UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON (UNIFIL)

Naqoura, 21 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 Israeli Army withdrawal and the deployment of the Lebanese Army continue in accordance with the plan and timeline agreed during a third trilateral meeting of the Force Commander UNIFIL and the senior representatives of the Lebanese and Israeli Army, which took place yesterday in Ras Naqoura.

Yesterday, IDF withdrew from general areas of east-south and east-west of Bayt Yahoun and south along the road to Kunin. UNIFIL move into vacated areas early in the afternoon. Today, Lebanese Army shall take control over those areas.

The cessation of hostilities was maintained in the past 24 hours. There was however, four air violations by Israeli jets and drones recorded yesterday.

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 distributed drinking water and to villages of El Khiam, Houle, Ebel Es Saqi and Wadi Khansa. In total 35,000 liters of water was distributed.

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