

THE DEFENCE FORCES MAGAZINE

AN COSANTÓIR

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August 2011



**KILBRIDE CAMP
OPEN DAY**

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HIGH SEA RESCUE**

**NATO
IRELAND'S
PARTICIPATION**

**ON THE GROUND
IN SOUTH LEBANON**

ISSN 0010-9460





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Irish UN Patrol in South Lebanon.
Photo by: Pte Ciaran Rooney
(104 Inf Bn)

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EDITORIAL

Hello... This month our On Parade pages feature our regular reader's photos, and some from the recent Remembrance Day Ceremony in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham as well as some members of IUNVA and ONE at their own recent events. In Strategic Review this month we have an article about Ireland's participation in NATO by Wesley Burke. We have a refreshing article about the recent open day in Kilbride Camp (if I don't say so myself). On a whole we have another stuffed issue with loads of up-to-date articles on the Defence Forces. In our Def-Tec centrespread we have a photo montage of a recent ARW Exercise at Sea. Our History section has the second part on the Queen's visit, covering the National War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge by author Paul O'Brien MA. Also, in Sport we have a look at the Defence Forces participation in the CISM World Games, with a list of athletes, in Gadgets we have another great review by Robbie Lawless on The North Face gear and we have our other regulars - Tac Aide, Reviews and What I Do.

Pictured here is Cpl Paul O'Neill our previous Editor of Connect being presented with a Soldier statuette by Lt Col Tom Aherne (OIC PR Section), on behalf of all the staff in the Public Relations branch. We would all like to wish Paul every success in his new unit (Air Corps College), and may he ever wish to come back, we may yet still have need for his skills; An Cosantóir 10k comes to mind... Paul - All the Best



Wayne Fitzgerald

Sgt Wayne Fitzgerald
Editor



Mark your diary...

October
5th

Wednesday
2011

An Cosantóir 10k - Phoenix Park

ON PARADE



ON YER BIKE

Presentation of a cheque for €3,000 to LARCC by Cyclists of the Air Corps and Mr Jimmy Stagg. (l-r) Capt Dave O'Toole (No 3 Ops Wing), Mr Jimmy Stagg (Stagg Cycles Lucan) Cpl Dave Hennessy (No 3 Ops Wing), Lt Stephen Byrne (No 3 Ops Wing), Sgt Randall Burke (No 4 Sp Wing), Sgt Derek Rooney (ACC). Standing with Cheque are: Lt Col James Lynott (ACC), Comdt Frank Russell (Retd, Air Corps) and Ms Bernie McHugh (Marketing/PR Director PARC). *Photo by 105 Sqn*



BEST OF LUCK

Photo shows the members of D Ord at a recent Presentation to CQMS Barry Lynch (Retiring) and Lt Col Eddie Scanlon (now DFCB). Back Row (l/r) Capt Paul Connolly, CQMS John Barnes, CQMS Bren McCormack, Sgt Michael Byrne, Mr Richie Kelly. Middle Row (l/r) Capt Fran Kehoe, Cpl Paddy Daly, Cpl Terry Carton, Sgt Johnny Martin. Front Row (l/r) Lt Alan Kearney, CQMS Barry Lynch (Retd), Col Brian Dowling (D Ord), Lt Col Eddie Scanlon, Pte Mark Clancy. *Photo by Cpl Greg Dorney*



MY FAIR LADY

Photo shows troops from the DFTC with the current Rose of Tralee Claire Kambamettu, Kildare Rose Claire Walsh, Miss Grandvilliers Marian Soula-bail and Mrs Anna May McHugh President of National Ploughing Association at the Defence Forces Display at the Kildare County Show, which took place on Sun 19th June in Athy. *Photo Courtesy Sgt JJ Ryan (HQ DFTC)*



FOND FAREWELL

Photo of Lt Col Gerry O'Gorman on his retirement from the Equitation school in June 2011 with his Unit. *Photo by Armn Colum Lawlor (105 Sqn)*



WITH THANKS

Photo shows members of USAC who raised €3,000 for charity during their annual Gun Push, that was run in April on Shop St, Galway. Pictured (l/r): Lt J Barry, Comdt K Campion, Lt A Marnell, Mary Tierney (Galway Hospice), Martin Beatty (John Paul Centre), Pat Connolly (Galway Lions Club) Capt D Murphy and Lt J Mulderrig.



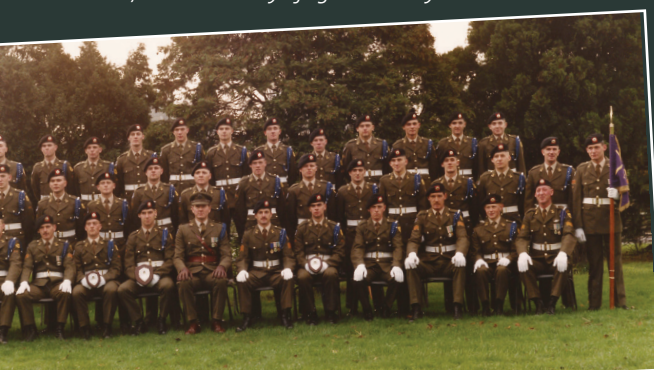


What the Papers Say...



IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR ▲

Photo shows (l/r) Recruit Conor Foley (6 Inf Bn) with his Father Sgt John Foley (4 CIS Coy) and his Mother Cpl Veronica Foley (Retd, one of the first Female Recruits in 1981)(HQ 4 W Bde). Photo courtesy of Sgt John Foley



DEBENHAMS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION WINNER THEN & NOW

Members of the 60th Recruit Platoon, from the 5 Inf Bn and their Instructors on the 25th Oct 1990 in Collins Bks, Dublin.

They met up again for their 21-year reunion on the 8th July 2011 in the NCO's Mess, McKee Bks, with 19 of the original platoon still serving. Photo courtesy of Sgt Phil Curry (2 Fd CIS Coy) a member of the Pln. ▼



DIVERS JOIN THE SEARCH FOR SWIM TEEN

Navy divers are to be drafted in to join the search for missing teenager Sean McNair. More than 150 volunteers braved stormy weather conditions yesterday in the hunt for the 17-year old from Co. Derry.

Irish Daily Mirror, July 19

AN IRISHMAN'S DIARY

The request for a pardon for deserters from the Irish Army during the Second World War implies a legal acceptance of guilt, but, as Peter Mulvany points out (Letters, June 28th) individuals deserve to be heard. Once during my army service, when acting as a quaintly titled "Soldiers Friend" (an Officer chosen by a soldier to defend him), I succeeded in reducing a charge of desertion to one of AWOL... PD Goggin

The Irish Times, July 19

DUTY TO DEFEND STATE

In response to the World War II deserters campaign for "justice" as a former member of the PDF I would like to add this thought. As serving members of the Irish Defence Forces, their duty and moral obligation was to stay and defend this state and its people from all foreign aggression no matter what the source, be it allied or axis. Joe McCabe, Former Petty Officer, Naval Service, Mallow.

Irish Examiner, July 20

LEBANON THE EDGE

This is war-ravaged Southern Lebanon – where our brave Irish troops are keeping the peace on a UN-backed mission. The Irish Sun landed in Camp Shamrock, Tibnin, yesterday to be warned "It could all flare up again in the next 24hrs". The 440 men and women of the 104th battalion jetted out for the volatile Middle East state last month where they joined up with the UN peace-keeping mission.

The Irish Sun, July 21

TROOPS FACE TOUGH BATTLE

Irish soldiers helping to keep the peace in worn-torn Lebanon have been warned. Your area is one of the most difficult in the whole UN mission. The grim warning was given yesterday by the Spanish General who commands the 12,000 strong UNIFIL force in the south of the country – including the 440 Irish Troops.

Irish Daily Star, July 21

WORLD'S TOUGHEST TRUCKS FOR RANGERS

A French company that makes some of the world's toughest trucks has won an order worth nearly €600,000 for vehicles for to support Ireland's elite Army Ranger Wing.

Sunday Independent, July 10

ON PARADE

IN REMEMBRANCE

On the 10th of July 2011, the National Day of Commemoration to honour all those Irishmen and women who died in past wars or on service with the United Nations took place in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, it takes place ever year on the nearest Sunday to the 11th July, which is the date of the signing of the truce in the war of independence, 1921. *Here is a selection of photographs by Cpl Paddy O'Meara (105 Sqn)*



An Uachtarán Mary McAleese lays a wreath in memory of our fallen comrades



A fellow veteran from an Irish Regiment of the British Armed Forces



A UN Veteran and a ONE Veteran share a memory



An Uachtarán Mary McAleese, inspects a Guard of Honour drawn from the 2 Inf Bn

At the launch of the Chief of Staff Portrait Collection Book in the Officers Mess, McKee Bks are former Chiefs of Staff (l/r) Lt Gen Jim Sreenan (DSM, Retd), Lt Gen Dave Stapleton (DSM, Retd), Col Joe O'Sullivan (Retd) (McKee Offrs Mess), Lt Gen Sean McCann (COS), Lt Gen Noel Bergin (DSM, Retd), Lt Gen Jim Parker (DSM, Retd), Lt Gen Colm Mangan (DSM, Retd) and Lt Gen Gerry McMahon (DSM, Retd) ▼



Maj Gen Dave Ash (D COS Sp), the Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD and Maj Gen Ralph James (D COS Ops) are arriving at Kilmainham



Seen here are representatives of the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths, who were invited to lead an act of commemoration, each according to their own tradition by the Taoiseach





Seen here is the Veterans Memorial in Adare Manor, Co. Limerick owned by Vietnam War Veteran Mr. Tom Kane, who had this fine memorial erected on the grounds in memory of his fallen comrades.



