

**UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON  
(UNIFIL)**

Naqoura,  
19 August 2006

**PRESS RELEASE**

The process of Lebanese Army deployment inside the territory vacated by the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) continues, in accordance with Resolution 1701. It is conducted in close coordination and with the support of UNIFIL.

The Lebanese Armed Forces completed yesterday the process of deployment inside the territory vacated earlier by the IDF in the general areas of Cheeba, Hasbaiya, Kafer Chouba, Kafer Hamman, Rachaya, Hebbariye and Al Fradis.

The Israeli Army withdrawal and the deployment of the Lebanese Army shall continue in the coming days in accordance with the plan and timeline agreed during a trilateral meeting of the Force Commander UNIFIL and the senior representatives of the Lebanese and Israeli Army.

The cessation of hostilities was generally maintained in the past 24 hours. There were however reports of clashes in western Baalbeck area. Since in that area there is no presence of UNIFIL forces, UNIFIL cannot provide its own account of the incident.

UNIFIL observed yesterday three Israeli aircrafts violating Lebanese airspace in the central sector.

UNIFIL continued intensive ground and air patrolling throughout its area of operation to assess the situation on the ground and to monitor the cessation of hostilities.

UNIFIL de-mining team from the Chinese contingent carried out demolition of eighty cluster bombs and one artillery shell and cleared the road in the area of Al Hinniyah from unexploded ordnance. Mine Action Coordination Center (MACC) in areas of Yohmor, Shoukeen and Zawtar also conducted demining activities. Lebanese Army carried out demolition of anti-personal mines at Marun Al Ras area.

UNIFIL distributed water and food to villages of Srifa, Bint Jubayl and Ramayah.

UNIFIL was re-inforced today by the first elements of a French Engineering Company. Soldiers and engineering equipment arrived to UNIFIL through Naqoura port.