UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON  
(UNIFIL)  
Naqoura,  
15 August 2006  

PRESS RELEASE  

UNIFIL carried out intensive patrolling during the night and this  
morning throughout its area of operation to assess the situation on the  
ground and to monitor the cessation of hostilities.  

There were no reports of incidents or breaches of the agreement in the  
UNIFIL area of operations until 1300 hours today since the agreement on the  
cessation of hostilities came into effect yesterday morning. The parties have  
ceased firing into the territory of or at the other side, and there were no  
attempts to occupy any additional territory.  

The IDF has maintained their presence inside Lebanese territory in different  
areas. There were no significant changes in the position or strength of their  
forces.  

UNIFIL continued contact with both the Lebanese Army and the Israeli Army  
with a view to facilitating an early withdrawal of the Israeli Army and the  
deployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces in the south.  

UNIFIL made first assessments of the damage to the civilian infrastructure in  
the eastern part of the central sector of its area of operation. In the village of  
Tayyabah 80% of the civilian houses have been destroyed, 50% in the  
villages of Markaba and Qantarah, 30% in Mays al Jabal, 20% in Hula, and  
15% in Talusha. In addition, the bridge at Ain Arab, and the bridge over the  
Litani River in the area of Al Qusair have been completely destroyed.  

UNIFIL de-mining team from the Chinese contingent conducted controlled  
explosions of 36 unexploded ordinance in the general area of Kafr Kila, and  
two in the vicinity of the Ras Naqoura border crossing on the Mediterranean  
coast.  

The IDF handed over to UNIFIL one elderly Lebanese civilian at the Ras  
Naqoura crossing yesterday. This move was coordinated with the Lebanese  
authorities. UNIFIL handed them over to the Lebanese authorities.  

UNIFIL has been providing medical assistance and water to a number of local  
villages in its area of operations.