Some members of ONE were invited by the American Legion to the memorial service held on the 5th June, seen here are (l/r) Charlie Maye (Hon Tres. Thomas Ash Br), Ger Landers (then ONE Chairman) and Ted Moynihan (Thomas Ash Br)

At the recent launch of ONE's Fuchsia Appeal 2011, pictured (l/r) are Tony Pennie (ONE member), Paul Kehoe TD (Minister of State at Defence), Seán Keating (ONE member), Ollie O'Connor (ONE CEO), Brig Gen Denis Murphy (GOC 2 E Bde) and Martin Coyne (ONE Chairman)



Lt Col Shaun Purvis (USAF), Defence Attaché with ONE Chairman Martin Coyne at the Fuchsia launch



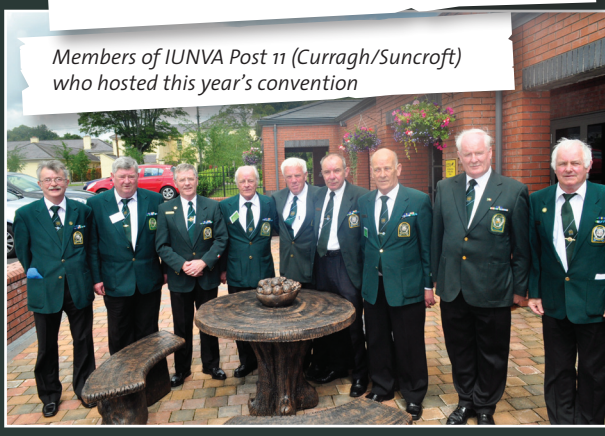
The Fuchsia was chosen as the emblem, as part of the launch of the first appeal in 2007. It was chosen, as it is grown throughout Ireland and was seen as a reminder of home when seen overseas. The Fuchsia badge is sold as part of the fundraising initiative and under the emblem is stamped the word 'Guimhnimis' (let us remember) in remembrance of those have served and the many who have given their lives while serving. **Would you like to grow Fuchsias in Aid of ONE**

An interesting fact: Fuchsias grown from softwood cuttings in the spring will flower earlier than a hardwood cutting taken in the previous autumn.

Come have a go! Contact info@oneconnect.ie or 01-4850600 for further details www.oneconnect.ie



Delegates and members of the Irish United Nations Veterans Association (IUNVA) at their 22nd National Convention held in NCO's Mess Ceannt Bks, Curragh Camp on the 9th July 2011



Members of IUNVA Post 11 (Curragh/Suncroft) who hosted this year's convention

"We have contributed to over 50 years of peacekeeping with courage and tenacity. Our casualties have been many. Our dead are commemorated at Arbour Hill, and at other locations; but we must also remember the many who have been scarred, both physically and psychologically by their service overseas. We must continue to help these veterans and their families. That is why we were formed - let us not forget them." Maj Gen V.F. Savino (Retd)

The Membership of IUNVA as of the 31st June 2011 was 802 in 16 Posts around the Country, and continues to grow.

To Join, Subscribe and Support please contact IUNVA HQ, Arbour House, Mount Temple Road, Dublin 7. Tel: 01-6791262, or go to www.iunva.com

WORLD STRATEGIC PICTURE



EUROPE

Last Yugoslav war crimes suspect at large is captured - Goran Hadzic, the last Yugoslav war crimes suspect still at large, was captured in Serbia Wednesday, a war crimes tribunal announced. An ex-Croatian Serb rebel leader who has been a fugitive for seven years, Hadzic was wanted for crimes against humanity and war crimes in connection with the wars that followed the break-up of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s. The former president of a self-proclaimed Serbian republic in Croatia, Hadzic is accused of trying to remove Croats and other non-Serbs from the territory and the "extermination or murder of hundreds of Croat or other non-Serb civilians," among many other crimes, according to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. He was the last fugitive of the 161 people indicted by the tribunal. The announcement, also made by Serbian President Boris Tadic, comes less than two months after the capture of the highest-profile war crimes suspect still at large, former Bosnian Serb general Ratko Mladic.



crimes suspect still at large, former Bosnian Serb general Ratko Mladic.

AFRICA

Aid agencies deal with terrorists to reach Somalia's starving - For aid donors and humanitarian agencies, it is a Faustian bargain: reach and save tens of thousands of people on the verge of starving to death. The price: come to an "understanding" with one of the most active affiliates of al Qaeda, and perhaps help it retain control of large swathes of Somalia. Such is the equation in the Horn of Africa, where the worst famine in a generation threatens more than ten million people. Many of them live - or rather cling to life - in areas of Somalia controlled by the militant Islamist group al Shabaab, which has sworn allegiance to al Qaeda and is designated a terrorist group by the United States.

AMERICAS

States brace for debt ceiling default - Just the threat of a federal default is prompting California to get a \$5 billion loan to make sure it can pay its obligations. States around the nation are drawing up contingency plans in the event that federal policy-makers don't resolve the debt ceiling impasse by Aug 2nd. They are preparing for chaos in the municipal debt markets and delays in federal payments for Medicaid, education and other services, which could happen if the federal government defaults on its obligations. California, for instance, planned to sell \$5 billion in revenue-anticipation notes in the bond market in late August. Now, Treasurer Bill Lockyer plans to get a bridge loan so the state can have cash on hand in case the markets are in turmoil and the state is unable to borrow. It would repay the bridge loan once it sells the notes. Also, Golden State officials are concerned about delayed federal payments for Medicaid, education, transportation and other services. The federal government sent \$478 billion to their state and local counterparts last year, according to a report issued Wednesday by the Pew Center on the States. Next month, states are expecting to get \$10.4 billion in college tuition assistance alone. But that money might not come if the debt ceiling is not raised.

MIDDLE EAST

Wanted al Qaeda leader killed in Yemen - Sanaa, Yemen. An Al Qaeda leader who was on the Yemeni government's wanted list was killed in clashes with the army, the country's defence ministry said Wednesday. Aieth al Shabwani was the leader of al Qaeda in Marib province, which is believed to be a haven for the militant group's loyalists. He was among several militants killed Tuesday in Zanzibar, the capital of Abyan province, the ministry said without offering additional details. A second leader, Awad al Shabwani, was also killed. The Yemeni military is in the midst of an offensive in the province to clear the area of the terror group. The operations have claimed lives on both sides in recent weeks.

Lebanon tribunal submits indictment in former PM's assassination - Beirut, Lebanon. Nearly six years after the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, a prosecutor has submitted the long-awaited results of an international investigation to a judge at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, the tribunal said Monday. The judge, Daniel Fransen, will review the submissions for a period that is expected to last between six to 10 weeks, the tribunal said in a statement. "The contents of the indictment remain confidential at this stage," the statement said. A tribunal spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said earlier Monday that the highly contentious indictment was expected to be handed over to the judge at The Hague in the Netherlands by Wednesday. Fransen will have options including confirming or dismissing the entire document, requesting additional evidence or confirming some counts and dismissing others, according to the tribunal. Both the prosecutor and the head of the defence office can request the indictment remain confidential. The indictment, submitted by prosecutor Daniel Bellemare, "marks the beginning of the judicial phase of the Tribunal's work," the tribunal's statement said. Bellemare will address the significance of the indictment's filing in a video-recorded statement on Tuesday, it said. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called for all parties to back the tribunal's work.

ON THE GROUND IN SOUTH LEBANON

ALL PHOTOS BY UNIFIL PHOTOGRAPHER PASQUAL GORRIZ AND PTE CIARAN ROONEY (104 INF BN)

In this feature OC 104 Inf Bn, Lt Col Frank Bolger gives us a short overview of the battalion's deployment, the current situation in South Lebanon, and how the current deployment differs from those of Irish battalions in previous years.

The advance party from 104 Inf Bn arrived in Lebanon on 30 May with the main body arriving in two chucks on 23 and 27 June. The battalion's mission is to monitor the cessation of hostilities within our assigned sector, paying particular attention to the Blue Line and sensitive areas; to assist the government of Lebanon in extending its full authority throughout Lebanon by supporting the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF); and to create the required conditions to hand over responsibility for security in South Lebanon to the LAF.

The mission, which is mandated under UN Security Council Resolution 1701 (11 August 2006), involves the protection of civilians, extensive mobile patrolling throughout the Irish area of operations (AO) with the LAF and independently, ground holding and monitoring along the Blue Line. Operations will be conducted on a 'high-visibility, low-profile' basis. While patrols will be conducted in armour, soft-skin vehicles will be used when interacting with the local population.

