



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Irish Regiment of Canada

Lieutenant Colonel John Valtonen

15 September 2005



# Key Points

- Why the Irish Regiment and why is it in Sudbury ?
- The Irish Regiments role in the Canadian Forces
- Army Transformation
- Current Regimental Training
- Freedom of the City -1983



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion

# The Irish Regiment of Canada

- LIGHT INFANTRY RESERVE UNIT -PRIMARY RESERVE COMPONENT OF CANADIAN FORCES
- 1 of nearly 40 Reserve units in Ontario
- Total of 15,500 Reservists
- EFFECTIVE STRENGTH: 90 personnel
- ANNUAL BUDGET: Avg \$900,000
- RECRUITS: Avg 30 personnel enrolled annually
- AGE: 16-60



# Mission

*The 2nd Battalion Irish Regiment of Canada will proactively attract and train citizens in order to generate and retain Professional Army Reserve soldiers to support tasks in domestic and international operations.*



# Vision

*To instill confidence, pride and public awareness with the Northern communities we serve and our Canadian Forces Defence Team partners, demonstrating that we are a distinguished professional Army Reserve Unit.*

## Regimental Motto

***FIOR GO BAS – FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH***



# Army Reserves in Sudbury

- The Irish Regiment was formed in 1915 in Toronto and was known as the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Irish Regiment.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn served with distinction through WWI and WWII distinguishing itself with 23 Battle Honours for campaigns through Italy and Northwest Europe.



- After settling into a peacetime routine of training, the Irish Regiment were slated for removal from the Order of Battle in 1965
- Through great efforts by Regimental members and friends, the unit survived by transferring to Sudbury, lending its name to the newly created infantry unit in this city, which adopted the name, 2nd Battalion, The Irish Regiment of Canada



# Distinctive Uniform

- Kilted Irish Regiment
- Tartan: Saffron
- Head dress: Caubeen & Hackle
- The distinctive head dress has become synonymous with being Sudbury's own regiment.





# Affiliated Cadet Corps

- Young Canadians between the ages of 12-18.
- Army, Air & Navy Cadet Corps.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Irish Regiment of Canada has 3 affiliated Army Cadet Corps it supports in the Greater City of Sudbury.
  - 2912 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps - Sudbury
  - 2915 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps - Capreol
  - 2964 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps - Walden



# Training Commitment



- 1x Thursday Night  
Week (min 1x  
weekend/month)
- 10 day Collective  
Training Ex every  
August  
(Ex Vigilant Guardian)



