



Press Release

ITALIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER VISITS ITALIAN PEACEKEEPERS

Tibnine, Lebanon (20 December 2006) – The Italian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Massimo D'Alema, today visited Italian peacekeepers serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The Deputy Prime Minister arrived this morning at Tibnine, where the Italian contingent led by the "Pozzuolo del Friuli" cavalry brigade, has its headquarters. He was greeted there by Brigadier-General Paolo Gerometta, the Italian commander and the senior officer responsible for Sector West in UNIFIL's area of operations.

Italian peacekeepers took part in a welcoming ceremony for the Deputy Prime Minister, after which he met senior officers who briefed him on the activities of the Italian peacekeepers.

The Deputy Prime Minister passed on to the peacekeepers the Italian Government's regards and wished them all a merry Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

For more information on the visit, please contact the Military Public Information Officer for the Italian contingent to UNIFIL: Captain Tommaso Magistretti, on +709 95620.