Although UNIFIL remains a Chapter Six mission, its enhanced mandate under UNSCR 1701, includes authorisation to assist the LAF in taking steps towards the establishment, between the Blue Line and the Litani river, of an area free of any armed personnel, assets and weapons other than those of the government of Lebanon and UNIFIL, and to assist the government of Lebanon in securing its borders and other entry points to prevent the entry of arms or related material into Lebanon.

The UNIFIL AO is divided into two sectors with the Irish battalion located in Sector West along with Malbatt, Ghanbatt, Italbatt, and ROKbatt. The Irish AO measures some 140 sq kms, extending from Tibnine to the Blue Line along the border with



Lt Col Frank Bolger

Israel and will contain three posts, Bn HQ at 6.5, and two platoon posts at 6.50 and 6.52. Additionally, Irishbatt will also have responsibility for Bint Jubayl the major centre of population in the area. The Force Commander's Reserve (FCR) Company is located at At Tiri in Irishbatt's area of responsibility (AOR).

There are three LAF brigades deployed south of the Litani, and UNIFIL and the LAF co-operate in joint operations that include manning observation points; area domination patrols; Blue Line patrols; foot and mobile patrols; and counter-rocket-launching operations. UNIFIL also conducts counter-improvised explosive devices (C-IED) operations, unexploded ordnance (UXO) disposal, and large-scale demining operations along the Blue Line.

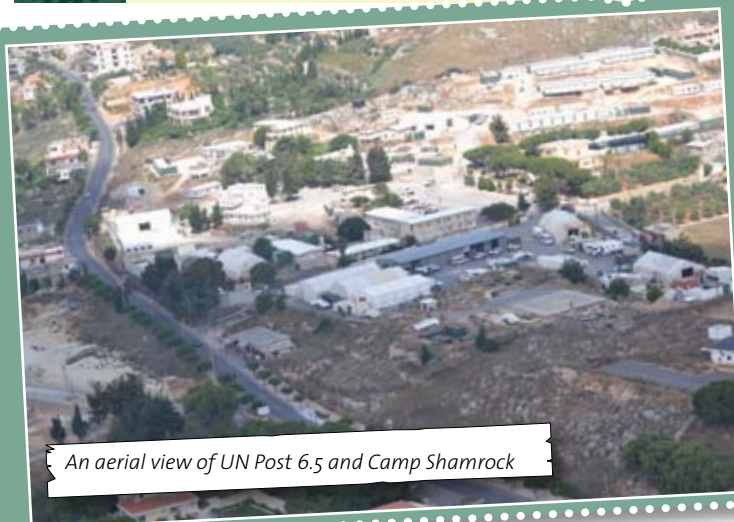
The threat level is currently classified as 'medium'. However, in this region it's always possible that this could change in a short space of time, and the situation could best be described as calm but unpredictable. No matter how calm the situation may appear to be at any moment, the possibility of further conflict is real. The mission area is dangerous is dangerous but of course if it wasn't our skills and expertise wouldn't be required. In addition, Bint Jubayl, the largest town in our AO, has been identified as one of the seven areas of concern for armed elements.

Any incidents that take place in the Middle East, for example within the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and particularly recent events in Syria, have a direct impact on operations and relations with the different groups in southern Lebanon.

The Special Tribunal for Lebanon continues to dominate the political landscape, and its indictment of four members of Hizb'Allah for the murder of former PM Rafik Hariri could have serious implications within our AO.

The 27 May IED attack on an Italian logistical convoy outside the port city of Sidon has had a direct impact on UNIFIL's force protection measures. Immediately following this incident UNIFIL's alert status was raised from 'amber' to 'red' for the first time in a number of years. This had a direct impact on 104 Inf Bn as the advance party were in-theatre at the time. Movement SOPs became more restrictive with the heightened alert status remaining in place for a number of days and continues to impact on our movement.

Although the alert status is now back to 'amber' this comes with a caveat: UNIFIL patrols are now required to move in greater numbers and information updates and briefings have



An aerial view of UN Post 6.5 and Camp Shamrock



Maj Gen Alberto Asarta Cuevas (Spain) UNIFIL Force Commander salutes an Irish Guard of Honour

become a vital component of daily operations. The possibility of IEDs also remains a real threat; and this is where both pre-deployment and in-theatre training are proving vitally important.

All UNIFIL's activities are carried out in close co-operation and co-ordination with the LAF, who have primary responsibility for security and law and order in the area. In addition to joint patrols, UNIFIL has also set up co-located checkpoints with the LAF at key locations within its area of operations. The LAF have primary responsibility in ensuring that the area between the Litani and the Blue Line is free of illegal weapons and is not used for any hostile activity. UNIFIL assists and supports the LAF in this endeavour but in cases where specific information is available regarding the movement of unauthorised weapons or equipment, the LAF will take any required action.

UNIFIL's long term objective is to gradually transfer responsibilities currently carried out by the force to the LAF and to have the LAF assume effective control over the mission's area of operations.

There have been substantial changes to UNIFIL since 89 Inf Bn left Lebanon in November 2001. The total strength of the mission at present is 12,000 troops in-theatre, including land, maritime and air elements, as well as 1,000 civilians. (The mission's authorised strength is 15,000 troops supported by international and local civilian staff). The budget for the year to 30 June 2011 was close to \$520 million. There are 12 peacekeeping battalions operating in two brigade-size sectors: Sector East, based in Marjayoun, and Sector West in Shama, not far

from UNIFIL HQ in Naqoura. The Force Commander also has a reserve of more than 1,100 troops available, if required. When 89 Inf Bn withdrew from Lebanon in 2001 the strength of UNIFIL stood at 3,000 troops.

In addition to being a much larger mission, UNIFIL is now run more along NATO/EU-type lines and consequently Irish soldiers who have served in KFOR or EUFOR may be more used to the type of 'battle rhythm' that pertains in this Spanish-led mission.

There are 437 personnel serving with 104 Inf Bn of which 22 are female. The accommodation is of a high standard with the majority of troops living in quite spacious air conditioned 4 man rooms. A new catering centre is currently under construction and will be completed in the very near future. Huge credit must be paid to the catering personnel who are doing an excellent job in very difficult, temporary conditions. The canteen is also currently under construction and, again, is nearing completion. A contract has recently been agreed to provide broadband wireless internet, which will greatly improve internet speed and accessibility for personnel throughout the camp. All personnel have the facility to make telephone calls on the DF network at local call rates, and troops can buy local phones, SIM cards and credit, and use these to text and phone home. The battalion also provides 15 minutes of Skype for each individual.

Much work has been completed since the battalion arrived; however, it is still early days. Post 6.5 had been unoccupied for a number of years and as a consequence, was in need of significant repair.

There remains a considerable amount of work to be completed but it is particularly gratifying for me to see the determination displayed at all levels in the unit to tackle this workload and to improve conditions. The work ethic of each individual soldier speaks volumes for the professionalism of the Defence Forces.

We have just taken operational responsibility for, and occupied, the two Blue Line posts, 6.50 and 6.52, from Frenchbatt. These posts also need some repair works and these works will now be prioritised by the unit.

The reaction of all ethnic groups within the local population has been extremely positive since 104 Inf Bn arrived in-theatre. The Mayor of Tibnine and the Governor of Bint Jubayl have expressed their satisfaction and pleasure at the return of Irish troops to the area, and both have said that the Irish battalion will enjoy the full support of the local population. Throughout Ireland's 28 year participation with UNIFIL a strong link has been created and maintained with all elements of the local population. Traditionally Irish troops have always got on well with the Lebanese people and there has always been a special bond between the two.

Irish troops serving with 104 Inf Bn who have served with UNIFIL in the past will also notice substantial changes to the infrastructure in the area. When I last served in this area there were few tarmac roads nor were there any municipal or state services in place to repair and maintain the roads; it was up to UNIFIL to do that. However, a proper structure exists now with local municipalities in place to take responsi-



SW Comdr inspects Irish troops and their equipment during a recent visit to UN Post 6.5

Irish peacekeepers during a commemoration service to remember the 47 Irish soldiers who lost their lives while on service with UNIFIL



An Irish soldier plays the bagpipes as a Lebanese soldier stands on guard, at the ceremony for fallen comrades



An Irish soldier observes the 'Blue Line' between Lebanon and Israel



Irish troops carry out a patrol along the blue line

bility for these and other essential services. The journey time from Tibnine to Naqoura is about one hour and some of the roads are as good, or better, than at home.

Communications have also vastly improved. Everybody now has a mobile phone and many towns and villages provide access to the internet via internet cafes.

There have also been major changes in the way houses are built and they are now properly designed and beautifully finished. The area also boasts modern schools and hospitals.

The area where the Irish AO is situated is still principally rural but cultivation is now largely mechanised. While poverty is not a thing of the past there are clear signs of prosperity that testify clearly to the resilience of the people of South Lebanon.

South Lebanon suffered badly from a humanitarian point of view as a consequence of the 2006 war. UNIFIL wants to assist in this regard and consequently whenever they are not being used for operational purposes, UNIFIL resources and equipment are used to assist the local community. Although not a humanitarian or development agency, UNIFIL has had from the

early years of its deployment in 1978 a strong humanitarian pre-disposition in addressing the consequences of wars and occupation in South Lebanon. Some UNIFIL contingents provide free medical, dental, veterinary, and other such assistance to the local population. In addition, UNIFIL contingents have been conducting various training programmes for the people in such fields as computers, languages, etc.

