

The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre

Colonel Pat Stogran, M.Sc., C.D.

Vice President
Pearson Peacekeeping Centre
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
e-mail: pstogran@peaceoperations.org

Colonel Stogran attended Royal Roads Military College and graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada in 1980 with a degree in Electrical Engineering after which he was posted to the Third Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in Victoria. Colonel Stogran served with the Light Armoured Vehicle Project Office in Ottawa, the Canadian Airborne Regiment and the First Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry as a Mechanized Company Commander. He served in this capacity for three years during which time his company participated in training in dismounted operations in Norway, urban warfare in the United States, and mountain operations in the Rockies. This was followed by a yearlong secondment to the United Nations as a Military Observer in Bosnia. Colonel Stogran assumed command of 3 PPCLI in September 2000. The Battalion became the Immediate Reaction Force (Land) in April 2001 and deployed to Afghanistan on Operation APOLLO/ENDURING FREEDOM in February 2002. After returning from Afghanistan, Colonel Stogran was posted to National Defence Headquarters with the Land Staff and in April 04 was posted to Kingston as the Commander of the Canadian Forces Joint Operations Group. He joined the PPC on secondment in early 2006.

INTRODUCTION

The Lester B. Pearson International Peacekeeping Training Centre, commonly known as the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre (PPC), was founded in 1994 in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, Canada. Its role is to support the Government of Canada's commitment to international peace and security through research, education, training and institutional capacity building. With a world wide reputation in the field of peace operations, the centre has conducted a wide variety of courses at its campus in Nova Scotia. The subject matter of these courses has ranged from the core competencies required by military personnel, police and civilians who deploy to peace operations, to such highly specialized subjects such as Early Warning – Early Response, Human Rights, and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration.

PPC HEADQUARTERS IN OTTOWA AND A CAMPUS AT CORNWALLIS

In 2002 the Centre decided to transfer its corporate headquarters to Ottawa, Ontario, in order to establish a better link to its major funder, the Government of Canada. It remains committed to its Campus in Cornwallis Nova Scotia, and the Acadia Basin Conference Centre that has grown out of the existing infrastructure. Likewise, the Pearson Peacekeeping

Centre strives to uphold the legacy of that groundbreaking institution specializing in research, education and training in peacekeeping operations that emerged from that tiny hamlet in Nova Scotia.

In Cornwallis, the PPC conducts several serials a year of the United Nations Integrated Mission Staff Officer Course to a training audience comprised mainly of military officers from around the world. An eight week course, this course is intended to prepare international military personnel to fill key staff positions in UN integrated missions headquarters as well as to expose participants to issues of ethics, culture and gender in the context of peace operations.

Visits to Canadian Forces bases and the national capital, Ottawa, offers an opportunity for participants to study how a mature democracy embraces the rule of law and human rights, and highlights Canadian federalism, bilingualism and multiculturalism. Experiencing Canadian culture and values through hearty interactions during the course with local residents in rural Nova Scotia greatly enhances the defence- diplomacy aspect of the training. The first serial was conducted in the fall of 2006 with twenty six participants representing 19 nations. Three more are planned for the 06/07 fiscal year.

SENIOR MISSION LEADERS COURSE

On behalf of the Government of Canada, the PPC hosted a Senior Mission Leaders Course in Mach of 2006 in Gatineau, Quebec. Conducted by the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Integrated Training Service, the course provided standardized leadership for 60 military, civilian and police participants who have been designated as potential SRSGs, Force Commanders, Police Commissioners, and civilian authorities in UN integrated missions.

The objective of the course was to enhance the preparedness of leaders from United Nations Member States who contribute and participate in UN peacekeeping operations and to improve leadership effectiveness through common standards. A secondary advantage was the presence of experienced leaders such as former SRSGs, Force Commanders, Police Commissioners and civilian authorities who were designated mentors to the participants. The opportunity to share experiences, as well as network resulted in a potential group of leaders whose support system is greatly enhanced, and who will have a resource to draw on for comments and advice once they are in the mission headquarters.

BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

In recent years, the Centre has expanded its operational focus to include programmes overseas that build the institutional capacity of other organizations and institutes to contribute to peace operations. Examples of this initiative includes the assistance it has provided to the the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAITPC) in Ghana, the École de maintien de la paix (EMP), the École militaire d'administration and the École militaire inter-armes all located in Mali as well as the École d'état majeur de Libreville in Gabon and l'École de gendarmerie in Sénégal.

One of the PPC's largest program initiatives was aimed at building the capacity of countries in Francophone Africa to manage and resolve violent conflict. Through this program, education and training institutions in Francophone Africa increased their ability to strengthen peace operations which in turn enhanced the capacity of these countries to participate in peace operations and promote human security through reforms to national public security institutions. This program ended in March 2006.

THE KOFI ANNAN INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING TRAINING CENTRE (KA IPTC) CAPACITY-BUILDING PROJECT

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KA IPTC) Capacity-Building Project is directly targeted at improving the institutional capacity of the Centre to conduct training for students from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) representing francophone, anglophone, and lusophone communities. A new Statement of Intent signed with the Centre and agreement on a plan will contribute significantly to the overall objective. The Statement provides guidelines for future interactions and approaches to course delivery while the plan sets out how the two institutions will work toward building the KA IPTC's capacity to develop and deliver training material using problem-based learning methodologies and PPC course material.

