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# Support Mission Task Force Kizi Konga XXXVII-H-Minusca at the UN Peace Mission in the Central African Republic

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#### Abstract

This study aims to analyze the Support Mission of the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force on Peace Missions in the Central African Republic. Using a descriptive qualitative approach and interviews as data collection methods, this study found that the implementation of support missions in Peace Missions in the Central African Republic were construction engineering, explosives disposal, and CIMIC

Keywords: Support Mission, Engineers, Central African Republic



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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Since gaining independence from France in 1960, nearly all transitions of power in the Central African Republic have been by way of coups. As a result, this country whose capital is Bangui has never been free from conflict. (Alunaza & Sherin, 2018) In 2014, UN Security Council Resolution 2149 commissioned the Multidimentional Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) to replace the previous peacekeeping mission, the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) to stop the conflict in the country. One of the contributing countries to MINUSCA is Indonesia through the Garuda Contingent Engineer Company Task Force (Kizi Konga Task Force). In the 2021-2021 period, Indonesia sent the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force.

The study of conflict and peace has experienced rapid development in the academic world in the 21st century. (Dar, 2015) However, the focus of scientific research in the field of engineering (engineering militay) in relation to conflict and peace is still very minimal. Whereas the function of engineers in peace missions is not only limited to support. (Burbridge, 2016) Zeni has demonstrated its significance for achieving the success of UN Peacekeeping Operations. A combination of military, civilian and commercial capabilities to accomplish many tasks is urgently needed in the early to late stages of UN peace missions. (Boutellis & Smith, 2014)

There are several studies that analyze engineering in peace missions. For example, Sriyanto (2012) examines the capabilities of peacekeepers in dealing with multidimensional threats in the Republic of the Congo. Even though they were both researching the engineering troops, Sriyato observed the preparation of the troops before they departed, while this research will analyze the work that has been done. Furthermore, the thesis of Maj D.J. Burbridge (2022) at the Canadian Forces College analyzes the role of engineers holistically, from a military, civil and commercial perspective. universal engineering force, while this study focuses on an organization as a unit of analysis.

As an analytical knife, this study will use the concept of support mission. Since the end of the Cold War, the basic concept of UN Peacekeeping has undergone conceptual and practical changes. During the Cold War, peace operations were carried out under the principles of impartial and non-coercive intervention with the consent of the parties to the conflict. Furthermore, after the Cold War, where the dominant conflict was internal conflict, peacekeeping was demanded to be able to carry out more complex and dynamic missions. (Hansen, Ramsbotham & Woodhouse, 2017).

In a complex and dimensional mission, this Support Mission is authorized to use military force at a tactical level. This is usually within a limited period of time and geographical limitations to provide support for the implementation of the overall mission as a whole, including securing the political process, protecting civil society, to supporting local authorities in guaranteeing law and public order. Thus the main objective of deploying military force in a peace mission as previously explained is not to defeat the warring actors, but to succeed the mandate without taking sides. (Sousa & Oliveira, 2021)

Based on the concept offered by Sousa Sousa & Oliveira (2021) above, the indicator that will be used in this study is the mandate of the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H MINUSCA Task Force. The mandates given to this task force include:

- 1. Has the main task of carrying out vertical and horizontal construction work;
- 2. Have the ability to provide minor engineering assistance, for example assistance with cranes, forklifts, engineering assistance in field practice as well as 2D and 3D designs in each building layout model;
- 3. Have the ability to overcome Counter Improvised Explosive Devices/Improvised Explosive Devices Disposal (CIED/IEDD) threats in the Area of Responsibility (AoR) to support MINUSCA activities in the framework of carrying out peace missions in the Central African Republic; And
- 4. Has other duties to carry out CIMIC Civil-Military Coordination activities in order to support MINUSCA's main mandate in the field of protection of civil society and in order to win the hearts and sympathy of the people and carry out other engineering assistance in the form of supporting MINUSCA troop mobilization and Minor Engineering works to smooth the mission. (Report on Retired Task Force Kizi TNI KONGA XXXVII-MINUSCA, 2022)

