



# Module 3 Operational Framework for the United Nations Military Observers (UNMO)

# Module 3 Content

- 3.1 Basic UN Investigation and Verification Techniques
- 3.2 Liaison and Coordination
- 3.3 Negotiation and Mediation
- 3.4 Interviewing Techniques
- 3.5 Weapons, Vehicles, and Aircraft Recognition
- 3.6 Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)
- 3.7 Mines, Explosive Remnants of War, Improvised Explosive Devices and Crater Analysis
- 3.8 Use of Language Assistants
- 3.9 Media Relations
- 3.10 UNMO Reporting Procedures

## Module 3: Operational

### Lesson 3.1



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# Basic UN Investigation and Verification Techniques



# Lesson Content

- Definition of verification
- Phases of a verification / inspection
- Investigations
- Evidence
- Witnesses



# Learning Outcomes

- Explain the definition, aim and phases of the verification / inspection process in a UN peacekeeping operation
- Define and identify the types of investigative procedures



# Verification Definition



“The process of establishing the truth or validity of something”



## **Verification**

- Aim- mandate, agreement compliance
- Authority- mandate
- Scheduling a verification- regular or irregular basis according to agreements, SOPs



# Phases of Verification / Inspection

- Phase 1 : Planning, preparation and briefing
- Phase 2 : Execution
- Phase 3 : Debriefing and reporting





# Phase 1 : Planning, Preparation, Briefing



- Clarify aim and objectives
- Plan route, localities for visits
- Liaison Officer or interpreter
- Check vehicle and kit
- SOP, restrictions
- Information, intelligence
- IDs
- UN flag on vehicle



## Phase 2 : Execution

- Enter main entrance
- Count armaments according to agreement
- Cover entire area
- Continuous radio contact with HQ
- Log all figures
- All members sign file
- Ops Centre log reports on restrictions, incidents (“log-in time”)



## **Phase 2 : Execution** (cont)

- Never show to non-mission personnel
- Report facts only
- Be suspicious and cautious
- Be impartial, do not yield to pressure
- Observe road conditions, terrain, obstacles  
minefields



## Phase 3 : Debriefing and Reporting



Complete debriefing and patrol report  
immediately upon return from the mission



# Investigation

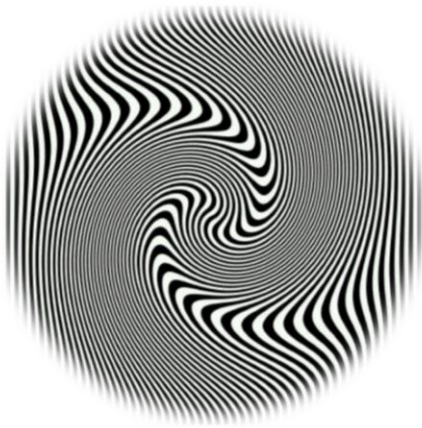


UNMOs may be required to be the initial investigating authority for an incident



# Investigation

Legal and analytical process to gather information to determine whether wrongdoing occurred and, if so, the persons or entities responsible



**FACTS**







# Types of Investigation

Firing violation

Construction upgrading

Entries in DMZ

Hostage-taking, hijacking, abductions or missing persons

Assaults / murders

Human rights violations





# Authority to Conduct Investigation



Stipulated in the Force agreement and mandate





# Preparation for Investigation

- Brief investigative team
- Aim of investigation
- Map reconnaissance
- Assemble required kit
- Collect and review pertinent information - intel
- Identify, contact other parties
- Review SOP, legal considerations
- Verify restrictions and need for interpreters
- Notify HQ of destination / intentions



# Investigation Procedure

- Maintain radio contact and reporting movement progress
- Recording all activity
- Upon arrival, isolating and protecting the scene
- Designate responsibilities for undertaking
- Attempt to determine what happened
- Draw conclusions based on facts



# Forms of Evidence



- Verbal
- Material
- Circumstantial





# Evidence Handling

- Record location
- Photos
- Do not disturb evidence
- Minimize number of persons handling
- Maintain a record / define continuity of evidence
- Scale of reference when taking photos
- Call legal assistance or directions if required





# Evidence handling



- Confirm identities
- Ascertain and record
- Separate witnesses to be interviewed
- Witness can become suspects
- Consider witness's motivation to talk
- If language assistant used, exercise caution
- Establish interpreter ground rules



# Evidence Assessment

- Compare notes
- Assess the credibility of witnesses
- Identify any corroborating information
- Identify any contradictory information
- Exercise caution in drawing conclusions
- Cross check different sources of evidences





## Lesson Take Away

- Planning, execution, debriefing and reporting are key elements of the investigation process
- Investigations can include: firing violations, construction upgrading, entries in DMZ, hostage-taking, hijacking, abductions, missing persons, assaults, murders, and human rights violations



# Questions