

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers Remembrance Ceremony

The Cenotaph, Whitehall, London: 1pm, 23 May 2007

Statement: *David Wardrop, Chairman, United Nations Association, Westminster Branch*

Prayer: *Revd. Donald Prentice, Former Senior United Nations Force Chaplain*

Period of silence

Wreaths will be laid on the North Face

IN MEMORY: COUNT FOLKE BERNADOTTE, 1st UN mediator

Count Folke Bernadotte

IN MEMORY: COMMANDANT RENÉ DE LABARRIÈRE, 1st UN fatality

General Philippe Stoltz

IN MEMORY: UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPERS FROM 113 NATIONS

Military *General Sir Richard Dannatt KCB CBE MC, Chief of the General Staff*

Police *Sir Ronnie Flanagan, GBE, QPM*

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary

Civilians *Sir Marrack Goulding, KCMG, former UN Under Secretary General*

Dame Margaret Anstee, DCMG, former UN Under Secretary General

Wreaths will be laid on the East, South and West faces

Albania *Col Z Dushku* **Andorra** *HE Mrs Maria Rosa Picart de Francis* **Australia** *Lt Col C Anderson* **Austria** *Brig-Gen M Durman* **Bangladesh** *Mr A Uddin* **Belarus** *HE Dr A Mikhnevich* **Belgium** *HE Mr J-M Veranneman de Watervliet* **Bosnia & Herzegovina** *Mrs E Hadzovic* **Brazil** *Mr Mauricio Favero* **Bulgaria** *Dr S Velev* **Cameroon** *Mr D Nyuydzewira* **Canada** *Lt-Col L Nickerson* **Chile** *Mr A Geiger* **China** *Lt Col Y Wang* **Cote D'Ivoire** *Col M Kone* **Cuba** *Mr J Hernandez* **Cyprus** *Mr D Hatziargyrou* **Czech Republic** *Col R Krejci* **Egypt** *Lt Col A Fouad* **El Salvador** *HE Mr V Villalta* **Finland** *Capt K Varsio* **France** *R Adm Y Tainguy* **Gabon** *Mr M Nze-Ekome* **Germany** *Mr W Schlichting* **Ghana** *Mr K Quartey* **Greece** *Capt M.Tsolekas* **Guatemala** *HE Mr E Urrutia* **Honduras** *HE Mr I Romero-Nasser* **Hungary** *Mr I Gyebuar* **India** *Brig R Yadav* **Ireland** *Mr D Hannon* **Italy** *Brig-Gen S Farina* **Japan** *Mr T Ishikawa* **Jordan** *Col Z Negresh* **Kazakhstan** *Col M Zhumatayev* **Kenya** *Col J Bukhala* **Korea** *Mr A Young-Jip* **Lesotho** *Mr C Masenyetse* **Luxembourg** *HE Mr J-L Wolzfeld* **Malawi** *Col H Odillo* **Malaysia** *Col M Alwi* **Malta** *Mr B Hamilton* **Moldova** *Ms T Parvu* **Mongolia** *Gantulga* **Togoo** **Mozambique** *HE Mr Antonio Gumende* **Namibia** *HE Mr G Liswaniso* **Nepal** *Col H Thapa* **Netherlands** *Col P Lambrichts* **New Zealand** *Brig P Southwell* **Nigeria** *Maj-Gen M Said* **Pakistan** *Capt N Zaman* **Philippines** *Mr R Catapang* **Poland** *Col K Szymanski* **Portugal** *Col J Ramos* **Romania** *Mr C Matache* **Russia** *Maj-Gen N Koval* **Senegal** *HE Gen M Niang* **Serbia** *Lt-Col B Milovanovic* **Singapore** *Mr G Sin* **Somalia** *Mr M Guled* **South Africa** *Col A Louw* **Sri Lanka** *Mr S Arachchi* **Saint Vincent & the Grenadines** *Mr M Charles* **Sweden** *Mr M Engström* **Trinidad & Tobago** *Lt-Col S Alfonso* **Turkey** *Mr A Ersan* **Ukraine** *Col V Havrylov* **United Arab Emirates** *Lt-Col G Aldhaeri* **United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland** *Mr St J Gould* **United States of America** *Lt-Col D Booth* **Zambia** *Mr D Sakala*

FOR THE WIDOWS OF UN PEACEKEEPERS: *Mrs Joyce Maxwell MBE*

FOR THE YOUTH OF THE WORLD

Pupils from the Westminster City School for Boys and the Greycoat Hospital School for Girls

Prayer: *Iman Azim Hafiz, Muslim Chaplain to the Armed Forces*

Statement *David Wardrop*

Depart A pupil from one of the schools will invite Count Bernadotte to close the ceremony. They will leave together, followed by the principal participants and representatives of the diplomatic community.