From the tasks based on the mandate given to the TNI KONGA XXXVII- MINUSCA Task Force above, they became 4, namely Construction, Engineering Minor Assistance, Explosives Disposal (Jihandak), and Minusca Main Mandate. Observing the complexity of the dynamics in the mission area that was described earlier, it is certainly not easy to do multidimensional in it. Thus, it is important to analyze how to support the mission of the Indonesian National Army Kizi Task Force KONGA XXXVII- MINUSCA in the UN Peace Mission in the Central African Republic Conflict.

#### **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research will use a descriptive qualitative research method. Descriptive qualitative research is a research design that produces research products in the form of written or oral data from observed phenomena or individuals. A descriptive qualitative approach can identify problems in society and the procedures that apply, as well as certain conditions in society, including the relationship of activities, attitudes, actions and processes that are taking place and the influence of these phenomena. (Moleong, 2016)

Data collection methods used are interviews, observation and literature study. The informant selection technique was carried out using a purposive approach. The informants in this study are:

- 1. Brigadier General Heru Langlang Buana, S.Ip., M.Si, PMPP Deputy Commander (Wadan),
- 2. SCA Lt Col Czi. Angga Wijaya, Commander of the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINU Task Force

- 3. Major Adm Lukman Hadi Irawan, Pabanda Ready Oplugri
- 4. Prairie Maharwati, Coordinator of the International Peace and Security Function, Directorate General of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The data processing method used in this research is the Interactive Model of Data Analysis by Miles, Huberman, & Saldana (2014). Miles, Huberman, & Saldana's (2014) interactive model is: data collection, data condensation, data display, verification and conclusion.

## RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION Research Result

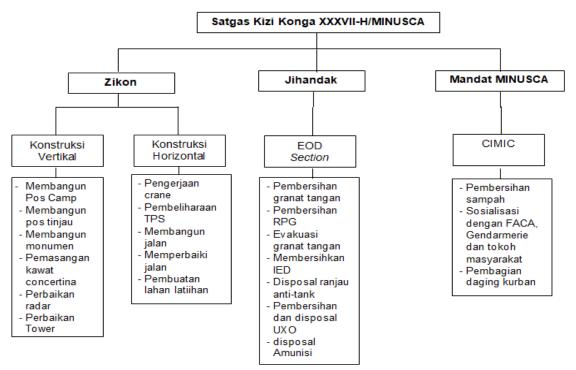


Chart 1. Support Mission of Task Force Kizi Konga XXXVII-H MINUSCA at the UN Peace Mission in the Central African Republic

Chart 1 above shows the support mission of the Kizi Konga XXXVII-MINUSCA Task Force on the Peace Mission in the Central African Republic. In general, it can be understood that the Kizi Konga XXXVII-MINUSCA Task Force has 3 main functions, namely Construction Engineering (Zikon) which can be divided into Vertical Construction and Horizontal Construction. The analysis of each of these functions will be explained below:

#### **Discussion**

As has been explained on the theoretical basis that Sousa & Oliveira (2021) defines a support mission as a role in succeeding the mandate in a peace mission without taking sides. the mandate given by the United Nations is vertical and horizontal construction work. In addition, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force is also required to be able to provide minor engineering assistance such as crane assistance, forklifts, and engineering assistance in carrying out missions in the field, so that they are required to have 2D and 3D design skills in construction modeling. Furthermore, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force is also

required to have Counter-Improvised Explosive Device/Improvised Explosive Device-Disposal (CIDD/IEDD) capabilities. Apart from that, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force was also tasked with carrying out CIMIC as a manifestation of the main mandate of MINUSCA (Kizi Task Force XXXVII-H MINUSCA Retired Report).

As a manifestation of this mandate, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force, which began serving on November 8 2021-November 8 2022, generally in the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H MINUSCA Task Force Report, has completed 147 works divided into 122 horizontal construction work items (including engineering minor assistance), 8 vertical construction items, and 10 CIMIC activities. (Report of Task Force Kizi XXXVII-H MINUSCA).