UNIFIL's demining assets are primarily intended for operational use. However, in view of the grave humanitarian consequences of the explosive remnants of war in South Lebanon, UNIFIL has been using its de-mining resources to help protect the civilian population from the danger of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and to facilitate their safe access to houses and fields.

The Line of Withdrawal – also called the “Blue Line” – was identified in 2000 by the United Nations in cooperation with Lebanese and Israeli officials for the purpose of confirming the withdrawal of Israel's Defence Forces (IDF) troops from Lebanese territory in conformity with Security Council resolution 425. The Blue Line is not the border between Lebanon and Israel. ■

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COUNTERING THE IED THREAT

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CPL GREG DORNEY
(FROM A RECENT NATO WIT COURSE HELD IN JUNE)

Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) have become an all too regular feature on the asymmetric battlefield, where insurgent groups use irregular methods and tactics to try to nullify the strengths and exploit the weaknesses of vastly more powerful conventional military forces. They have been used to a great extent and extremely successfully by groups across the Middle East in Lebanon, Iraq and Afghanistan. As we know the Provisional IRA developed a very significant IED capability in the 70s and 80s. In the Republic of Ireland today we see an IED threat developing. This feature looks at the development of counter-IED training in the Defence Forces...





Improvised explosive device (IED) strikes are being carried out against coalition assets across the length and breadth of Afghanistan on a daily basis and “IED! IED! IED!” has become a dreaded warning heard from ISAF vehicle commanders.

The threat posed by IEDs, a preferred weapon of insurgents on the asymmetric battlefield, is significant and has contributed to 65% - 70% of all coalition deaths.

IED assaults can also involve complex scenarios combining the use of small arms and anti-armour weapons with the IED. This has led NATO/PfP to review its tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) in order to educate its troops about the dangers they face when operating in an environment highly saturated with IEDs.

The development of counter-IED (C-IED) training by troop-contributing nations represents an effort to develop national C-IED capabilities, to defeat the threat, so that troops and military assets are prepared to withstand an IED assault.

There are three core pillars: attack the network (network includes financiers, planners, bomb builders and emplacements); defeating the device; and training and education. Within these three pillars, there are six key operational activities: predicting IED related actions; preventing them; detecting IED materials, components and

assembled devices; neutralising emplaced devices; mitigating the effects of IEDs; and exploiting IED events by recording and analyzing all relevant information.

Defence Forces personnel have operated in many places where IEDs have posed a threat in the past, including Lebanon, Kosovo and presently in Afghanistan. The Defence Forces have encountered and dealt with many IEDs while serving in UNIFIL and regrettably have also lost four DF personnel killed by IEDs. Accordingly, the Defence Forces is well aware of its responsibility to train its personnel in C-IED and provide the required assets to mitigate the effects of operating in an asymmetric environment.

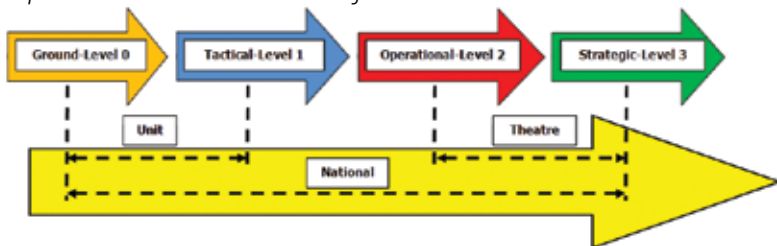
The Ordnance

Corps, under the auspices of the EDA-developed “guidelines on national C-IED capabilities” was tasked with providing such training and a steering group formed and chaired by the Director of Ordnance identified key objectives: to achieve an embedded C-IED culture in the Defence Forces; provide for a structure to enable and sustain a viable and credible

all-arms C-IED capability; ensuring that C-IED is at all times an all-arms responsibility. This led to the definition of a national C-IED capability that covers the areas of search (all-arms); exploitation/weapons intelligence; future route clearance capability packages; IED-disposal, including manual neutralisation techniques (MNT); mitigation; Tactics Techniques Procedures (TTPs).

The Defence Forces, through the Ordnance Corps, the European Defence Agency (EDA) and ACT/NATO/PfP, has instigated the development of expertise in the above key areas through C-IED operator search courses (EDA); weapons intelligence training (Ordnance Corps/ACT/NATO/PfP);

Exploitation is divided into a number of levels



MNT training (Ordnance Corps/EDA); and the C-IED ‘Train the Trainers’ course (Ordnance Corps).

This C-IED training has now been delivered to almost 2,000 DF personnel operating with MINURCAT,



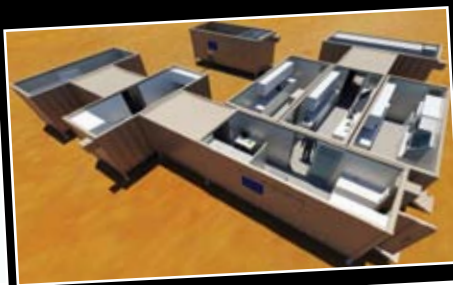
ISAF, KFOR, and UNIFIL III peace support operations (PSO). All C-IED trained DF personnel are issued with a Tactical-Aide Memoire IEDD threat guide and other related information.

A number of instructors from the Ordnance School have been selected to instruct on ACT/NATO/PfP weapons intelligence training (WIT) courses and have already participated in such tasks in Hungary, Spain and Ireland.

C-IED Exploitation is an area under rapid development in recent years and refers to taking full advantage of any information that comes to hand for tactical, operational and strategic purposes. It is part of the intelligence cycle and is closely allied to the law enforcement use of physical evidence and scene analysis. C-IED exploitation is concerned with weapons intelligence and the human and material components of the IED system.

In the area of C-IED exploitation, the Ordnance Corps has initiated a project within the EDA for the development of a Deployable Level 2 Laboratory; the facility has a number of varied core skills including chemical, biological, biometrics, electronics, photography, finger print & DNA analysis. An Ordnance Corps C-IED subject matter expert (SME) has been involved as a project team member in the development of this level II exploitation laboratory that is designed to operate in-theatre in support to ISAF. This project was funded by the EDA's operational budget and after 18 months from concept, through design and development, it has now been built to specification by a Spanish company. This internationally staffed and French-led deployable exploitation facility is currently being validated in Madrid and is planned to be delivered to Afghanistan on the 23 August 2011 for planned initial operational capability (IOC) ISAF by mid September. ■

TEL(D) - Theatre Exploitation Laboratory (D), 18 months from concept, through design to development



Here comes the boys - An assault team sneaks up on a ferry



A ranger scales the side of the ferry

The Army Ranger Wing (ARW) in June and July took part in a series of maritime counter terrorism exercises off the East Coast.

Supported by the Naval Service and Air Corps, ARW counter terrorism teams honed their armed intervention skills in practical training exercises onboard ferries at sea and in and around Dublin Port. By boat and by helicopter, our special forces troops stormed ships under steam to neutralise the terrorists and free the crew and passengers. The Defence Forces has already this year carried out a number of major counter terrorism exercises and the ARW maintains a military counter-terrorist capability for use at both home and overseas on UN approved missions. The following photographs certainly capture some of the action.

HIGH SEA RESCUE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
CPL GREG DORNEY



A ranger covers off, while the L.E. Ciara shadows the ferry and provides cover to the assaulting teams

The ship's captain poses for the camera with his rescuers



The coxswain keeps the RIB close to the ferry as the team deploys a garbling hook and ladder so the rangers can gain access to the upper decks

Two Air Corps AW139 helicopters deploy rangers by fast rope



ARMY RANGER WING
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NATO

IRELAND'S PARTICIPATION

BY WESLEY BOURKE

As a member of the United Nations, the European Union, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe, and NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP) programme, Ireland has clearly demonstrated its commitment to helping to build a peaceful and stable international environment where economies can flourish and individuals can prosper.

Because Ireland is not a member of NATO, many Irish people's knowledge of the Western military alliance generally doesn't go beyond what they read in the media. Many of these reports are distorted and one-dimensional, simply portraying NATO as an extension of American power that is now bogged down in Afghanistan. For members of the Defence Forces our understanding should be different as we have had personnel serving in NATO-led, UN-mandated missions in Kosovo (KFOR), Afghanistan (ISAF), and, previously, in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SFOR).

NATO was created in 1949 as a collective defence security organisation and was designed, under the Washington Treaty, to collectively balance the military power of all its members against the Soviet threat during the Cold War. Under its Article 5, if one member gets attacked all other members will come to that country's defence.

With the end of the Cold War, NATO had to redefine itself during the 1990s. The crisis in the Balkans propelled it to develop crisis management capabilities and NATO's interventions in Bosnia and Kosovo led to UN-mandated peacekeeping missions (IFOR/SFOR and KFOR respectively). Ireland participated in all three of these missions.

As a consequence of the 9/11 attacks on the United States in 2001, Article 5 was invoked for the first time in NATO's history. This led not only to European NATO-member states providing surveillance aircraft to patrol the coast of the United States but also to the UN-mandated, NATO-led operation in Afghanistan.

