





# “CHALLENGES IN THE FIELD”

## Through the Lenses of the Sector Commander of the Force



by  
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"Peace is absolutely necessary for the protection of the existence of mankind. The hopes and aspirations of all men and women in the world are embodied in this peace.

**Peace can never be sustainable if not based on justice."**

**25 September 1974  
29<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly**

**BANGABANDHU Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**  
Father of the Nation





# Introduction



- **BD Army lost 129 peacekeepers in last three decades**





# IED INCIDENTS



## MINE EXPLOSION AT BOHONG ON 31 December 2021





# IED INCIDENTS



## MINE EXPLOSION AT BOHONG ON 31 December 2021





# IED INCIDENTS



## MINE/IED EXPLOSION AT KOUI ON 03 OCT 2022







# IED INCIDENTS



## MINE/IED EXPLOSION AT KOUI ON 03 OCT 2022







Early  
Identification or  
detection

Remote  
Disposal

Rescue the  
injured

High End  
Surveillance  
Device

Mine  
Resistant  
Vehicle

# HOW TECHNOLOGY COULD HELP







# Understanding Peacekeeping

## Noble Effort

Somebody executed for  
punished for the humanity  
effect



# Understanding Peacekeeping

## Concerted Noble Effort

Collective approach with the theme of partnership, cooperation, shared values, unity and respect for diversity