# Battle Rhythm



Sept to Dec – Individual  
Battle Task Standards /  
Winter skills

Jan to May – Collective  
training at the  
section/platoon level

June to August – Career  
courses

Ex VIGILANT GUARDIAN



# Army Transformation



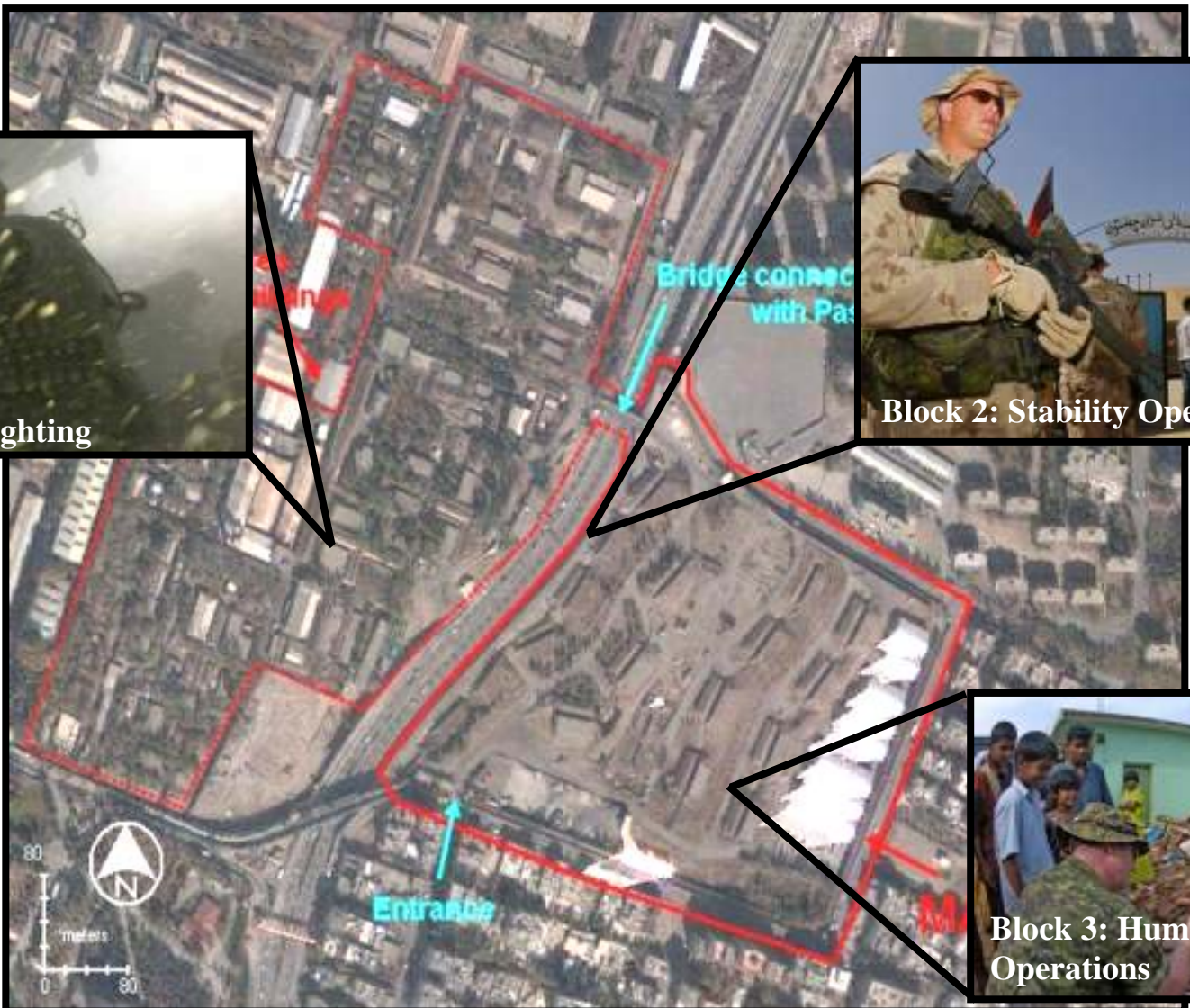
-BEAR vs.  
SNAKE

- 3 BLOCK WAR





**Block 1: Warfighting**



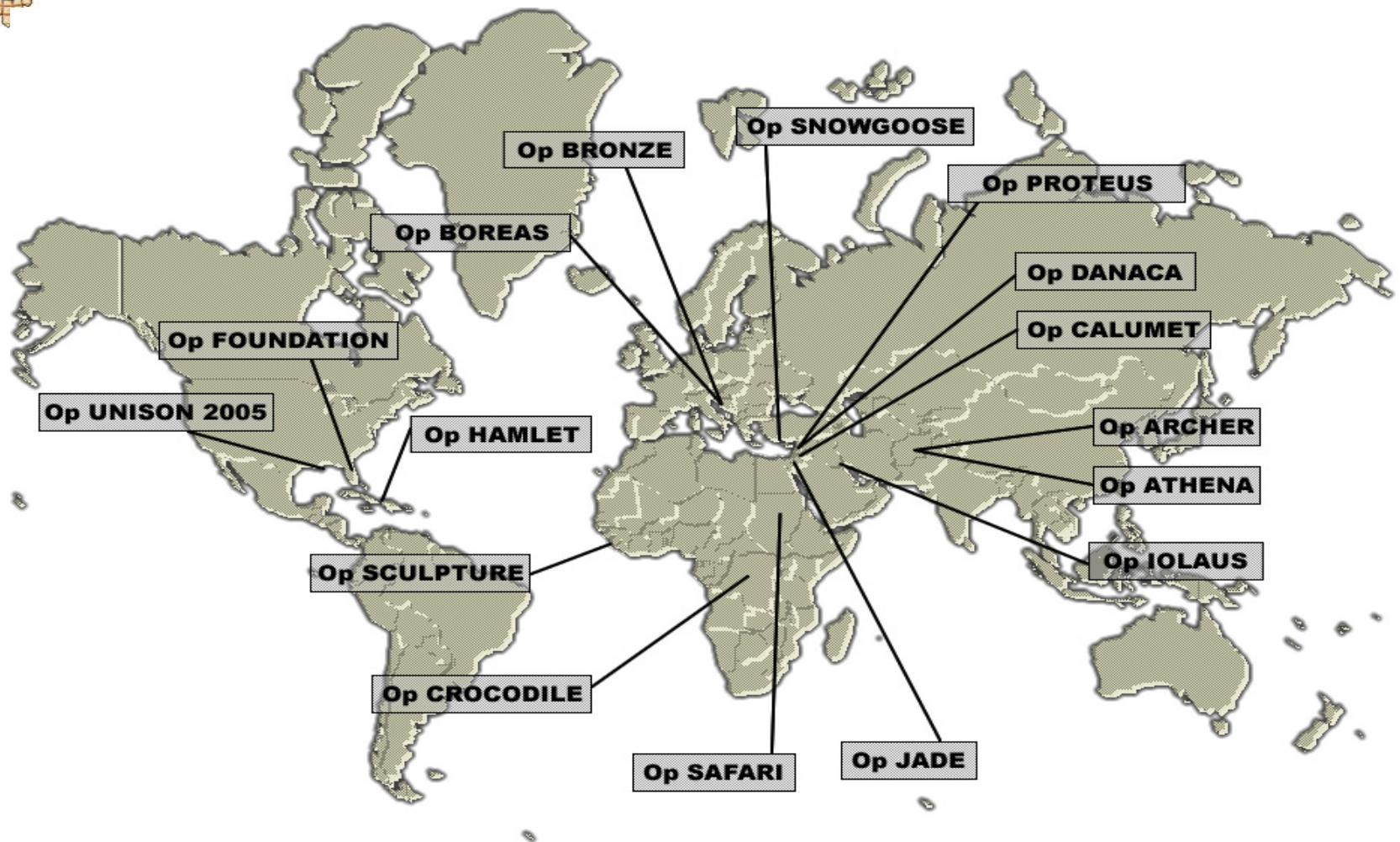
**Block 2: Stability Operations**



**Block 3: Humanitarian Operations**



# Current CF Operations







# The Irish Regiment on Current Operations

- OP ATHENA - Afghanistan
- OP BRONZE - Bosnia-Herzegovina

In the past decade, over 25 soldiers from the Irish have served in overseas operations.





# TASK FORCE 06/07

- Call for activation has begun.
- Selection - Fall 05
- Training Winter/Spring 06
- Deploy Summer 06 to Afghanistan







# Domestic Operations

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Irish Regiment deployed soldiers to  
OP ASSISTANCE – '97 Winnipeg Floods &  
OP ICE STORM – Ottawa Valley in '98

Current requirement: 1 x Section of 10 soldiers  
prepared to assist in Domestic operations if  
called upon.





# Community Partners

- Easter Seals
- Toy Drive
- MCTV Telethon
- Anti-Impaired Driving Campaign
- Pull For Kids
- Christmas Parade



# The Freedom of the City

*In recognition of the glorious history of the Irish Regiment of Canada and the close association of the officers and men of the Second Battalion with the citizens of Sudbury throughout the years, the citizens of Sudbury on the occasion of the City's Centennial, are pleased to grant the Second Battalion, The Irish Regiment of Canada, the Freedom of the City of Sudbury, and the privilege of marching through the streets of the City with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed.*

Civic Square, 28 May 1983 Signed *Mayor Peter Wong*



QUESTIONS ?

