

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

Naqoura,
6 August 2006

PRESS RELEASE

Three members of the Chinese contingent with UNIFIL were lightly wounded this morning, when one mortar round from the Hezbollah side, according to UNIFIL's preliminary reports, impacted inside the Headquarters of the Chinese contingent in the area of Hinniyah in the western sector. They received medical assistance inside the position, and their condition is stable.

(Since the outbreak of hostilities, four military observers from OGL, one UNIFIL international staff member and his wife were killed, and four Ghanaian soldiers, three Indian soldiers, three Chinese soldiers and one OGL military observer were wounded as a result of firing.)

Heavy exchanges of fire continued unabated throughout the UNIFIL area of operation in the past 24 hours. Hezbollah fired rockets from various locations. The IDF continued intensive shelling and aerial bombardment across the south.

The IDF has maintained their presence and continue to operate inside Lebanese territory in the areas of Marwahin, Duhayra, Tayr Harfa, Ramyah, and Aytash Shab in the western sector. It seems that the IDF has further extended their presence in this sector to the north. Intensive shelling and ground exchanges were reported in the areas of Bayyadah on the Mediterranean coast, Mansuri, Tayr Harfa, and Majdel Zun, and aerial bombardment in Naqoura, during the night and this morning. It was also reported this morning that Israeli gunships were shelling the coastal areas north of Naqoura.

The IDF has reinforced their presence inside Lebanese territory in the general area of Marun Al Ras in the central sector. Intensive shelling and ground exchanges were reported this morning in the area south of Yarun in this sector.

The IDF has also maintained their presence and continued to operate inside Lebanese territory in the areas of Hula, Markaba and Kafr Kila in the central sector. Intense shelling continued in these areas, and exchanges on the ground took place especially around Markaba.

There were four incidents of firing from the Israeli side close to UNIFIL Headquarters in Naqoura, and positions in the general area of Bayt Yahun and Hula (2). There were three incidents of Hezbollah firing rockets from the vicinity of UNIFIL positions in the general area of Tibnin, At Tiri and Bayt

Yahun. UNIFIL strongly protested all these incidents to the Israeli and Lebanese authorities respectively.

All UNIFIL positions remain permanently occupied and maintained by the troops. Fourteen UN positions, including the Headquarters in Naqoura, are currently located in the areas where the IDF operates inside Lebanese territory and where intensive shelling and ground exchanges are taking place. UNIFIL dispatched one logistic convoy yesterday to re-supply some forward positions which were facing critical shortages of basic supplies.

UNIFIL Hospital in Naqoura provided medical treatment to two wounded Lebanese civilians from the village. UNIFIL also provided medical assistance to the internally displaced people in the village of Ibil as Saqi. UNIFIL provided water to the Hospital in Tibnin and to the village of Ibil As Saqi. UNIFIL dispatched three humanitarian convoys and distributed food donated by the Maronite Archbishop of Tyre and the French government to civilians in Dibil, Al Jibbain and Alma ash Shab villages in the western sector yesterday.