Today NATO's 28 members are committed to promoting peace, security and democratic values. On behalf of the UN it is engaged in helping to rebuild Afghanistan, through ISAF (International Security Assistance Force); anti-piracy operations off the Horn of Africa (Operation Ocean Shield); and is currently enforcing a NATO-led no-fly zone over Libya (Operation Unified Protector) in accordance with UN Resolution 1973.

Ireland is not a member of the NATO alliance and consequently is not committed to Article 5's collective defence

clause. "This is very important for people to understand," Lt Col John Egan, Defence Forces Assistant Military Representative at NATO HQ, says. "Participating in a NATO-led, UN-mandated mission does not bind us to Article 5 in any way. Article 5 applies only to the 28 alliance members."

The Partnership for Peace (PfP) programme is one of several programmes that are run by NATO but which include countries from outside the Alliance. These programmes are designed to promote political and military dialogue and interoperability. Ireland is one of the 22 members of the PfP, a programme that allows partner countries to build up an individual relationship with NATO, choosing their own priorities for co-operation. The main purpose of PfP is to increase stability, diminish threats to peace and build strengthened security relationships between individual partner countries and NATO, as well as among partner countries themselves.

Ireland is represented at NATO/PfP level by the Defence Forces Military Representative (currently Brig Gen Tom Behan), the Dept of Defence Representative Counsellor (currently Mr Leo Connolly), and the Dept of Foreign Affairs Ambassador to Belgium and NATO (currently HE Tom Hanney). All three consult and pass on their recommendations to their respective departments back in Ireland, where the final decision will be made on whatever matter is at hand, such as our involvement in a NATO-led, UN peace-support operation, for example.

Brig Gen Behan has two permanent staff in NATO HQ, Col Con Ryan (Dep Mil Rep) and Lt Col John Egan (Asst Mil Rep).

Under PfP every aspect of NATO's activity is covered, including defence reform; defence policy and planning; civil-military relations; education and training; military-to-military co-operation and exercises; civil emergency planning and disaster-response; and co-operation on scientific and environmental issues.

"As the Defence Forces' military representatives we provide advice on PfP matters to the General Staff, and also advise the Dept of Foreign Affairs and civilian colleagues in the Dept of Defence on military matters," Col Con Ryan told me. "We attend a large range of meetings that impact on the Defence Forces. Our involvement with PfP is primarily for interoperability and capability development. It's a two-way programme; NATO and other PfP members have benefited from our experience and expertise and we have benefited from theirs."

"There were several reasons for joining PfP in 1999,"



Lt Col John Egan with Col Con Ryan in Brussels

explains Mr Leo Connolly (DoD). "We have a duty of care to our personnel: we need to make sure if they are being sent on an overseas mission that they can operate efficiently and effectively with the right tools and the right training. They operate with NATO on UN-mandated missions and 21 EU states are also members of NATO, so we have to make sure we are fully interoperable with all of these nations with regard to SOPs, planning, training and equipment: everything from the electrical socket in the wall to how a HQ operates."

As an example of how this approach leads to greater efficiency, at one time in Bosnia and Herzegovina the UN, NATO and the EU were all operating separate missions with a high degree of overlapping. However, through PfP personnel from all three organisations can work efficiently together to build peace and stability.

"From the private soldier right to the top levels you can see the benefit of our membership of PfP," said Col Ryan. "Many of the courses at home are now conducted to NATO/PfP standards. Our involvement with PfP allows us access to these standards, thus improving our capabilities for joint and multinational operations in many areas, including command and control; logistics; CIS; engineers; ordnance; medical; and the maritime domain."

"For anyone who remembers the early days of UNIFIL, the Irish battalion was very much a stand-alone unit, whereas today, Irish units are fully interoperable up to battalion level, as was seen in our contribution to the recent EU/UN mission to Chad/CAR."

NATO/PfP have also benefited from Ireland's participation. When NATO took on a peacekeeping role it had no previous experience in this field, whereas Ireland brought with it decades of valuable peacekeeping experience. Lt Col Egan said: "In the early days of KFOR we provided a transport company, which was an important theatre asset, and ISAF personnel in Afghanistan are trained in C-IED by Irish Ordnance Corps experts. We also offer places to partner nations on C-IED courses and on our senior and junior C&S courses, to name just a few."

NATO's high regard for Irish military personnel can be seen in the important positions Defence Forces personnel have held in the few NATO-led missions we have been involved in. For example, Col Ryan was a Deputy Multinational Task Force Commander in KFOR and before him Brig Gen Gerry Hegarty was Commander, Multinational Brigade Centre with the same mission.

PfP offers a number of programmes and initiatives to its members from what it refers to as its 'toolbox'. Out of the 'tools' on offer Ireland has signed up to two: the Planning and Review Process (PARP), and the Individual Partnership Programme (IPP). The first is designed to provide a basis for identifying and evaluating forces and capabilities that might be made available for multina-

tional training, exercises and operations in conjunction with NATO forces. The second is a comprehensive list of all PfP activities open to all partners, such as conferences, exercises or the 1,500 courses on offer to PfP members. "The IPP is a system whereby we can offer courses to NATO/PfP members and we then have the advantage of access to courses on offer by other partners," Mr Connolly said. "For example, we are a leading nation in the field of C-IED training and other countries are now benefiting from our knowledge in this field."

One of the advantages and benefits of our membership of PfP is that we fully understand and speak the 'military language' necessary to be effective in multinational operations. "This is very important," said Col Ryan. "The Defence Forces is highly sought after for any UN-mandated peace-support mission that comes up and in part this is due to our participation in PfP, which has helped us to develop our operational capabilities and work more effectively with other modern military forces." ■

An Irish KFOR Mowag Patrol



Kilbride Camp Open Day

BY SGT WAYNE FITZGERALD

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CPL GREG DORNEY

On 20 June 2011 on a lovely hot summer's day, over 100 children gathered to watch and enjoy an open day in Kilbride Camp, County Wicklow, one of the Defence Forces' most used training facilities, which can house up to 140 troops and their equipment. Not since the British Army were billeted in tents there in the late 1800s has the Stage Five area seen so many potential new recruits!

Section under attack



AW139 comes in for a closer look



Lt Adam Mollen answers questions



Sniper spotted



*Sniper School*

The children from the neighbouring St Bridget's national school in Manor Kilbride were invited by the Camp Commandant, Comdt Patrick Lavelle, to view a number of military displays provided by a variety of units and corps from throughout the Defence Forces. It was hoped that these displays would give the children an understanding of what goes on in the Kilbride training area and what causes those loud bangs and explosions they may hear from time to time in school or at home.

The children and two of their teachers, Ms Bernie Shorne and Ms Ciara Coakley, were guided around by the camp's senior NCO, CQMS Patrick McKay, who gave them a safety brief and told the children to keep an eye out for any lost or wandering adults. Most of the camp staff also brought along their own small children to view the displays and to see where Daddy worked.

The displays started at 11am with Cpl Clive Dunne leading his section (from 5 Inf Bn) in arrowhead formation across open ground in search of a hidden 'enemy'. This demonstration was being explained to the now very excited children by Lt Adam Mollen (5 Inf Bn) who able fielded a barrage of questions coming rapid fire from his young audience. It wasn't long before Cpl Dunne's section came under fire from an enemy sniper. After taking cover in a nearby ditch the section carried out a left-flanking attack under cover of smoke on the enemy sniper who was being pinned down by the section's FSG.

After the fire-fight was over all the participants moved to a position in front of the children to give them a close-up view of the soldiers and their equipment.

Within minutes of the end of this display an Air Corps AW139 helicopter swooped down out of the sky. The aircraft, piloted by Capt O'Reilly and Lt Hynes, whizzed into view and hovered above the viewing stand to allow the crewman, Sgt Mark Dunne, to wave briefly at the children. The 'Wow!'-effect as the children watched this great, green beast perform some quick and exciting manoeuvres above them was clearly written all over their faces. The pilots then landed the heli in the camp on a hard stand among the other displays still awaiting the children.

Also on view in the display area in the camp were a mobile EOD unit from 2 E Bde Ord Coy, manned by Cpls Carl Esmonde and John Groarke, who provided a close-up view of their equipment, and members of 5 Inf Bn with battalion support weapons and a sniper rifle system, complete with spotting scope set up for all to try. However, it was the AW139 that stole the show, with so many of the children and the adults wanting their photograph taken at the aircraft.

The day finally ended with everyone being treated to a hearty lunch in the brand new dining facility, which cost €1 million to build and equip. The excellent meal, prepared and served by Cpl Ian Barry (2 LSB) and his staff, provided many different choices for their hungry young guests. ■

*Potential new recruit Jack McKay*



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SOCIAL MEDIA

TAKING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

In 2011, a Defence Forces Social Media Policy was introduced to highlight the proper use of online social media sites, such as (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn and Flickr) and you, as a member of the Defence Forces can put up or say. The policy was issued to enable military personnel to make full use of online presences, while protecting their own safety and security, and that of their comrades.



facebook

flickr

LinkedIn



twitter

YouTube

SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT

Members of the Defence Forces who operate personal social media sites or who have any interaction online on Defence Forces or non-Defence Forces sites must do so in strict compliance with the terms of the DF Social Media Policy. When uploading any content on any social media platforms you must be aware that your comments are viewable by members of the media and the general public, regardless of whether your profile is private or not.

