



**UNITED NATIONS      NATIONS UNIES**  
**United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia**

**For Immediate Release**

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**UNOMIG REMEMBERS ITS NINE STAFF MEMBERS WHO DIED TRAGICALLY IN ACTION**

Today on 8 October 2002 UNOMIG remembers and mourns its nine staff members who were killed in action one year ago in the tragic downing of a UN helicopter:

Major Jawed Angum (Pakistan)  
Captain Dieter Eissing (Germany)  
Major Mark Hofer (Switzerland)  
Colonel Laszlo Torok (Hungary)  
Gennadi Polizhay (Ukraine)  
Andrei Shergin (Ukraine)  
Alexander Belogrivov (Ukraine)  
Andrei Abrashkevich (Russia)  
Mrs. Lali Khvichia (Georgia)

They did not die in vain for they gave their lives while serving the cause of peace in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia.

In their memory on 19 October 2002 the SRSG for Georgia, Ms. Heidi Tagliavini, together with the Chief Military Observer, Major General Kazi Ashfaq Ahmed, will hold a commemorative service when Ms. Tagliavini will unveil a memorial plaque in the garden of the UNOMIG Mission Headquarters in Sukhumi. Relatives of the deceased and respective embassies have been invited to attend the ceremony.

On the anniversary of the tragic event, UNOMIG would like to mark this occasion to remind both sides to continue their efforts in searching for a political solution by peaceful means, and to affirm once again UNOMIG's commitment to this endeavour.

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