UNMISS “Protection of Civilians” (PoC) Sites

As of 11 February 2014, 75,078 civilians are seeking safety in UNMISS protection of civilians’ sites on 8 bases across the country: 43,324 in Juba, 21,568 in Malakal, 6,000 in Bor and 3,000 in Bentiu.
### Mine Action/UXO Clearance

- The UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has deployed a clearance team specialized in Unexploded ordnance (UXO) in Bor to support the Mission’s role in facilitating access. The team, which arrived on 5 February, was requested to ensure that compounds and buildings used by international stakeholders are free from explosive remnants of war and small arms ammunition removed.

- Four UNMAS teams are traveling to Bentiu by road to clear unexploded remnants of war in the capital as well as other areas in northern Unity State. The teams have different capacities, to clear UXOs, landmines, survey roads and provide risk education to affected population.

### Sniffers Dogs in South Sudan

- Eight explosive detection dogs have arrived in South Sudan to strengthen security within the protection of civilians sites in UNMISS compounds. The dogs were flown from Afghanistan and are currently undergoing training with UNMAS and UNMAS MineTech contractors to acclimatize to their new environment.

- Dogs will rotate and conduct periodic search exercises for contraband items. “The dogs will be primarily for the protection of civilians sites but we will also use them on the main gates both at UN house and Tomping compound. The dogs will also be flown to other areas like Bentiu and Malakal when needed,” said Robert Thompson, the UNMAS Chief of Operations.
Most of the dogs are water cocker spaniels originally from South Africa and Labradors. They are on average three years old and have undertaken specialized training for three months before their deployment. The dogs will be in South Sudan until the end of June.

For more on UNIFEED TV:  
http://www.unmultimedia.org/tv/unifeed/2014/02/south-sudan-sniffer-dogs/

For more on the website:  

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**Security Measures Around Protection of Civilians Sites**

- On Monday 10th and Wednesday 12th February, the South Sudan National Police Service conducted operations outside the UNMISS compound in Tomping, Juba, including next to the Western Gate at the entrance of the protection of civilians’ site. The objective of the operations was to establish a secure environment around the site, search for weapons, dismantle sale stands and liquor bars involved in illegal activity and take care of vehicles that could have become a security threat.

- Operations were led by the South Sudanese Police with the support of over 50 UN Police officers. The Mayor of Juba and the State Police Commissioner of Central Equatoria State were
also involved. However, at no point did South Sudan government troops surround the UNMISS compound, and neither was the SPLA involved in the operation.

- The Western Gate is now cleared and private vehicles have been taken by SSNPS Traffic Police for further verification. A number of military uniforms, some ammunition as well as knives and machetes have been seized by South Sudanese Police.

- Further operations are planned to address security related concerns around the protection sites. They will also be led by the SSNPS and coordinated with UN Police.

For more on the website:

SSNPS supported by UNPOL searching outside UNMISS protection of civilians site (Unmiss: Ghideon Musa)

**Statement Attributable To The Spokesperson For The UN Secretary-General On South Sudan** - (12/01/14)

- The Secretary-General welcomes the start of the South Sudan political talks in Addis Ababa between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation
Movement/Army (SPLM/A) in opposition, under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). The Secretary-General reiterates the importance of national political dialogue, with the participation of all South Sudanese political and civil society representatives, including all senior SPLM detainees.

- The Secretary-General notes with deep concern the reports of ongoing fighting and skirmishes in parts of Unity and Upper Nile States. He reiterates the necessity for the parties to implement fully the Agreements on Cessation of Hostilities and on the Status of Detainees signed on 23 January, and to cooperate fully with the IGAD Monitoring and Verification Mechanism, which the United Nations stands ready to support. The Secretary-General also calls on all parties to respect the lifesaving work and ensure unhindered freedom of movement of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and of all humanitarian workers.

- The Secretary-General condemns the use in the South Sudan conflict of cluster bombs, remnants of which were found last week by the United Nations Mine Action Service, on the Juba-Bor road, Jonglei State

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UNMISS will be providing an update on figures and the Mission’s activities on its PoC sites twice a week.