DO'S

- Follow the same high standards of conduct and behaviour online as would be expected elsewhere.
- Always maintain personal information and operational security. Be careful about the information you share online. If in doubt, leave it out
- Make your family and friends are aware of the operational security issues surrounding their interaction with you or about you on social media sites
- Get authorisation from your chain of command when appropriate
- Disable geo-tagging or geo-location services on your smart phone/social media platforms, while on duty at home and overseas
- Provide your formation or brigade press officer with any interesting content you may have relating to Defence Forces activities (Photos or video so as that it can be used on DF social media sites)
- Share, re-post, re-tweet or link to Defence Forces social media content
- Encourage friends to join Defence Forces social media sites

DON'TS

- Publish any information that relates to operations, deployments or your service within the Defence Forces without

- prior approval

- Offer opinion or comment on wider Defence Forces activity or related issues

- Post material that is unlawful, obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, abusive, slanderous, hateful or embarrassing to any other person or entity

- Attempt to speak, or be interpreted as speaking, on behalf of the Defence Forces or the Department of Defence

- Comment on any issue relating to controversial, sensitive or political matters which would be incompatible with service in the Defence Forces

- Create any social content that could cause the Defence Forces to be embarrassed or brought into disrepute

- Use blogs, vlogs, forums or any other type of social media sites to offer opinion or commentary on experiences in the Defence Forces without permission

UPLOADING IMAGERY

- The uploading of any images, video or recordings of Defence Forces personnel must reflect the Defence Forces as a modern, professional and disciplined military force

- Any images, video or recordings of personnel identified as members of the Defence Forces acting inappropriately reflects poorly on the individual and the Defence Forces

- Every member of the Defence Forces has a duty to report through the chain of command any images, video or recordings, which are in contravention of this instruction

- Any media content, which is not compatible with the best interest of the Defence Forces must be removed immediately

- Any member of the Defence Forces who fails to comply with the DF Social Media Policy will be subject to disciplinary action and will be obliged to remove any social content as directed. For more information, talk to your orderly room staff or Bde/Service Press Office.

HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY

HONOURING THE DEAD

BY PAUL O'BRIEN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CPL GREG DORNEY

(PART 2)

The Irish National War Memorial Gardens at Islandbridge commemorate the sacrifice of the almost 50,000 Irish servicemen, Catholic and Protestant, who died during the Great War.

The gardens, which are located on the southern banks of the Liffey about three kilometres from the centre of the city. They occupy an area of about three hectares, were designed by Sir Edward Lutyens.

Shortly after 'the war to end all wars' drew to a close it was decided that a permanent memorial to commemorate all those Irish men and Irish women who were killed during the conflict should be erected in Ireland. On July 17th 1919, one hundred representatives from all over Ireland met in Dublin and established a memorial committee to raise funds to further this aim. In the years that followed, a number of suggestions were put forward but all were rejected due to their impracticality, inconsistency, or failure to meet planning obligations.

In 1929 the Irish government suggested a memorial park should be constructed on the banks of the River Liffey at Longmeadows. The plan consisted of a public park, a garden of remembrance and a war memorial. The Memorial Committee would pay for the war memorial and the government would finance the gardens.

Sir Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944), who designed the Cenotaph in London, was commissioned to prepare the design. His design was one of classical symmetry and formality; a stone cross overlooking an elaborate symmetrical garden with four classical granite pavilions linked by pergolas.

The first phase of the construction began in 1931 with a linear parkway that stretched from Islandbridge to Chapelizod. The second phase saw the memorial gardens laid out between 1933 and 1939. (The workforce for the project consisted of ex-British army personnel residing in Ireland and also ex-servicemen from the Irish National Army).

Enclosed within a high limestone wall with granite piers is the central lawn, the centre of which is a Stone of Remembrance made from Irish granite. (Lutyens designed the Stone of Remembrance for the Imperial War Graves Commission. It was designed to be used in IWGC war cemeteries containing 1,000 or more graves, or at memorial sites commemorating more than 1,000 war dead. Hundreds were erected following World War I). The Stone of Remembrance symbolises an altar and is flanked on either side by fountain basins with central obelisks symbolising candles. The combined symbolism of the altar, candles and cross is representative of death and resurrection.

Aligned with the Stone of Remembrance and the central avenue stands the Great Cross. Inscribed on the limestone wall are the words: 'To the memory of the 49,400 Irishmen who gave their lives in the Great War 1914-1918'.

At either end of the lawns are two pairs



HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY



of book rooms constructed in granite. These represent the four provinces of Ireland and contain the books of remembrance in which are inscribed the names of the 49,400 soldiers who lost their lives during the conflict. The famous stained-glass designer Harry Clarke carried out the ornate Celtic decoration in these books.

The Ginchy Cross is also housed in one of the book rooms. This wooden cross was erected in 1917 as a memorial to almost 5,000 Irish soldiers of the 16th Irish Division who were killed in action at Guillemont and Ginchy during the battle of the Somme. The cross was later replaced by a stone one and the original was returned to Ireland in 1926.

The sunken Rose Garden is located on either side of the central lawn. Entrance is gained by walking between the granite pergolas. It is interesting to note that the garden is devoid of any military symbolism and is more a place of peace and tranquillity

than a glorification of war.

The north terrace is screened by a number of trees and beyond, from the dome shaped temple, a number of tree-lined avenues radiate from its centre.

The planting of the trees and flowers were vital to Lutyens's design and a committee was established to carry out and supervise the planting scheme. Sir Frederick Moore, a former keeper in the Botanical Gardens and Mr AF Pearson of the Phoenix Park directed the planting of the trees and the selection of over 4,000 roses for the gardens.

Though the park was opened to the public in 1937, a delay in obtaining a completion certificate for the grounds deferred an official opening and the outbreak of the Second World War postponed the opening indefinitely. In the years that followed, a lack of finances was to restrict future works and maintenance and by the 1960s the gardens were falling

into disrepair, decay and dilapidation.

In 1988, after a period of extensive restoration the gardens were rededicated to the many servicemen that lost their lives in both world wars. The OPW now manages the Irish National War Memorial Gardens in conjunction with the National War Memorial Committee.

The Garden of Remembrance and the War Memorial Gardens are open to the public and are worth a visit, not just for the history that has just been made but also to remember those that have fallen and to ensure that history does not forget them.

*Paul O'Brien is an Irish historian and author. He has published two books: **Blood on the Streets, 1916 and the battle for Mount Street Bridge and Uncommon Valour, 1916 and the battle for South Dublin Union.** Paul also holds an MA in History and you can contact him at www.paulobrienauthor.ie ■*

HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY

WORLD MILITARY Games

BY SGT DAVID NAGLE



Congratulations to all our Defence Forces sportsmen and women who are taking part in the 5th World Military Games in Brazil from July 16th to the 24th. After years of planning sweat, long training sessions each will proudly fly the flag for Ireland against some of the best international sport stars in the world. Remember, our boxers, marksmen, parachutists, athletes and judo star are mostly all fulltime professional soldiers, so they still had to perform their respective military duties, while at the same time, train and then qualify to represent the Defence Forces at the games. Equally, they are competing most weeks at a national and international level in their respective sports. Though we are a small military force compared to others, the Defence Forces has always done well at the games.

GAMES MASCOT

The games mascot Arion is greek for 'one who has the power'. In promoting peace through sport, the designer Maurício de Souza thought of a boy who can turn into a futuristic super military-athlete.



Members of the Parachuting Team



Members of the Triathlon Team



Members of the Shooting Team

CISM

Founded in 1948, the International Military Sports Council (CISM) is one of the largest multi-disciplinary organisations in the world, organising various sporting events for 133 armed forces. Soldiers, who may previously have met on the battlefield, now meet in friendship on the sports playing field.

CISM's ultimate goal is to contribute to world peace by uniting armed forces through sports. Their motto is Friendship through Sport.

Every year, CISM organises some 20 Military World Championships worldwide, which take place under the two CISM pillars of sport and solidarity.

The Military World Games were created by CISM and the first games took place in 1995 in Rome and four years since (Croatia -1999, Italy - 2003 and India - 2007). In 2010, the first Military Winter Games took place in the Italian Alps.

CISM is also recognised internationally for its role in training elite athletes and they have implemented projects organised in conjunction with the International Olympic Committee, the United Nations and the European Community. CISM also organises regular international symposia to study various aspects of physical education and sport within armed forces.

