



# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Producer: Dana Schiopu Fleutiaux  
Script version: (FINAL)  
Duration: 8'44"

### FACING DAILY DANGER IN MALI: A PEACEKEEPER'S TALE

Across the world's trouble-spots, Mali is one of the most dangerous places to be a United Nations peacekeeper. We join a young soldier on his daily patrols – the question he faces is always – will he and his team return safely to base?

#### VIDEO

TAHIR DRIVING IN VEHICLE

#### NAME SUPER:

Mahamat Tahir Moussa  
Abdoulaye, Chief Sergeant,  
Chadian Contingent, MINUSMA

CHADIAN CONTINGENT  
PAYING HOMMAGE TO THE  
FALLEN CHADIAN SOLDIERS

#### TEXT ON SCREEN

Since 2013, 114 Peacekeepers  
have lost their lives in Mali.

MINUSMA, the peacekeeping  
mission, is the most dangerous

#### AUDIO

CHIEF SERGEANT MAHAMAT TAHIR  
MOUSSA ABDOULAYE, (In French)

*“Many of my friends have died here in Mali.  
We lived together, ate together. Unfortunately  
they lost their lives here. Most died, but some  
were only wounded, many of those who came  
here in this UN Mission are dead, others will  
have the scars of their wounds for life” (20”)*

mission in the history of the United Nations. (8”)

MINUSMA PEACEKEEPERS PATROLLING

ABDOULAYE (In French):

*“We are not afraid to die because our life depends on God’s will. We have put all our faith in God and God is the one who decides life and death. We’re not afraid of mines or rockets since we’ve grown up with war in our country. We have always lived in war.” (20”)*

CHADIAN SOLDIERS WAITING TO LEAVE ON SECURISATION MISSION AROUND KIDAL UN CAMP. CLOSE UP OF THREE CHADIAN SOLDIERS WAITING TO LEAVE ON A MORNING FOOT PATROL AROUND KIDAL UN CAMP

DRINKING TEA  
ABDOULAYE ON CAMERA

MAHAMAT TAHIR MOUSSA ABDOULAYE,

(In Chadian)

CHADIAN SOLDIERS RANGING FOR THE MORNING MILITARY CALL

*“I was born in the North of Chad, in the region of Moussouro, in a little village called Motoro.” (13”)*

.MAHAMAT, SALUTING THE GROUP AND GIVING INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GROUP -

*“As peacekeepers, we are not here on a war mission, but on a mission for peace.”(8”)*

NAME SUPER:

Colonel Eric Philipp, Deputy Commander, Sector North. MINUSMA

COLONEL ERIC PHILIPP (In French)

*They have proven to be so courageous, sometimes testing the limits of fearlessness. And those are the characteristics of a great army. This is very valuable, especially here, in Northern Mali where we are facing extremely difficult security conditions, as well as climate conditions. The Chadians are the perfect troops to accomplish the mission and to help implement the peace process in the region. (21”)*

VARIOUS OF MAHAMAT TAHIR MOUSSA ABDOULAYE AND CONTINGENT,

CLEANING WEAPONS

MAHAMAT TAHIR MOUSSA ABDOULAYE (In Chadian)

MAHMAT ON CAMERA

VARIOUS OF THE CHADIAN  
CONVOY PATROLLING IN  
KIDAL CITY

*"If the enemy dared to confront us face-to-face, in a maximum of 30 minutes we'd win the fight. The challenge for us here is that the enemy is hiding so we can't see them. They launch rockets from far away and they plant mines, so when we pass with our vehicles, we are being blown up by the mines. If they had the courage to fight us face- to-face, we'd surely win." (24")*

MINE BLOWING UP

COLONEL ERIC PHILIPP, (In French)

AERIAL OF KIAL

*"From a security point of view we are facing attacks from terrorist groups like Ansar Dine, which are launching unexpected attacks. So there is a huge threat to our troops, especially to our Chadian contingent as they patrol the Kidal region or when they escort UN convoys. The threat is constantly present, with IEDs (improvised explosive devices), mine on the road, with IEDs controlled by phones and triggered remotely. There is a real threat, so in 2016 we lost people because of the mines, and we had many wounded soldiers." (32")*

CHADIAN UN CONVOY IN  
ARMoured VEHICLE  
PATROLLING AROUND KIDAL

ABDELSALAM MALICK YACOUB, (In French)

