea surrounding East Timor and green for the regrowth of a new nation. The central red stripe represents the turbulent past of East Timor.

Eligibility:
The basic eligibility requirement for the INTERFET Medal is 30 days service in the prescribed area during the period 16 Sep 99 – 10 Apr 00.
**NON ARTICLE 5 MEDAL**

**NATO Service in Balkans**

**Mission:**
A number of factors led to a complete review of NATO Medal Policy in 2002, not least NATO’s first Article 5 operations in 2001. NATO recognised the need to differentiate between Article 5 and non-Article Article 5 operations whilst maintaining consistency in the policy and general regulations for the awards.

The NATO review took the opportunity to amalgamate the separate NATO medals awarded for personnel participating in the differing NATO-led operations in the Balkans into one generic “Non-Article 5” NATO medal. With effect from 1 January 2003 the use of arabic numerals to indicate multiple tours was discontinued.

Non Article 5 Medals have been awarded to Defence Force personnel who have served the requisite periods in both the SFOR and KFOR Missions to include service in KFOR Rear (FYROM).

**Medal:**
A bronze medal, 1 3/8 inches in diameter, bearing on the obverse the NATO emblem (a four pointed star emitting a ray from each point superimposed on an annulet) enclosed in base by a wreath of olive. The reverse side has a band inscribed “NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION” at top and “ORGANISATION DU TRAITE DE L’ATLANTIQUE NORD” at the bottom. In the center is a sprig of olive between the inscription “IN SERVICE OF PEACE AND FREEDOM” above and “AU SERVICE DE LA PAIX ET DE LA LIBERTE” below.

**Non Article 5 Medal Ribbon:**
The Medal Ribbon consists of the following: Yale Blue with a White centre stripe with a silver line in the centre of the white stripe.

**Clasp:**
A clasp (Non Article 5) is pinned to the medal.

**Eligibility:**
The medal is awarded to members of the Defence Forces who have the required qualifying service which is

- Thirty (30) days within the land, sea, or air space of the Former Yugoslavia and the Adriatic Sea.
• Ninety (90) days continuous or accumulated service in direct support of KFOR Operations in areas adjacent to the Former Yugoslavia.

Posthumous Awards:
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on KFOR assignment. In such cases, the medal may be awarded posthumously.
ISAF
Non Article 5 Medal

ISAF:
International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) is a NATO-led security and development mission in Afghanistan established by the United Nations Security Council on 20 December 2001 as envisaged by the Bonn Agreement. ISAF was initially charged with securing Kabul and surrounding areas from the Taliban, al Qaeda and factional warlords, so as to allow for the establishment of the Afghan Transitional Administration headed by Hamid Karzai. In October 2003, the UN Security Council authorised the expansion of the ISAF mission throughout Afghanistan, and ISAF subsequently expanded the mission in four main stages over the whole of the country.

Medal:
A bronze medal, 1 3/8 inches in diameter, bearing on the obverse the NATO emblem (a four pointed star emitting a ray from each point superimposed on an annulet) enclosed in base by a wreath of olive. The reverse side has a band inscribed “NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION” at top and “ORGANISATION DU TRAITE DE L’ATLANTIQUE NORD” at the bottom. In the center is a sprig of olive between the inscription “IN SERVICE OF PEACE AND FREEDOM” above and “AU SERVICE DE LA PAIX ET DE LA LIBERTE” below.

In December 2003, Council approved the ribbon design with a clasp entitled “ISAF” for the award of the Non-Article 5 medal relating to NATO operations in Afghanistan.

Ribbon:
The Medal ribbon is of Yale Blue, with Two White stripes with Silver thread through the Centre of the White Stripes.

Clasp:
A clasp (ISAF) to the medal denotes the specific theatre, or area of operations, or the specific operation in respect of which the medal is being awarded.

Eligibility:
The medal is awarded to members of the Defence Forces who have the required qualifying service which is

- Thirty (30) days within the land or air space of Afghanistan.
Posthumous Awards:
The qualifying service is not required for members killed or presumed killed while on ISAF assignment. In such cases, the medal may be awarded posthumously.

Note:
Irish personnel who served in ISAF from July 2002 to July 2003 (ISAF contingents 1, 2 & 3) were not awarded a medal because during that time the mission was led by designated nations/headquarters who did not strike a medal for the mission. The NATO ISAF medal did not come into effect until after July 2003.
WAR OF INDEPENDENCE MEDALS
WAR OF INDEPENDENCE MEDALS

An Bonn 1916          The 1916 Medal
An Bonn Seirbhíse (1917-1921) The Service Medal (1917-1921)
An Bonn Marthanóirí 1916 The 1916 Survivors’ Medal
An Bonn Cuimhneacháin sos Cogaidh (1921) The Truce (1921) Anniversary Medal
AN BONN 1916
The 1916 Medal

Conditions of Award:
The medal is awarded to persons who participated in The Rising during the week commencing 23rd April 1916.

