



## Major PAETA DEREK HESS-VON KRUEDENER



- Killed: 25 July, 2006  
Patrol Base Khiam, Lebanon
- Date of Birth: 25 June, 1962
- Age: 44
- Military Service: - Service Number R38 868 507  
- Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
- Deployed as member of UNTSO at time of death
- Citations: - Canadian Forces Decoration
- Family: - Son of Gerry Hess  
- Husband of Cynthia
- Burial: - Buried in Burlington, Ontario in Woodland Cemetery
- Other: - Maj Hess-Von Kruedener served in Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) and twice in Bosnia before being assigned to UNTSO.  
- In Lebanon, he was stationed at a UN Base about 10 kilometres from where the Syrian, Lebanese and Israeli borders meet. The UN's mission there is to report ceasefire violations. He had

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been at this base for approximately nine months when, on 25 July, 2006, the base was struck by an Israeli precision guided aerial bomb and four UN observers died, one of which was Maj. Hess-Von Kruedener.

- The Base had been under continuous bombardment for 10 days prior to it's destruction and many voiced the opinion that the Israeli forces had deliberately killed the unarmed UN Observers.
- In a communication to Canada from Maj. Kruedener just days before his death, he noted that "this has not been deliberate targeting, but has rather been due to tactical necessity." This would lead us to believe that Hezbollah guerrillas were using the UN Observers as human shields, a cowardly tactic.
- A very valid question remains unanswered "Why were unarmed UN Observers left to man their posts after it was obvious that a war had started?" There has never been a peace treaty signed between Lebanon and Israel so they had been sent into a war zone – one would have thought for a plan of withdrawal if conditions warranted.