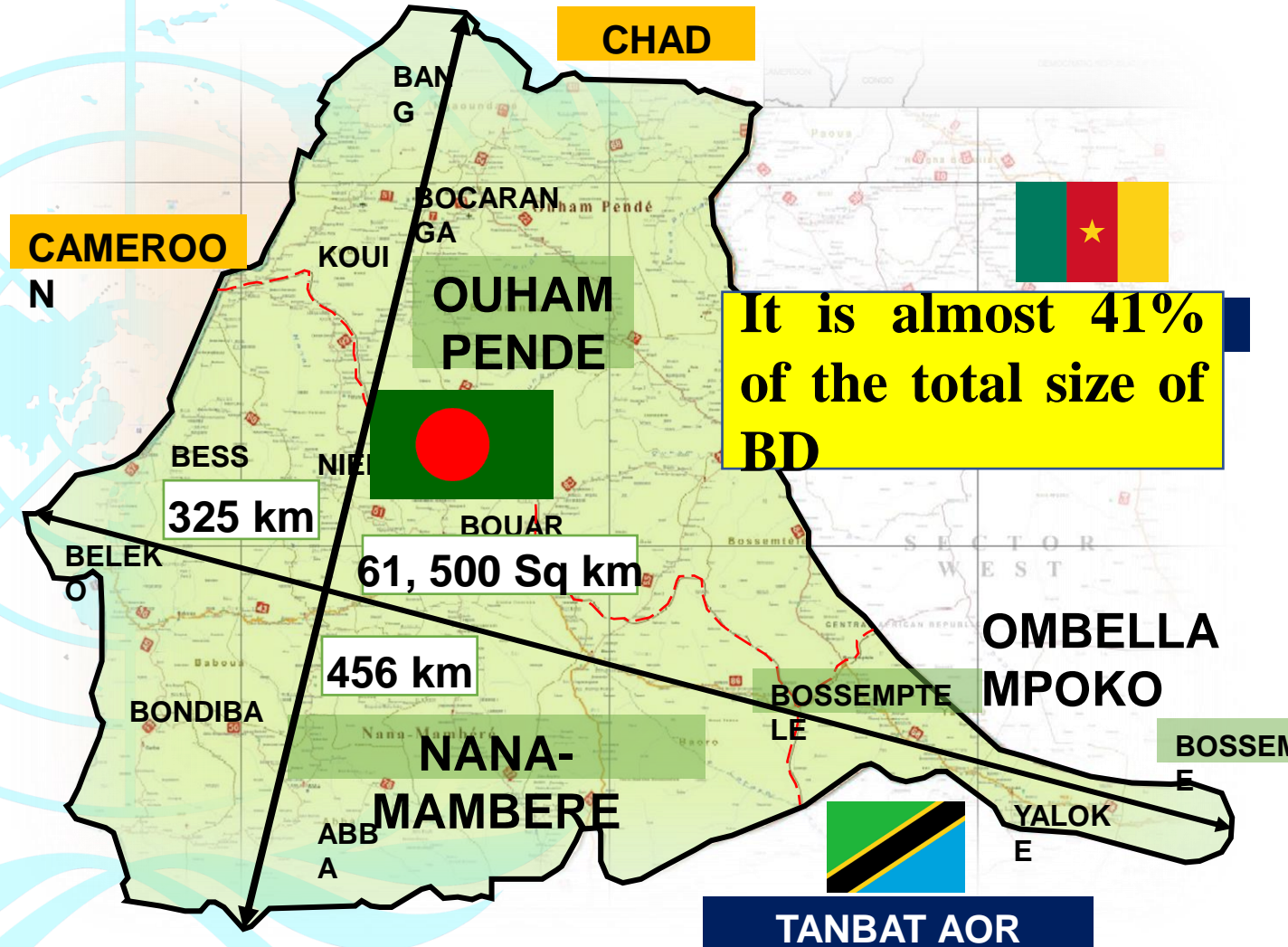




# Mismatch between task and concept/resources



- Infantry Battalion guards **61,500 Square Km** area
- Surveillance over such a large area cannot be performed by mere patrolling







**The ability to timely respond is severely restricted**



# The 'Enigma of Arrival'

'A wonderful book in the original sense of the adjective –  
a magical book' *Independent*

**V. S. NAIPAUL**

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

THE ENIGMA OF ARRIVAL

- Military components get rotated on a yearly or 6-monthly-basis
- The civilian component reserves a greater and matured institutional memory



# The Paradox: Obligated Commitment Vs Good Faith Engagement



- For the most part, the PKO is a good faith engagement for the noble cause. This could work well with the rational actors. But the armed groups are no more behaving rationally these days
- Ethical Dilemma, paradox of choice prevails
- Can technology help us segregating and separating pure civilians ? Could there be a method of screening and identification ?





# The Idealist Procrastination



- UN rules and procedures are very formatted. The employees don't take risks.
- UN efforts significantly suffer from procrastination

- Sometimes the set process and procedures take a lot of time to materialize



# COE Rotation List



MSN NAME	DEPL	DUE FOR ROTATION	Remarks
BANENGR UNMISS	2012	2019	Completed 2022
BANSIG-10 (MALI)	2012	2019	<b>Dt of Rotation yet to be confirmed by UN</b>
BANENGR-8 (MALI)	2014	2021	
BANBAT-8 (MALI)	2014	2021	
BANBAT-8 (CAR)	2014	2021	



# The Out of Focus Error & Non Synergy



- Could we have a kind of UN Institution where MSOs and Commanders could first be trained on common platform and then let them get deployed? Could there be a more supportive rotation schedule?





# Chapter VII

## Mission: Rhetoric?

- Conceptual Dichotomy
- Hesitation
- Mindset of 'shoot to kill' absent
- Some armed groups are in the process of peace negotiation





# ‘Overindulgence’ of Efforts



**Could be  
minimized  
by a  
resource-  
sharing  
approach !**





# ‘Overindulgence’ of Efforts

- BANSIG MINUSMA Container Carrier ran **only 70 Km** round the year and UNHQ proposed to excl
- UNHQ proposed similar Flat Bed for BANBAT-9 MINUSMA





# How Tech will be useful





Cause	Effect	What technology can do
Bureaucratic and formatted approach while dealing with grey areas	Inertia	Can crystalize to have clearer picture by greater info gathering ability
Gap of institutional knowledge between civilian and military component	Incoherent operation	Joint training, integrated training on constructive simulation
Disproportionate employment of assets against on-ground requirement	Inefficiency, reactive approach, leaving initiative to opponents	Greater mobility and surveillance capability, greater reach to overcome the deficiency





# Conclusion

- Every component in the UN works based on individual styles, practices, cultures and perception of limitation
- The core working philosophy is more protective/defensive than resolute/ insistent.
- The local armed groups enjoy acclimatisation upper hand.
- Very important to acknowledge that peace cannot be achieved by military instrument alone.



**Technology**  
**is not a**  
**cure-all for**  
**PKO !**



# Afterthoughts

The **Long Walk to Freedom**, as said by Nelson Mandela, has to be made by climbing succeeding hills. Important is to connect with the fateful people in the areas of violence, understand the **alpha and omega** of their existence, and gain confidence.



LONG WALK  
to FREEDOM

'A tale of anger and sorrow,  
love and joy, grace and elegance'  
*Daily News*



NELSON  
MANDELA

