

world revolutionaries. Being a UN peacekeeper means wearing silly blue berets and driving around in nice, white trucks. You can be shot at, but you can't shoot back. You can be insulted, but you can't insult back. In fact, you may find yourself actually helping people kill their enemies as you protect war criminals, maintain archaic political boundaries, and provide security for execution squads. You may come under shell fire and gunfire and have to keep up with deadly bureaucratic paperwork. In Bosnia, Canadians were told to return mines they dug up to the armies that planted them. Some scratched their initials on the casings and dug up the same mines weeks later. Peacekeepers must use photodegradable sandbags, and the rules of engagement are so Byzantine that it requires hours to get official clearances to shoot back when they come under fire.

United Nations

<http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/brochure.htm>

UN System Staff College

<http://www.unssc.org/unssc1>

UN Peacekeeping

http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/home_bottom.htm

Peacekeeping vacancies

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/field/vacancy.htm>

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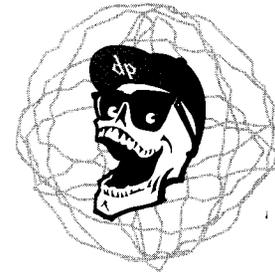
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DANGEROUS DISEASES



Souvenirs from Hell

Infectious diseases kill about 17 million people a year. Approximately 9 million of the victims are children under the age of 5. Infectious diseases are the leading cause of premature death in Africa and Southeast Asia, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). About 70 percent of the deaths attributed to cholera, typhoid, or dysentery can be blamed on contaminated food. To make matters worse, 30 new diseases have sprung up since 1976, among them AIDS and the deadly Ebola virus. Antibiotics are becoming less and less effective in treating many of these diseases because of resistance due to their overuse. Oh, just traveling there for a bit of adventure, you say? Well, bugs don't check passports and for some odd reason normally sane Westerners, who wouldn't think about cruising the wrong side of town after dark,