Design:
A bronze circular medal approximately one and two fifth inches (35mm) in diameter, fashioned (after the manner of the official Irish army crest) in the form of a circle of flame representing the sunburst on which eight points of a star are superimposed. Within the circle on the obverse is a representation of the death scene of Cuchullain (a legendary Irish hero), partially surrounded by an ancient warrior’s sword belt. On the reverse appears the following inscription: “Seaċtain Na Cáisca 1916”, which is translated “Easter Week 1916”.

Ribbon:
Green (to the observers left) and Orange in two vertical panels.

Suspension Bar:
The suspension bar from which the ribbon is suspended bears a celtic interlaced design.
Medals of the Irish Defence Forces

**AN BÖNN SEIRBHÍSE (1917-1921)**
The Service Medal (1917-1921)

**Conditions of Award:**
This medal is awarded in two classes:-

Medal with bar to persons who rendered active service in either of the periods (a) the period commencing on the 1st April, 1920, and ending on the 31st March, 1921, or (b) the period commencing on the 1st April, 1921, and ending on the 11th July, 1921.

Medal, without bar to persons whose service is not deemed to be active military service, but who were members of Óglaigh na hÉireann, (Irish Republican Army), Fianna Éireann, Cumann na mBan or the Irish Citizen Army for the three months ended on the 11th July, 1921.

**Design:**
A bronze circular medal approximately one and three fifth inches in diameter bearing on the obverse the arms of the four provinces of Ireland. In the centre appears a standing figure, facing front, depicting a Volunteer, a member of a guerrilla force – termed “Flying Column” - of the period 1917 -1922 in typical dress (trench coat and cap with rifle, revolver and bandoleer). The word “ÉIRE” (meaning Ireland) appears horizontally across the centre of the medal in large letters (two on either side of the figure). The words “Cogaḋ na Saoirse” which are translated “The Fight for Freedom” appear below. The reverse shows a palm leaf symbolic of victory.

**Ribbon:**
Black (to the observer’s left) and tan in two vertical panels. The combination of the colours black and tan was adopted by reason of its association with the terms “Black and Tan” which had a particular significance in relation to the struggle for independence during the years 1917-1921.

**Suspension Bar:**
The suspension bar from which the ribbon is suspended bears a celtic interlaced design.

**Service Bar:**
The bar which is joined to the suspender bears the Inscription “Cómrác”, which is translated “Combat”, with a St. Brendan’s Knot at either side.
AN BONN MARTHANÓIRÍ
The 1916 Survivors’ Medal

Date of Creation:
1966.

Purpose of Medal:
Commemoration of 50th anniversary of the Rising of Easter Week, 1916.

Conditions of Award:
Recognised military service during Easter Week 1916. The Medal was awarded to surviving participants only.

Design:
A silver gilt circular medal approximately one and two fifths inches (35mm) in diameter bearing on the obverse a reproduction of the Cuchulainn statue which stands in the G.P.O., Dublin. The reverse bears the dates “1916” and “1966” with the word “CÁISC”, EASTER in between.

Ribbon:
Green with orange borders and a narrow white stripe down the centre.

Suspension Bar:
The suspension bar from which the ribbon is suspended bears a Celtic interlaced design.
AN BONN CUIMHNEACHÁIN SOS COGAIDH (1921)
The Truce Commemoration Medal (1921)

Purpose of Medal:
The Jubilee Anniversary of the Truce (11/7/1921).

Conditions of Award:
The medal was issued to Veterans of the War of Independence who were alive on 11/7/1971 and who were duly awarded the Service (1917-1921) Medal with Bar or the Service (1917-1921) Medal without Bar.

Design:
A bronze circular medal approximately one and three eighths inches in diameter similar to the obverse side of the Service (1917-1921) Medal. The reverse side has the dates 1921 - 1971.

Ribbon:
Green, Tan, Black, Tan and Green, the Green stripes being narrower than the others.

Suspension Bar:
The suspension bar from which the ribbon is suspended bears a celtic interlaced design.

Date of Creation:
1971.
WEARING OF MEDALS
WEARING OF MEDALS

Authorised Medals of the Defence Forces:
The medals mentioned hereunder (in order of seniority) are the medals authorised to be worn by personnel to whom they have been awarded.