NAME SUPER:

Colonel Abdelsalam Malick  
Yacoub, Commander, Chadian  
Contingent in Kidal, MINUSMA

VARIOUS OF INSIDE  
ARMORED VEHICLE  
PATROLLING IN KIDAL

*"The reason why we are losing so many soldiers in the Chadian Contingent is because we are participating in MINUSMA missions protecting convoys. Those are the most dangerous regions as they are controlled by terrorists groups. This region is extremely hostile. We cannot go for 200 kilometers, 300 kilometers without being blown up by a mine". (30")*

NATSOT (journalist)

*Are there any mines here?" (2")*

MAHAMAT TAHIR MOUSSA  
ABDOULAYE DRIVING AN UN  
ARMORED VEHICLE

MAHAMAT TAHIR MOUSSA ABDOULAYE

(In French):

ARMORED VEHICLE  
APPROACHING A GROUP OF  
CHILDREN

*"Sometimes there are mines, sometimes there aren't. We really don't know, this is the problem." (8")*

MAHAMAT TAHIR MOUSSA  
ABDOULAYE GIVING  
BISCUITS AND WATER TO  
CHILDREN

*"When we are patrolling in the city we are often in touch with the local population. " (7")*

VARIOUS OF UN ARMORED  
VEHICLES DRIVING IN  
PATROL CONVOY ON THE  
OUTSKIRTS OF KIDAL

ABDELSALAM MALICK YACOUB, (In French)

VARIOUS OF CHADIAN  
SOLDIERS IN THE CENTER  
OF KIDAL CITY

*"The Malian tradition and the Chadian tradition is almost the same, there is no difference. Us, the Chadians, believe me, I am not exaggerating when I say this, we have won the*

SURROUNDED BY CHILDREN *trust of the population of Northern Mali.” (15”)*

VARIOUS OF CHADIAN  
SOLDIERS IN THE CENTER  
OF KIDAL CITY

UNIDENTIFIED CHADIAN SOLDIER  
HOLDING A MALIAN BABY IN HIS ARMS (In  
French)

*“It’s cold, you should get warmer clothes for  
the baby” (3”)*

VARIOUS OF CHADIAN  
CONTINGENT PRAYING IN  
THE MOSQUE SITUATED IN  
THE UN CAMP IN KIDAL

COLONEL ERIC PHILIPP (In French)

*“The Chadian soldier is pious, and so even if  
he is here for the local population, and even if  
we want to reduce the terrorist groups who say  
they are speaking in the name of God, it’s  
comforting to the locals to see that soldiers  
deployed in Northern Mali are Africans like  
them and Moslem like them.” (23”)*

VARIOUS OF MAHAMAT  
TAHIR MOUSSA ABDOULAYE  
MAKING HIS ABLUTIONS  
BEFORE THE PRAYER

*“Their approach towards death is totally  
different. It has a form of fatalism, and also for  
them it is part of the mission. As for any United  
Nations soldier, dying on the battlefield is part  
of the mission, but in the case of the Chadian  
soldiers it is even more true. They face death  
not with indifference, but with an astonishing  
hardiness and fighting spirit..” (27”)*

CHADIAN SOLDIER BRINGING  
A GRI-GRI, TRADITIONAL  
AFRICAN OBJECT FOR  
PROTECTION AND

MAHMOUD ADAM ADEI, CHADIAN  
CONTINGENT (In French)

## EXPLAINING THE MEANING OF IT

*“This is what we are wearing when we go out patrolling. This gri-gri, comes from far away, we put it in the ground. This is how we wear it when we leave on mission. We receive them from our grandfathers to protect us. This is how we wear it. (27”*

*“This is how we wear it to go out patrolling. We receive them from our grandfathers for protection.. (10”*

*...It’s done in the name of God. When our grandfather gives us a gri-gri , he says: “My son, I have worn this even before you were born, it will protect you. God bless you until you accomplish your mission.” (27”*

## SOLDIERS PRAYING TO ALLAH AT DUSK

### TEXT ON SCREEN 1:

UN Peacekeepers have been in Mali since 2013

There are more than 12,000 uniformed peacekeepers currently in the country

As of February 2017, almost 1400 are from Chad (15”

### TEXT ON SCREEN 2

MINUSMA supports the Malian peace agreement by helping to

restore State authority, advance  
diplomacy, strengthen security  
and promote human rights. (9")