Defence Forces delegation

Col Michael Beary (Dir DFT) Chief De Mission

Boxing

Sgt Andrew Brennan (2 Inf Bn) Coach
Pte Paul Thompson (2 LSB) Coach
Cpl Martin Fennessy (12 Inf Bn) Athlete
Cpl Thomas Sheahan (Air Corps) Athlete
Pte Patrick O'Shea (4 Inf Bn) Athlete
Pte Graham Hogan (5 Inf Bn) Athlete

Parachuting

Comdt Adrian O'Murchu (DFHQ) Coach
Comdt Gary Gartland (Air Corps) Coach
Capt Ruarigh McDermott (4 Fd Arty Regt) Athlete
Capt Stephen O'Sullivan (2 LSB) Athlete
Lt Dennis Gowran (5 Inf Bn) Athlete
Pte Colin Curran (3 Inf Bn) Athlete
Coy Sgt Graham Nuttall (6 Inf Bn) Athlete
Pte Martin Graham (3 Inf Bn) Athlete

Shooting

Capt Liam Crawford (RDFTA) Coach
Comdt Raymond Kane (DFHQ) Athlete
CQMS Sean Baldwin (DFHQ) Athlete
Sgt Terence Wearen (DFHQ) Athlete

Athletics

Sgt Brendan Downey (DFPES) Coach
Pte Alan O'Brien (HQ DFTC) Athlete
Sgmn Colin Merritt (HQ 1 S Bde) Athlete
Cpl Stephen McKeigue (6 Inf Bn) Athlete
Lt James Ledingham (3 Inf Bn) Athlete
Lt Ruaidhri Kedney (2 E BTC) Athlete

Orienteering

Lt Ray Holohan (Air Corps) Athlete
Capt Orla Jennings (DFHQ) Athlete
Pte Colm Hill (32 Res Inf Bn) Athlete
Capt Donal Burke (3 Inf Bn) Athlete
Capt Mairtin Coffey (Mil Col) Athlete

Triathlon

Capt Ronan Dillon (DFHQ) Coach
Lt Oisín McGrath (Air Corps) Athlete
Pte Gavin Crawford (28 Inf Bn) Athlete
Lt Neil O'Grady (1 Cav Sqn) Athlete
Cpl Derek Nugent (6 Inf Bn) Athlete

Judo

Pte Lloyd Manning (31 Res Arty Regt) Athlete

Administration

Comdt Roderick McAuliffe (DDFT)
Cpl Michael O'Toole (HQ DFTC)



EVENT:	LOCATION:	DATE:
Track & Field	João Havelange Olympic Stadium	17, 19 Jul
Triathlon	Copacabana Beach (Post 6)	24 Jul
Judo	UNIFA	18, 20-23 Jul
Parachuting	Resende Airport / AMAN	16-23 Jul
Shooting	CNTE	18-23 Jul
Boxing	CIAMPA	18-23 Jul
Orienteering	Avelar / FLONA	18-23 Jul

We wish them the best of luck in RIO, visit
www.rio2011.mil.br to see how they got on.

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GADGETS



NEVER STOP EXPLORING

The North Face (TNF) is a name that is synonymous with all things adventure and all things outdoor; the company have been at the forefront of innovation and exploration for 40 years, producing gear and clothing that has consistently taken people to the most extreme locations on the planet.



The North Face Point Five Shell Jacket

Looking back to the early nineties I remember flicking through magazines and seeing hardcore

alpinists wearing bright yellow TNF jackets with black sleeves; the almost mythical Mountain Guide Jacket. The Mountain Guide was recognised as the toughest and best performing shell out there at the time and the Point Five is the 2011 equivalent; Gore Tex Pro Shell, weatherproof zips, athletic fit and all the bells and whistles that a 'proper' technical shell jacket should have. Combine that with damn good looks and you have one of the best multisport Gore Tex jackets, period.

The North Face Gold Kazoo Sleeping Bag

If you like your sleeping bags down filled, warm, light and bright then the Gold Kazoo should fit your needs perfectly. Boasting three season warmth and 650 Hungarian goose down wrapped up in a water repellent nylon outer, the bag will perform perfectly for all but the toughest of expeditions while the 1 kilo weight and small pack size is excellent for travelling and back-packing. Although not a 'feature', the colour is like wrapping yourself up in a personal beam of sunshine every night too... fantastic.



The North Face Single Track Trail Runner

Running on trails is one of the fastest growing activities in Europe, for the simple reason that it is an absolute blast. Good footwear is a must though and they don't come much better than TNFs new shoe; the Single Track. The sole provides great traction in all conditions and gives the wearer peace of mind to concentrate on running fast and enjoying the scenery. Overall there is plenty of support where needed and superb ventilation too. A men's size 9 weighs in at a very respectable 326g which you will appreciate on those long uphill trails.



North Face Alteo 35 Backpack

Definitely one of the hottest looking packs that I have set eyes on in the last few years and one that backs up the looks with brains and brawn. If ventilation is your thing then you will be glad to hear that even while carrying the Alteo on day long hikes the system works like a personal AC system, genuinely keeping your back cool and dry. The fit is exceptional while the multiple pockets and easy front zip entry means organising and accessing your gear is a stress-free experience. One of the new next-generation packs from TNF and a genuine contender for my 'Gear of the Year' vote.

AUGUST COMPETITION

We have teamed up with The North Face Store Dublin to take a closer look at some brand new and exciting products from their summer 2011 range and to also offer An Cosantóir readers the chance to enter this month's fantastic competition to win a €150 voucher that can be used in The North Face Store Dublin. Never Stop Exploring.

1. Who is the New Publisher of An Cosantóir?
2. What store sponsors the Gadget Page?
3. What does TNF stand for?

Competition closing date is the 19th August
Send all entries with your name and address:

July Competition
An Cosantóir
DFHQ, Block 5,
Ceann Bks, DFTC,
Curragh Camp, Co Kildare, Ireland

Or email to: subs@military.ie
July's winner of the Cascade Design prize pack worth €200 is:
Padriac Hurley, Ballymote, Co. Sligo

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DEFENCE FORCE DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

NOTICEBOARD

This page is designed to give our readers an easy-to-follow list of important numbers, addresses and websites. Readers can also submit notices that may be of interest to others. Please keep notices to the point, include your contact details and send by email to: magazine@military.ie or by post to: Editor An Cosantóir, DFHQ, Block 5, Ceannt Bks, DFTC, Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

Important Contacts

Staffcare 1800 409 388
www.alone.ie 01 6791032
www.samaritans.org 1850 609 090
www.citizeninformation.ie
www.teenline.ie 1800 833 634
www.aware.ie 1890 303 302
DF Benevolent Fund 01 8046185
www.cafnbo.com 01 6711841
www.caoga-defenceforces.com 01 8042785
www.ansaccu.ie 01 8554489
www.mabs.ie 1890 283438
www.odf.ie 01 6633222
www.oneconnect.ie 01 4850600
www.inuva.com 01 6791262
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www.irishsoldiers.com 01 6777853
www.republic-ofireland.britishlegion.org.uk 01 6713044
www.raco.ie 01 8042884
www.pdforra.ie 1800 200 250
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Bootcamp Ireland the leading specialists in outdoor fitness, is looking for former members of the Defence Forces with NCEF qualifications to help develop their camps to the next level. Existing locations in Dublin, Meath, Kerry, Limerick and Clare. For more info contact: Shelly on (01) 2343797, or email shelly@bootcampireland.com / www.bootcampireland.com

Life is a dedicated 24 hour freephone national suicide prevention helpline. Call 1800 247 100 or text HELP to 51444 for 1 to 1 text support.

Pieta House is a suicide crisis centre. We help those who are thinking about taking their life, those who have already tried to, and those with self harming behaviours. We offer one-to-one counselling with highly specialised therapists, who help the person in crisis, move out of crisis. Our service is completely free of charge. Tel: 01-6010000 Email: mary@pieta.ie Web: www.pieta.ie

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ANSAC Credit Union Draw

Members Draw Results for 30th June:

1st Prize €10,000 Padraig Henevy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath;

2nd Prize €5,000 Martin Burke, Castleknock, Dublin 15;

3rd Prize €2,500 Adrian Reidy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath;

4th Prize €1,500 John Anderson, Celbridge, Co. Kildare;

€500 Winners: Con O'Neill, Fairview Strand, Dublin 3; William Fisher, Shannon Banks, Limerick; James O'Connell, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal; Francis Curran, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

€100 Winners: Graeme Coleman, Crumlin, Dublin 12; Emmet Wilmot, Carrigtohill, Co. Cork; John Cleary, Dromahair, Co. Leitrim; Jimmy Cullen, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary; Christopher Murphy, Riverstick, Co. Cork; Peter McArdle, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14; Michael McKenzie, Bagnelstown, Co. Carlow; Martin Graham, Thurles, Co. Tipperary; Derek Carlin, Tuam, Co. Galway; Patrick Matthews, Dundalk, Co. Louth; Michael Carson, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath; Patrick Dolan, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary;

Paul Byrne, Athlone, Co. Westmeath; Gillian Morrissey, Knocknaheeny, Cork; Paul Staunton, Ringsend, Dublin 4.
The next draw will take place on the 28th July.