The Band of the Irish Guards will provide musical support during the ceremony.

The Westminster City School for Boys and the Greycoat Hospital School for Girls are located in the City of Westminster, close to Whitehall. Pupils from these schools will be serving as marshals. They will guide wreath-layers throughout the ceremony.

A Guide to today's ceremony to mark the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

United Nations peacekeepers: helping to bring failed States back to life.

Today, there are more than 83,000 UN peacekeeping troops including 10,000 police from 115 nations serving in 18 UN operations on four continents. They are joined by about 5,000 international civilians and more than 11,000 local civilian staff. Women peacekeepers serve in the military (1%), police (4%), international civilian staff (30%) and nationally recruited civilian staff (28%). The UN is the largest multilateral contributor to post-conflict stabilization worldwide. Only the US deploys more military personnel to the field. In 2005, UN peacekeeping operations involved 161,000 military and police personnel using 864 flights on 200 long-term charter aircraft, moving in all 700,000 passengers to various missions. In that year, the UN deployed 220 medical clinics and 21 military hospitals, all in the name of humanity.

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

A total of 2,337 peacekeepers from 113 nations have lost their lives in service. Of these, 95 were British. The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers was first observed on 29 May 2003, the date in 1948 when the first UN peacekeeping mission, its Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), began operations in Palestine. On this day, we pay tribute "to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in UN peacekeeping operations, as well as to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace."

The Dag Hammarskjöld Medal

The Medal is a posthumous award to members of UN peacekeeping operations who have lost their lives during peacekeeping service under the control and authority of the UN. The 3" x 2", clear glass crystal ellipsoid is grit blasted with the name and date of death of the recipient, the UN logo and the inscription "*The Dag Hammarskjöld Medal. In Service of Peace*" in English and French. Dag Hammarskjöld, UN Secretary-General (1953-1961) died in a plane crash while on a peace mission in the Congo.

Count Folke Bernadotte

Count Folke Bernadotte served as head of the Swedish Red Cross during World War II. In its final months, he led a Swedish relief expedition to Germany with his famous "white buses.", saving about 30,000 concentration camp prisoners, bringing them to Sweden. In 1948, he became the UN's first official mediator, in Palestine. He achieved a truce in the first Palestine war and set up the UN refugee relief organization. He proposed a political solution to the Palestine question but on 17 September, 1948, a few days before his plan was to be presented to the UN, he was assassinated in Jerusalem. At a meeting of the UN General Assembly in 1998, his family received the Dag Hammarskjöld medal. Today, the wreath to his memory will be laid by his elder son, Count Folke Bernadotte

Commandant René de Labarrière

The French officer, Commandant René de Labarrière, was the first peacekeeper to lose his life in a United Nations peacekeeping operation. He was serving as a Military Observer in the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) in Palestine when he was killed by a landmine on 6 July 1948. At the same meeting of the UN General Assembly in 1998, his family received his Dag Hammarskjöld medal. Today, the wreath to his memory will be laid by General Philippe Stoltz who until 4 April served as Chief of Staff, UNIFIL in Lebanon.

The Band of the Irish Guards

The Irish Guards were formed in 1900 upon the wish of HM Queen Victoria to mark the bravery of Irish Regiments in the South African campaigns. The Regimental Band, formed at that time, consisted initially of 35 musicians. Its first overseas tour to Canada in 1905 has been followed by visits to Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the USA and most of Europe. It was the first band ever to play in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. Today, the band's 49 musicians can arrange to play as a Concert, Dance or Marching Band or Salon Orchestra and it performed for the Queen's 80th Birthday Celebration in Windsor. All its musicians are trained to give support to the Army Medical Services. The Band appears with the kind agreement of Major S C Barnwell BBCM, psm, Director of Music

The United Nations Association in the UK

UNA-UK (www.una.org.uk) is the UK's leading independent authority on the UN. Independent of the UN system, we can be critical of its decisions and activities if needed and can call for its reform so that it is better equipped to fulfil its fundamental functions; to maintain international peace and security, to promote development and to uphold human rights around the world. Today's Peacekeepers Day conference and Cenotaph ceremony have been organised by its Westminster Branch. See www.unawestminster.org.uk