IRISH DEFENCE FORCES MEDALS

An Bonn Míleata Calmachtá (The Military Medal for Gallantry)
An Bonn Seirbhíse Dearscná (The Distinguished Service Medal)
An Bonn Dea-lompair (The Good Conduct Medal) (No longer awarded)
An Bonn Seirbhíse (The Service Medal)
An Bonn Seirbhíse (FCA agus SM) (The Service Medal (FCA and SM))
An Bonn Seirbhíse Éigeandála (The Emergency Service Medal)
An Bonn Chosantóirí Siochána na Náisiún Aontaithe (The United Nations Peacekeepers Medal)
An Réalt Míleata (The Military Star)

UNITED NATIONS MEDALS

1948 United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO)
1949 United Nations Military Observer Group India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP)
1958 United Nations Observer Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL)
1960 Organisation des Nations Unies au Congo (ONUC)
1964 United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)
1965 United Nations India-Pakistan Observer Mission (UNIPOM)
1973 United Nations Emergency Force (Sinai) (UNEF II)
1974 United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
1978 United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
1979 United Nations Headquarters New York (UNHQ)
1988 United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIIMOG)
1989 United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG)
1989 Organisation Nations Unies Central America (ONUCA)
1991 United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II)
1991 United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM)
1991 Mission Interim Nations Unies Republique Sahara Occidental (MINURSO)
1991 United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC)
1991 Organisation Nations Unies El Salvador (ONUSAL)
1992 United Nations Transitional Assistance Cambodia (UNTAC)
1992 United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR)
1993 United Nations Special Mission Afghanistan (UNSMAS)
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2000 United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)
2003 United Nations Mission in Cote d'Ivoire (MINUCI)
2004 United Nations Mission in Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT II)

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITY/UNION MEDALS**

1991 European Community Monitor Mission Service Medal (ECMM)
2000 European Union Monitoring Mission Service Medal (EUMMM)
2003 European Union – ARTEMIS (Democratic Republic of Congo)
2004 European Union Force in Yugoslavia – EUFOR ALTHERA
2004 European Union Support to AMIS (African Mission in Sudan)
2005 European Union AMM (Aceh (Indonesia) Monitoring Mission)
2006 EUFOR RD Congo (Democratic Republic of Congo)
2008 EUFOR tChad-RCA (Chad-RCA)
2009 EUNAVFOR - ATALANTA (Somali Coast and Gulf of Aden)
UNIVERSITY NATIONS MANDATED MISSIONS

1992 International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia (ICFY)
1997 Stabilisation Force (SFOR) (Former Yugoslavia)
1999 Kosovo Force (KFOR)
1999 International Force for East Timor (INTERFET)
2002 Non Article 5 Medal
2002 International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)

Precedence of Medals:
Precedence shall accord with the order in which the medals are mentioned in Administrative Instruction A9. When worn with uniform, precedence shall be reckoned from the wearer’s right to left and shoulder downward.

Method of Wear:

Army and Air Corps personnel
Medals will be worn with service uniform over the left breast pocket. Pipe Bands and Pipers when deployed in ceremonial duties shall wear their medals over the Tara Broach.

Naval personnel
Medals shall be worn with service uniform by naval personnel, other than Leading Seamen and Seamen, centrally on the left shoulder of the coat with the clasps in line with the cut of the lapel.

Medals shall be worn with service uniform by Leading Seamen and Seamen Centrally on the left breast of the jumper with the clasps in line with the top of inner pocket.

Multiple Medals:
One Medal: A medal shall be suspended from a suspension bar.

Two to Five Medals Inclusive: Medals shall be suspended from a single suspension bar of sufficient length to carry the required number of medals without overlapping.

Six or Seven Medals: Where six or seven medals are worn they shall be evenly overlapped on a suitable five-medal suspension bar. The premier medal shall be fully uncovered.

More than Seven Medals: Where more than seven medals are worn a second row of Medals shall be worn. In such cases a maximum of five medals will be mounted on both rows before overlapping begins on the top row.
The Military Medal for Gallantry and the Distinguished Service Medal will be worn individually and generally above any other row of medals.

The ribbons from which medals are suspended shall be 5 cms in length.

**Occasions for Wear**

Unless otherwise ordered or indicated, medals shall be worn by personnel attending at

- The National Day of Commemoration;
- The Inauguration of An tUachtarán and other ceremonies attended by An tUachtarán;
- The Presentation of letter of credence by an Apostolic Nuncio designate, an Ambassador designate or a Minister designate;
- The annual 1916 commemoration ceremony;
- Commissioning ceremonies;
- The annual commemoration Mass for deceased officers and enlisted personnel;
- By officers and enlisted personnel of Guards of Honour and Escorts of Honour;
- By members of the Court at Courts Martial.
- State and Military Funerals by-
  - Pall Bearers and Marshals;
  - Personnel of Escorts, Firing Parties, Bearer parties and Bands.

On such other occasions as may be authorised by the Deputy Chief of Staff (Support), or the General Officer Commanding a Brigade or Formation.