DF Contacts Defence Forces Headquarters

DFHQ/DoD 01 8042000 or 045 492000

www.military.ie or www.defence.ie

Finance Branch DoD 091 743700

2 Eastern Brigade

Cathal Brugha Bks 01 8046000

Aiken Bks 042 9332295

Gormanston Camp 01 8412102

Kilbride Camp 01 4582169

McKee Bks 01 8046000

Military Archives 01 8046457

St Bricin's Hospital 01 8042000

1 Southern Brigade

Ballymullen Bks 066 7121871

Collins Bks 021 4514000

Kickham Bks 052 6121222

Kilworth Camp 025 24011

McCann Bks 0504 31503

Sarsfield Bks 061 314233

Stephens Bks 056 21174

4 Western Brigade

Custume Bks 09064 21000

Carna Camp 09064 89133

Castlebar Bks 094 21275

Columb Bks 044 48391

Finner Camp 072 41488

USAC 091 751001

Defence Forces Training Centre

Curragh Camp 045 445000

Coolmoney Camp 045 404626

Range Service 045 404653

Waterford Bks 051 374425

Wexford Bks 053 22573

Air Corps

Casement Aerodrome 01 4037689

Naval Service

Naval Base 021 4864700

Curragh Military Museum Opening Times

Monday to Wednesday 10am to 1pm and 3 to 5pm; Thursday 2 to 8pm; Sundays 12.30 to 3.30pm; Closed Friday and Saturday. For all queries, contact: 045-445342 or email: curraghmilitarymuseum@defenceforces.ie.

ONE Information:

ONE National Golf Classic, in the Curragh Golf Club on Monday August 22nd.

Niamba Memorial Mass, in Cathal Brugha Bks on Saturday November 5th.

UNVA Information:

United Nations Day is on Monday the 24th October.

Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony, UNVA Memorial Garden on Sunday November 6th.

Niamba Wreath Laying Ceremony, Glasnevin on Tuesday November 8th.

Tipperary Remembrance Trust

Are holding a Remembrance and Conference Weekend on 23/24/25 September. In the Ballykisteen Hotel, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary. For further details please contact: Michael Haslam (Chairperson) 062 52408/086 4083842 or michaelhaslam@eircom.net

BOOK REVIEW

■ ALLEGIANCES COMPROMISED: FAITH, HONOUR AND ALLEGIANCE

Ex British Soldiers in the Irish Army 1913-1924

Author: Michael J. Whelan MA

Publisher: South Dublin Libraries

ISBN: 978-0-955379-88-8

Price: €5.00

Allegiances Compromised explores the stories of Irish men who fought in the British Army in World War I, and then returned home and joined the effort to fight for Ireland's independence. Their military expertise and war experience were invaluable to the Volunteers and the Irish Army, yet they were treated with suspicion and, in some cases, contempt by their fellow Irishmen for their perceived disloyalty.

The book details the treatment of Boer War and Great War Veterans who returned to a hostile Ireland after those conflicts in how they impacted on the Irish Volunteers, IRA and National Army during Ireland's revolutionary period and the establishment of the Irish Defence Forces at the ending of the Civil War. With great personal insights, stories and quotes from that period in the Defence Forces history, for example:

"The Free State Army, unlike the armies of other British Commonwealth countries was not made up of lightly renamed versions of the old British regiments. On the contrary those regiments were proudly disbanded. The new Irish Army was actually a strange hybrid organisation of IRA veterans, British Army veterans and young, inexperienced and apolitical mercenaries from garrison towns who traditionally would have joined the British Army. In many areas it was organised virtually on IRA or public Band principals during the emergency period of the Civil War but rapidly showed signs of becoming a non-territorial, barrack based regular force of full time professional soldiers."

Tom Garvin, 1922: The Birth of Irish Democracy (2nd Ed., Dublin, 2005)

Author Michael Whelan has been a serving member of the Irish Air Corps for twenty-one years. He has served with the UN Peacekeeping forces in Lebanon and with the Peace Enforcement forces in Kosovo. He holds a Master of Arts Degree in Modern History from NUI Maynooth, and has been the curator of the Air Corps Museum and Heritage Project based in Casement Aerodrome for many years. He is also the author of *The Battle of Jadotville: Irish Soldiers in Combat in the Congo, 1961* also published by South Dublin Libraries in 2006 and is a regular contributor to *An Cosantóir*.

The book is available from South Dublin Libraries or by contacting Síle Coleman or Colette Carpenter at 01 4620073 or localstudies@sdblincoco.ie. It will shortly be available in ebook format from South Dublin Libraries Download Zone = digitallibrary.southdublin.ie.

■ THE FALL OF DUBLIN

Author: Liz Gillis

Publisher: Mercier Press (www.mercierpress.ie)

ISBN: 978-1-856356-80-0

Price: €12.99

In 1922, speaking during the Dáil debates on the Treaty with Britain, Piaras Beaslai said:

"One would think...That we were solemnly asked to choose between an independent republic and an associated Free State. What we are asked is to choose between the Treaty on one hand, and, on the other hand, bloodshed, political and social chaos, and the frustration of all our hopes of a national regeneration."

Within six months of these words being spoken, Ireland was plunged in to Civil War.

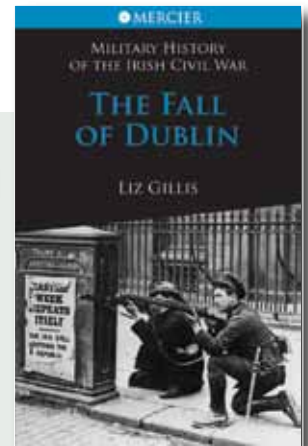
In her latest book *The Fall of Dublin*, historian Liz Gillis examines the attack on the Four Courts and the subsequent street fighting in Dublin city between June and July 1922. This compact history examines the military actions in Dublin city from the occupation of the Four Courts to the bitter struggle in and around O'Connell Street. It was these military actions that signalled the beginning of the Civil War that rapidly spread throughout the country.

Using privately held memoirs from people who participated and also Military History Bureau Statements, the author brings to life the actions that took place in the nation's capital. Beginning in January 1922, the author explains in simple terminology the complications of the split that occurred in the republican camp after the Treaty was signed. The book then moves onto the occupation of the Four Courts and the standoff that took place between April and June of 1922. The newly established Irish Free State army finally took action on 28 June 1922. The destruction of the Four Courts and the bitter street fighting that followed is described in horrific detail.

More importantly however is that Liz Gillis has opened up new avenues of thought about the fighting in Dublin and the effects of the fighting on the men and women who participated on both sides. The author has included a list of those that occupied the Four Courts, a copy of the Army Constitution and also the Republican Proclamation. Excellent photographs of the actions also contribute to bringing the scene of the battle to life. For those interested in the military background of the Irish Civil War in Dublin, this book is highly recommended. Told with verve and analytical vigour, Gillis's book is a compelling and authoritative study of one of Ireland's most tragic episodes.

Printed by Mercier Press as part of its *Military History of the Irish Civil War* series, *The Fall of Dublin* is a must read for those interested in the period.

Review by: Paul O'Brien M.A.



WHAT I DO

NAME

COLIN EVERITT

RANK

CORPORAL

UNIT

506 SQN, NO 5
SP WING

I joined the Defence Forces in 1988, trained in Dundalk with 27 Inf Bn, and on completion of my three-star training was posted to 29 Inf Bn, Cavan Bks.

After serving in an operational unit on the border during a busy period in the late '80s and early '90s and with three tours to Lebanon with 69, 74 and 79 Inf Bns, I decided on a change. I completed my Pot NCOs course in 1997 in CTD E and transferred to Gormanston Camp Company in Co Meath in 1998.

On completion of a Domestic Fire-Fighters course in 1999, I served with the Crash Recue Service based in Gormanston Camp. I again served overseas in 2000, this time in East Timor with 7 IRCON. When I came home, Gormanston was closing and I was posted to the Air Corps Fire Service in Baldonnell. In the same year I was sent to the UK to complete an Aviation Fire-Fighters course, and later, in 2002, to complete a Breathing Apparatus (BA) Instructors course, both with the RAF in Teeside.

I've also completed a Para Wings course, a Three-Star Medic course, and a Motor Transport (MT) Driving course.

In the Fire Service in addition to our regular MT drivers course we also have to do a conversion to crash rescue driving. We also undergo a wide variety of different types of rescue training.

The Fire Service provides 24-hour coverage at Baldonnell in 12-hour shifts, and as a corporal I'm a shift commander in charge of four or five crew members (the number varies according to the category of aircraft using the airfield during the shift).

As crew commander my day shift normally starts at 0730hrs when I take over the fire-fighting vehicles, checking their systems and the water/foam levels. I also ensure the crew check their BA and personal protective equipment (PPE).

I then get a brief from the previous night's crew commander before calling to the Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower to receive a brief on the day's expected activities, such as visiting aircraft, VIPs and, most importantly, if any aircraft will be armed. This is important to know as our tactics change if we are attending an armed aircraft; everything is affected, from the direction we approach to the position we park in relation to the aircraft. We also have to have everything planned in detail for dispatching the rapid deployment team, with each member given a dedicated task such as getting the pilot, or pilots out and making the armaments safe.

We also go off-base to provide cover whenever there is air firing or parachute training.

In my time here I've been involved in two major incidents, so you have to be aware coming on duty that anything can happen, and has happened. However, through our training at home and in the UK we keep up to date with the latest tactics and best practice out there. We also learn technical information about other aircraft that may visit, and in a fairly recent development we are now also trained in the proper techniques for preserving the scene of an incident for later investigation. ■





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