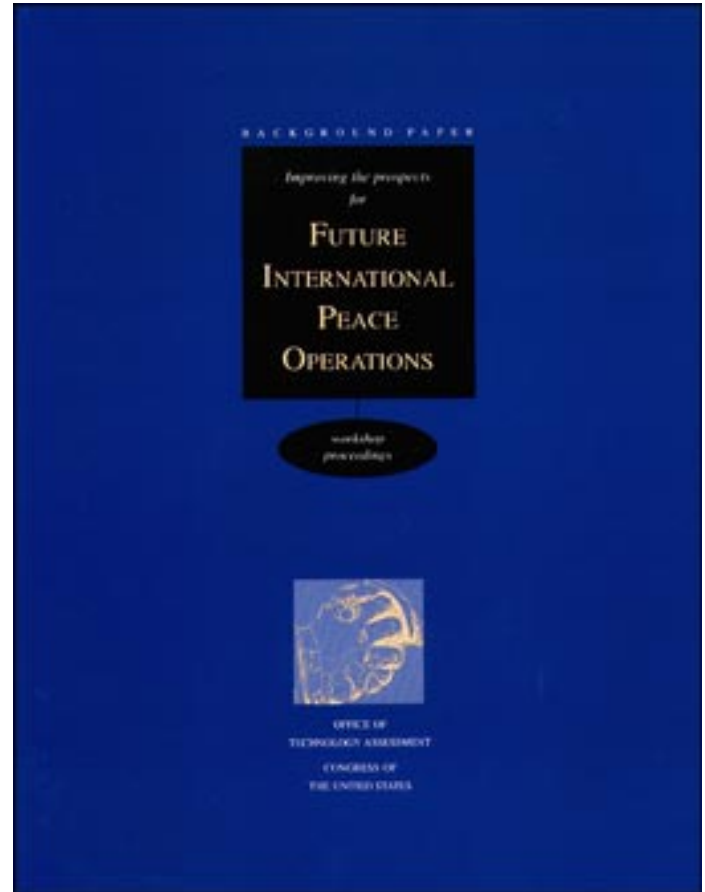


*Improving the Prospects for Future
International Peace Operations: Workshop
Proceedings*

September 1995



Recommended Citation: U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, *Improving the Prospects for Future International Peace Operations—Workshop Proceedings*, OTA-BP-ISS-167 (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, September 1995).

Foreword

The years following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the consequent end of the Cold War have seen a rapid expansion in both the number and scope of international peace operations. Most of these endeavors have been carried out under the aegis of the United Nations, although there are some notable exceptions. Many of these operations have been of the traditional peacekeeping type, in which a truce, to which all parties agree, is maintained by the international force whose presence is accepted by all sides (e.g., Cyprus, Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai). However, there has been an increasing tendency of these operations to go well beyond this traditional mold. In these operations, there may be an inclination for the international force to be caught up in processes that go well beyond maintaining a cease-fire or promoting a peace settlement. Unfortunately, as the scope of these interventions has increased, the United Nations has been unable to keep up with all the demands that they present. Severe setbacks in Somalia and Bosnia have demonstrated glaring weaknesses in its responses. Difficulties have been in part due to a scarcity of resources and a major increase in the number of operations to deal with. But another overriding problem has been an incoherence of organization, planning, doctrine, and policy on the part of the international body.

In 1994, the Office of Technology Assessment was asked by the House Armed Services Committee and by members of the Senate Armed Services Committee to examine the role that technology could play in improving the prospects for international peace operations. In June 1995, OTA convened a workshop that brought together some of the world's leading practitioners, academic experts, experienced diplomats, and leading technologists in order to study and discuss this issue.

This report contains a summary of the results of the workshop, along with the original papers presented. The chief conclusions are that the main problems with past peace operations have been political in nature. The participants suggested a number of means to deal with these issues, which are reported here, with the understanding that they reflect not OTA conclusions, but a consensus among these individuals. Further, most participants agreed that, although political and policy issues play a primary role in determining the performance of peace operations, the proper application of technologies, both new and old, can add significantly to the prospects of success for an operation, should one be initiated. Technological contributions can be made in the areas of sensors (especially for monitoring in the more traditional types of peacekeeping operations), intelligence gathering, communications, data fusion, countersniping technologies, mine clearance, and crowd control. Some technologies are well in hand, and others are being rapidly developed and may be available in a very few years. The use of several options among the less-than-lethal weapon categories may be quite effective, but will require some consideration of policy issues to determine a) compatibility with current or future international treaties and b) the vulnerability of U.S. forces to such weapons, if used against them.



ROGER C. HERDMAN
Director

Workshop Participants

M. Gen. John O. B. Sewall,
USA, (ret.)
Chairman
Deputy Director
Institute for Strategic Studies
National Defense University

Juergen Altmann
Professor
Institut Für
Experimentalphysik III
Ruhr-Universitaet
Bochum, Germany

Gilles Courregelongue
Defense Conseil International
Paris, France

Milton Finger
Deputy Assistant Director
Lawrence Livermore National
Laboratory

Scott Gudgeon
Deputy Director
Multinational Force and
Observers—Sinai
Rome, Italy

Virginia Gamba
United Nations Institute of
Disarmament Research
Geneva, Switzerland

Lt. Col. Damien Healy
Staff Officer
Ministry of Defence
Australia

Adm. Jonathan Howe, USN
(ret.)
Associate Director
Arthur Vining Davis
Foundation

Dennis McLean
U.S. Institute of Peace

Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar,
Indian Army, (ret.)
Uttar Pradesh, India

**General Sir David
Ramsbotham, GCB CBE**
British Army, (ret.)
London, United Kingdom

Lt. Col. Alan Roland-Price
Land Warfare Directorate
Ministry of Defence
United Kingdom

Steve Simon
National Security Council

Brig. Gen. Tryggve Tellesfen
Norway Defence Command
Oslo, Norway

Susan Woodward
Senior Fellow
Brookings Institution

Gerald Yonas
Vice President
Sandia National Laboratories

Prof. Mario Zucconi
Centro Studi di Politica
Internazionale
Rome, Italy
&
University of Urbino
Urbino, Italy

Project Staff

Peter Blair
Assistant Director, OTA
Energy, Materials, and
International Security
Division

Alan Shaw
Program Director
International Security and
Space

Anthony Fainberg
Project Director

Dean Cheng
Analyst

Xavier Maruyama
Detaillee

CONTRACTORS

Alex Glikzman

Ivars Gutmanis

Lafayette Group

Thomas Neill

Mimi Turnbull

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Jacqueline R. Boykin

Nathaniel E. Lewis

Donald Gallagher