



China's Participation in UN Peace-keeping Operations and the Training of Peace-keepers

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I. Peace-keeping Operations


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I. Peace-keeping Operations: Historical events

- 1990.04** China dispatched 5 military observers to UNTSO. It is the first time that PLA be involved in UN peace-keeping missions.
- 1992.12** China dispatched an engineering contingent with 400 personnel. It was the first time that PLA send non-combat military unit to UN Peace-keeping Operations.
- 2001.12** The Peace-keeping Affairs Office under the Ministry of National Defense was established to coordinate and direct PLA's participation in UN Peace-keeping Operations.

I. Peace-keeping Operations: figures and facts

1990.04 - 2009.05 PLA has sent personnel to 18 UN Peace-keeping Operations Mission, including 12,763 officers and soldiers. The fatalities of PLA involved in UN peace keeping operations include 3 officers and 6 soldiers.



I. Peace-keeping Operations: figures and facts

PLA contingent in UNPKO


Serving overseas in UN Peace-keeping Operations: 1,849 PLA officers and soldiers, 1981 of them in 11 contingents deployed in 11 UN Mission Areas. They are in MONUC, 1 engineering contingent (175 persons), 1 medical unit (43 persons); in UNMIL, 1 engineering contingent (275 persons), 1 transportation contingent (240 persons), 1 medical contingent (43 persons); in UNFIL, 1 engineering contingent (275 persons), 1 medical unit (50 persons); in UNMIR, 1 engineering contingent (275 persons), 1 transportation contingent (100 persons), 1 medical contingent (60 persons); in UNAMID, 1 multi-function engineering contingent (315 persons).

I. Peace-keeping Operations: figures and facts

PLA MILOBs staff officers in UNPKO

PLA has 88 military observers and staff officers serving in 9 UN Peace-keeping Missions.

- In UNTSO: 4
- In MINURSO: 13
- In MONUC: 15
- In UNOCI: 7
- In UNMIL: 5
- In UNMIS: 21
- In UNFIL: 9
- In UNMIT: 2
- In UNAMID: 10



II. Peace-keeper Training

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Selection

The selection of UN peace-keepers in PLA is divided into 2 categories: the first is the selection of UN staff officers and military observers, the second is that of the military unit personnel.

- The selection of staff officers and military observers is conducted among all the PLA officers.
- They are recommended by respective military units and trained in the PLA Peace-keeping Center.
- Once qualified with the criteria of SO or MILOB, these peace-keepers-to-be are registered in the roll as qualified and available for the UN peace-keeping mission.

II. Peace-keeper Training

Selection

The selection of UN peace-keepers in PLA is divided into 2 categories: the first is the selection of UN staff officers and military observers, the second is that of the military unit personnel.

- The selection of military unit personnel is based on the PLA military units.
- The selected officers and soldiers, who must be excellent and professional, will be trained for 3 months in accordance with the UN requirement.
- Those who passed the final exam will get the peace-keeping opportunity.

II. Peace-keeper Training

MILOBs Training Program

The PLA has developed a scientific training system for UN peace-keepers, which is based on UN requirement and SOPs.

PLA has regular training program for would-be peace-keepers.

Each program has a three-month full time training, and is given once or twice annually.

The trainees receive a professional training in accordance with established UN criteria.

II. Peace-keeper Training

Training Curriculum

The would-be-peace-keepers will be trained to be fully prepared for the mission, and the curriculum of the training includes:

- General Introduction to UN Peace-keeping Operations
- UN Peace-keeping Guidelines
- UN peace-keeping mission background
- Diplomatic protocol and cross-culture communication
- Military commanding
- Physical training
- Security, mine awareness
- Psychological assistance, etc.

II. Peace-keeper Training

Lectures

To adapt the training to the updated UN mission, the program organizes lectures of experts on peace-keeping operations from foreign armies. Their topics include security, mine awareness and negotiation skills, to PLA.

III. Further Work



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Challenges & Opportunities

Comparing with most of the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs), PLA's participation in UN Peace-keeping Operations was not an early one.

The international situation is constantly changing, and the concept of UN Peace-keeping Operations has also developed to a new phase.

The PLA is willing to enhance the exchange and cooperation with UN, regional organizations and other countries, so as to do more contribution to world peace and stability.