**Occasions when Medals will not be Worn**

Medals shall not be worn:

- At a ceremony for the award of an Order, Decoration or Medal;
- At a banquet, a formal dinner or an official reception, unless indicated by the host;
- With or on greatcoats or overcoats;
- By an officer or an enlisted person in custody;
- By enlisted personnel undergoing imprisonment or detention.
Note:
Medals or Decorations should never be worn by personnel to whom they have not been awarded.
Medal Ribbons

Occasions for Wear
The appropriate medal ribbon shall be worn on all occasions when medals are not worn. Medal ribbons shall be worn with Service Dress Numbers 1, 2 and 3 only.

Method of Wear

- The medal ribbons shall be mounted on a strip of metal that shall be capable of being readily attached to and removed from a ribbon bar.
- The ribbon bar shall be attached to the garment of the wearer.
- Where more than one medal ribbon is worn, they shall be attached to one ribbon bar of sufficient size to carry the required number of medal ribbons to a maximum of three medal ribbons.
- A complete row of medal ribbons shall consist of three ribbons. Where another row must be initiated it shall be done by placing the ribbon(s) centrally over the lower row but precedence must be taken into account.
- Medal ribbons shall be centred over the left breast pocket of the garment of males and centrally on the left breast garment seam of females.
- Medal ribbons shall be worn in the same order of precedence as medals.

Miniature Medals
Miniature medals shall be worn on the occasions as listed below and in the same manner as the original medals.
Precedence
The precedence of Miniature Medals is the same as that of the original medal.

Method of Wear
Miniature Medals shall in the same position of an original medal.

One Medal: One miniature medal shall be suspended from a suspension bar.

Two to Six Medals Inclusive: Two to six miniature medals shall be suspended from a single suspension bar of sufficient length to carry the required number of medals without overlapping the medals.

Seven Medals: Where seven are worn they shall be evenly overlapped on a suitable six-medal suspension bar. The premier medal shall be fully uncovered.

More than Seven Medals: Where more than seven miniature medals are worn, a second row of medals shall be worn as above.

The ribbons from which miniature medals are suspended shall be 4 cms in length.

Occasion for Wear
Miniature medals will be worn only on dress uniform and then only as prescribed hereunder:

• All ceremonial occasions.
• At functions where the wearing of medals is indicated by the host.
• Where members of the Defence Forces are entitled to wear a Foreign Decoration at a function/ceremony for which no miniature medal is available, they may wear the original decoration on their dress uniforms.

Wearing of Medals on Civilian Attire
Serving Personnel:
Serving personnel shall not wear medals on civilian attire. For the purpose of this paragraph serving personnel include members of the 1st Line Reserve and Reserve Defence Forces (Army and Naval) whether on annual training or not.

Retired Personnel:
Retired personnel may wear medals on civilian attire on the same occasions as when medals are worn by serving personnel, and in a similar manner.

Only authorised DF Medals should be worn.
Family Members
Contrary to popular belief, next of kin should not wear the medals of a deceased family member. Medals are decorations awarded to individuals in recognition of specific acts and service and should only be worn by the individual to whom awarded.

The exception to the above is when the medal is awarded posthumously.

Family members of deceased members of the Defence Forces should only wear the following medals when the decoration is presented directly to the next of kin.

The Military Medal for Gallantry
The Distinguished Service Medal
The Military Star
The Service Medal
The United Nations Peacekeeping Medal

Replacement of Medals
A limited facility to provide individuals with replacement medals is available through ‘A’ Administration Section, DFHQ. This only applies where the medal recipient certifies that the medal has been lost or destroyed and only where the organisation that issued the medal offers a replacement service. At present this applies to the Defence Forces and the United Nations only. A charge applies for this service.

Further information on this service is available from ‘A’ Administration or on the ‘A’ Administration page of the Defence Forces Intranet.
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Acknowledgements

Of the many people who assisted in compiling this book, the following deserve special mention. On behalf of everyone who finds this publication of interest and of use I wish to express my thanks and appreciation.

Lt Col Martin Mc Inerney
OIC ‘A’ Administration Section

Battery Quartermaster Sergeant Ger O'Connor, 54 FAR

All of the staff of ‘A’ Administration section and in particular;
Comdt Earnan Naughton
Sgt Andy Cole
Cpl David Forrester
Cpl Anthony Doyle

The staff of Defence Forces Printing Press and in particular;
Cpl Andrew O’Neill (Photo Manipulation, Design and Layout)
Cpl Earl Fitzgerald (Photography)

The Staff of Military Archives, Cathal Brugha Bks

Col Noel Joyce, Permanent Mission to the UN
Col William O’Hara, EUMS
Col J.J. O’Reilly, CSSC
Capt Derek McSweeney, DFHQ
BQMS Austin Clarke, DFLB
Fl Sgt William Barr, Air Corps
Fl Sgt James Perkins, Air Corps
Sgt Desmond Mooney, 2 Fd Arty Regt
Cpl Colum Lawler, Air Corps Photograph Section
Pte John O’Reilly, 6 Inf Bn

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