

- **ICTY/ICTR:** On June 2, the Council will hold an Open meeting with Carla del Ponte, Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunals for Yugoslavia and Rwanda. The U.S. mission intends to use this forum to make a strong statement on the need for the international community and the region to deal with the problem of the ex-FAR/Interhamwe in Rwanda.
- **Iraq:** On June 6, the Council will discuss the Oil-For-Food program. Iraq Program Director Beuon Sevan will brief the Council on the SYG's report covering the past six months of the program. The U.S. mission is working toward a renewal of the Oil-For-Food program for another six months.
- **Lebanon:** Special Envoy Larson is continuing his work in the region, and expects to report shortly on the verification of Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon. The Council will issue a Presidential Statement early in the week of June 5 to support his findings.
~~Work continues on moving troops participating in the UN Truce Force in Lebanon~~
 (UNIFIL) down into the zone formerly occupied by Israel, and in lining up new troop contributors to enlarge UNIFIL within its mandated size.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- **Procurement:** You signed an Executive Order calling on all federal agencies to take immediate steps that will lead the government to "meet or exceed" the five percent government contracting goal that now exists for women-owned small businesses. The order came at the start of National Small Business Week when recognition is given to the accomplishments of the more than 25 million small businesses nationwide. It is estimated that women own more than nine million U.S. businesses. Your order directs departments and agencies to develop long-term comprehensive strategies to expand opportunities for women-owned small businesses. The *National Foundation of Women Business Owners* estimates that in 1999 there were 9.1 million women-owned small businesses, employing 27.5 million people and generating over \$3.6 trillion in sales and revenues. In FY1999, women-owned small businesses secured just under \$4.6B in federal contracts, which amounts to 2.5 percent of the nearly \$186B in U.S. contracts accessible to small businesses.