In 2005-2006, KA IPTC staff and community members were trained in problem-based learning methodology and how to apply it through a two-day workshop delivered in early October. Participants acquired skills in preparation, team building and delivery, all of which significantly improved local capacity to deliver PPC courses. The PPC provided salary support for three junior researchers in the Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution Department. This increased capacity has helped keep KA IPTC personnel informed about current trends in peace operations. The PPC is currently working with the Department to improve its ability to contribute to course development.

PPC COURSES IN MALI, CAMEROON, AND GHANA

In 2005-2006, the PPC delivered 12 courses in Mali, Cameroon and Ghana providing over 320 participants with core competencies in peace operations.

- *In the Service of Peace* prepares primarily military, policy and gendarmerie to contribute effectively to peace operations by increasing their awareness of the complex dynamics affecting their working environment.
- *The Art of the Possible: Administration and Logistics in UN Peace Operations* prepares logistics officers to provide and coordinate logistical support to complex missions where the national infrastructure has collapsed and international and personnel must work closely together in a multidisciplinary and multicultural environment. In 2005-2006 two courses were delivered in Kenya and Ghana providing 65 individuals with detailed knowledge of national and United Nations logistics procedures, the capacity to manage logistic, financial, and contractual resources at all levels and an understanding

of the support relationships among the many organizations present in the mission area of operations.

- *Creating Common Ground: Negotiations for Peace Operations* course that provides individuals with essential skills for peace operations and applies problem-based learning was delivered at KAIPTC to 32 experienced military, police and civilians. Alternative dispute resolution practices were incorporated into the training for the first time adding significantly to the resources that participants can draw on in the field. Recognizing the importance of operating in multiple languages in Canada and abroad, the PPC delivered a specialized workshop for French and Spanish speaking Canadians to increase the roster of trained facilitators.
- *Training the Trainers for Peacebuilding* provided nine experienced practitioners in peace operations with knowledge on how to facilitate workshops in Early Warning–Early Response and Peace and Conflict Assessment methodologies. Fifteen participants from nine countries were trained in the delivery of Demobilization, disarmament and reintegration significantly increasing the capacity of training institutions in Francophone Africa.

Three documentation centres for peace operations currently exist in Mali, Senegal and Burkina Faso providing much needed resources for practitioners in this sub-region. To strengthen the capacities of these centres, the PPC conducted a sub-regional seminar that brought together staff for training in professional management and use of information and communications technology. Delivered in partnership with the Collège de Maisonneuve, this training improved substantially the centres' ability to provide timely, efficient access to information resources.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE COMMUNITY

A longtime proponent of an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach to peace operations, the PPC has paid greater attention in recent years to training and capacity building in the international police community, with programmes underway to build the capacity of police forces. At the heart of this initiative is a project aimed at strengthening West African ability to provide leadership to civilian police missions within peace operations. This includes establishing the strategic direction required for police contributing countries, engaging selected countries to strengthen the police capacity for leadership and increasing understanding by senior police officials of the critical issues and challenges associated with peace operations. In addition, the project encourages significant participation of senior police women in the planning process for peace operations.

Early in 2005-2006, four Senior Police Executive Seminars held in Ghana and Mali assisted participants from nine countries develop recommendations for the strategic direction that will guide their contributions to peace operations. A Program Implementation Plan was developed based on the results of these seminars, as well as consultations with Canadian and West Africa experts. As an initial step, two *In the Service of Peace: Police Core*

Competencies in Peace Operations courses were delivered at the KAIPTC to establish a foundation of knowledge. Recently, the PPC has developed a similar program to support the South African Police Force in their effort to enhance their ability to contribute to, lead and manage police operations in major peace operations missions.

UN DOCTRINE, AND MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS FOR PEACEKEEPING AND STABILITY AND RECONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS

The Centre continues to pursue research and development in areas such as gender integration on peace operations, working with UNDPKO in the review of UN doctrine, and measures of effectiveness for peacekeeping and stability and reconstruction operations. The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre maintains close relationships with a wide variety of international and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, as well as institutes with similar research interests such as the United States Institute of Peace and the US Army War College's Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute. It has expanded its research interests to include working with the US Joint Forces Command, NATO, NATO's Allied Command Transformation, as well as revitalizing its relationship with the Folke Bernadotte Academy in Sweden.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PEACEKEEPING TRAINING CENTRES (IAPTC)

In October 2006, the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (IAPTC) held its Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in New Delhi, India. Conference delegates explored issues related to cooperation and coordination in education and training while a number of operational issues were dealt with at the AGM.

The PPC's Chief Operations Officer, Superintendent Douglas Coates, was elected by acclamation as Chair of the Civilian Police Functional Committee. And after 10 years as Secretariat to the IAPTC, the PPC determined that it was time for another institution to take on this role. India's Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping rose to the challenge and responsibility was transferred at the Executive Committee Planning Meeting which took place in Santiago, Chile in March 2006.

THE PPC AND THE CORNWALLIS GROUP

One longstanding relationship of which the PPC is particularly proud is the one it maintains with a small group of visionary academics who, back in 1995, decided to use the Campus as the location for their annual retreat and conference focused on state-of-the-art peacekeeping theory and practice. Since then the Cornwallis Group has grown to international renown, continuing to lead the thought and praxis in contemporary stability and reconstruction operations. The PPC wishes to congratulate the Cornwallis Group on its highly successful retreat in Pennsylvania in 2006 and looks forward to continuing this valuable and rewarding partnership.