

# UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION-WESTMINSTER

## International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

### Remembrance Ceremony

The Cenotaph, Whitehall, London: 1pm, 31 May 2006

1250 The Band of the Welsh Guards takes position south of the Cenotaph.

1255 The Wreath-laying party takes position north of the Cenotaph.

All others attending the ceremony are invited to stand to the east and west of the Cenotaph, within the coned area.

1300 United Nations peacekeepers: *David Wardrop, Chairman, UNA Westminster Branch*

Prayer: *Revd. Donald Prentice, Army Chaplain*

The Band of the Welsh Guards will play during the wreath-laying ceremony.

IN MEMORY: COUNT FOLKE BERNADOTTE : first UN mediator, assassinated, 1948

*Wreath to be laid by Captain Bo Rask, Embassy of Sweden*

IN MEMORY: COMMANDANT RENÉ DE LABARRIÈRE : first UN peacekeeper to lose his life, 1948

*Wreath to be laid by Colonel Philippe Guidi, Embassy of France*

IN MEMORY: UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPERS FROM ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEEN NATIONS

MILITARY

POLICE

CIVILIANS

*WO1 (RSM) T Jacka Stefan Feller*

*Cornelis Steenken*

*Royal Marines*

*European Union Police Unit*

*Swedish National Defence College*

#### AFRICA

ALGERIA *Lt-Colonel Sid Ahmed Semane* CAMEROON *HE Samuel L Mbei*

COTE D'IVOIRE *HE Youssoufou Bamba* EGYPT *Mohamed El Molla* GABON *Medard Nze Ekome*

GHANA *Brig-General R Debrah* KENYA *Colonel J Bukhala* MOROCCO *Commander M Aboudihaj*

NAMIBIA *Titus Shikongo* SOUTH AFRICA *Staff Sgt. A Strauss*

KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND *HE Mary Madzandza Kanya*

#### AMERICAS

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA *HE Dr Carl Roberts* BRAZIL *Laudemar Aguiar* CANADA *Captain Norman Jolin*

EL SALVADOR *HE Vladimiro Villalta* PANAMA *Diana Chavez Centeno*

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO *Lt Colonel Sharon Alfonso* UNITED STATES *James Sindle*

#### ASIA

BANGLADESH *HE Sabihuddin Ahmed* CHINA *Colonel Yang Chauyung* INDIA *WO1 Hawa Singh*

JAPAN *Hideo Ishizuki* JORDAN *Brig-General T Tarawneh* KOREA *Whie Jin Lee*

MALAYSIA *HE Dato' A Aziz bin Mohammed* NEPAL *Colonel H Thapa*

PAKISTAN *Colonel R H Abbas Khan* PHILIPPINES *HE Edgardo Espiritu*

QATAR *Colonel Mohamed Al-Nuami* SAUDI ARABIA *HRH Prince Sultan Fahad Al-Saud*

SINGAPORE *Winston Goh* SRI LANKA *S S Ganegama Arachchi*

#### AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA *Lt Colonel A McWaters* FIJI *HE Emitai Boladuadua* NEW ZEALAND *Brig Paul Southwell*

#### EUROPE

ANDORRA *Maria Rosa Picart de Francis* AUSTRIA *HE Dr Gabriele Matzner-Holzer*

BELGIUM *HE Baron Thierry de Gruben* BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA *Dr Tanya Milasinovic*

CROATIA *HE Josip Paro* CYPRUS *HE Petros Eftychiou* CZECH REPUBLIC *Colonel Petr Miller*

FRANCE *Colonel Philippe Guidi* GERMANY *Max Maldacker* HUNGARY *Dr Istva'n Gyebna'r*

ITALY *R Admiral Sirio Lanfredini* MALTA *HE Dr Michael Refalo* NETHERLANDS *Captain M Wouters*

ROMANIA *HE.Dan Ghibernea* RUSSIA *Cdr Edward Belashev* SLOVENIA *Lt-Colonel Tomaz Okrslar*

SPAIN *Gonzalo Alvarez-Garrido* SWEDEN *Captain Bo Rask* TURKEY *Atilay Ersan*

UKRAINE *Colonel Volodymyk Havrylov*

THE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR POLICING, BRAMSHILL *Bryan Davies, Head of International Unit*

THE YOUTH OF THE WORLD *Marina Faggionato, UNA Youth & Students Association*

1325 Prayer: *Imam Qasim Rahid Ahmad*

1330 The band will play as the wreath-laying party departs

## **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 90,000 UN peacekeepers serving in 18 UN operations on four continents. They comprise 64,000 troops and military observers, 7,500 police personnel, 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%). 108 countries are contributing military and police personnel to UN peacekeeping, making the UN 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. The UN deployed 220 medical clinics and 21 military hospitals, all in the name of humanity.

### **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers**

More than 2,200 peacekeepers from 114 nations have lost their lives in service. Of these, 95 were British. The first International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers was observed on 29 May 2002, 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 the UN General Assembly in 1998, his family received the Dag Hammarskjöld medal.

### **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.

### **The Band of the Welsh Guards**

The Band of the Welsh Guards was formed in 1915, the same year as the Regiment. In recent years, it has visited Belgium, Egypt, Spain, Canada and the USA where, in January and February this year, it completed a fifty-five city tour. In October last year, the band played at the Prix de l'Arc De Triomphe at Longchamps, France and this week, it can be seen at the ceremony of Changing The Guard at Buckingham Palace. The band's Director of Music is Major David Cresswell, BBCM, psm and is playing today by kind permission of Colonel A J E Malcolm OBE.

### **The United Nations Association in the UK**

UNA-UK is the leading independent authority on the UN in the UK. Being independent of the UN system, we can be critical of its decisions and activities when we need to be and can call for the Organisation to be reformed so that it is better equipped to fulfill its fundamental functions which are 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](http://www.unawestminster.org.uk)