Of the 122 jobs that were selected in the field of Horizontal Construction, the majority were minor engineering assistance jobs such as crane work and assistance, such as for Shifting Incinerator at CWH M'Poko (Figure 1), front loader assistance (Figure 4.6), and other Minor Engineering for smooth running of the mission. Not only that, the Task Force has also completed several horizontal construction works such as land clearing, for example in the Nola West Sector on March 1, 2022 (Figure 4.7), Trench and embankment work in Carnot. (Fig. 4.8)



Figure 1. Crane Work for Shifting Incinerator at CWH M'Poko



Figure 2. Backhoe Loader for Digging a Septic Tank Immersion Hole in the M'Poko Green Field



Figure 3. Land Clearing in the West Sector of Nola



Figure 4. Trench and Embankment Work at Carnot

In addition to the assistance of cranes and backhoe loaders, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force has also carried out other minor engineering work such as work and assistance with forklifts, dump trucks, loaders, grreaders, excavators, fork lifters, etc. For horizontal construction, apart from land clearing and concertina improvement, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force has also carried out road access improvements, laterite backfilling, leveling and compaction, ditching and embankment construction, airport expansion, WWTP installation, TPS cleaning, cutting grass lines., river cleaning, etc.

From the explanation above, vertical construction can be interpreted as the work of building facilities and infrastructure on land parcels without adding building objects on it. In other words, only improving, modifying or perfecting the land surface for certain activities. In addition, there are contributions or works that are of a vertical construction nature. If previously construction was horizontal without adding building objects on it, vertical construction can be interpreted as a work to build, repair, change or modify the means of objects on the plot of land. The shape of the object can be a building, wall or monument.

In this context, the Kizi Konga Task Force XXXVII-H/MINUSCA has carried out several works such as repairing the Bangui Ngaragba prison post on April 5 2022, concertina wire

installation in several places, such as the SRSG residence on May 13 2022, at Tunav Camp in M'Poko on 2-6 August 2022 (Picture 5), UCATEX on 17 March-7 September 2022. In addition, the Task Force also repaired the radar at the M'Poko Warhouse, repaired the tower location at the PK 4 warehouse, and built an FC garage at UCATEX on 22 -24 September 2022. (Fig. 6)



Figure 5. Installation of Concertina Wire at Tunav Camp in M'Poko



Figure 6. Construction of an FC garage at UCATEX

Apart from contributing in the form of construction work, the Kizi Konga 37-H MINUSCA Task Force also made a major contribution in the field of EOD. EOD-related works carried out included hand grenade evacuation, cleaning of areas suspected of being a mine/IED threat in the West Sector, identification of anti-tank mines in Binawayo village, disposal of anti-tank mines in Binawayo village, cleaning and disposal of 3 UXO in Boali, identification, evacuation and disposal of hand grenades in Lambi village in Boali, Disposal of expired ammunition and 2 UXO containers at the Kassai shooting range in Bangui.

In addition, the Kizi Konga XXXVII-H/MINUSCA Task Force also contributed to the CIMIC sector, including cleaning up waste in the cities of Bangui and Kolongo, socializing with FACA, Gendarmerie and community leaders in Berberati, socializing with community leaders in Amada/Gaza, distributing water clean to the villagers of Ngalabadja Bangui, to the distribution of sacrificial meat to the villagers of Damala Bangui.

#### CONCLUSION

The support mission of the Kizi Task Force XXXVII-H/MINUSCA in the World Peace Mission in the Central African Republic is broadly realized through 3 main forms, namely

zikon, Jihandak, and CIMIC. This can be interpreted from 2 points of view, firstly the importance of the support mission of the engineering unit in the UN peacekeeping mission; Second, the Kizi Task Force XXXVII-H/MINUSCA contributed greatly to peace in the Central African Republic in general, and the UN Peace Mission in Central Africa in particular.

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