

rapidly developing an administrative tail is self-evident. In this regard, the importance of the Secretary-General's two-fold request to Canada for communications and logistics personnel and equipment cannot be over-emphasized.

4. The need for technical assistance may be a problem of lower priority than the establishment of the Force but only relatively so. The departure of the Belgians and other Europeans has left the Congolese Government virtually without administrative services and has also greatly reduced private services, like doctors and nurses. While no serious health problem has arisen yet, there is grave danger of one developing and the United Nations has been taking steps to meet that situation. The number of technicians and administrators needed for re-organizing administration in the Congo is staggering, especially since it will be necessary to bring this technical assistance to bear quickly. The United Nations is reasonably well-equipped to recruit personnel for technical assistance but the response from member states will have to be generously forthcoming if the situation in the Congo is to be met.

5. On the political side, the primary problem is for the Secretary-General to reach agreement with Belgium on the withdrawal of its military forces. On July 26 the Secretary-General travelled to Brussels for direct talks with the Belgian Government after three days' discussion with Prime Minister Lumumba in New York. The Secretary-General may need all his resources of diplomatic skill and patience in order to persuade the Belgians, who are understandably disturbed by the turn of events in the Congo. I have no doubt that the Secretary-General will try to arrange for a dignified Belgian withdrawal which will be fully consistent with Belgium's rights and other interests in the Congo. Undoubtedly, the nub of the difficulty may be the future status of Katanga Province. However, even in this regard the Secretary-General can be expected to strive for a peaceful solution through negotiation and agreement. It would be against his nature and indeed impracticable in United Nations terms for the Secretary-General to seek to impose on Belgium and on Katanga some solution which they consider detrimental.

6. As regards Katanga, it seems inconceivable that it could long exist as an independent African state supported by Belgium and its Western allies. While it is true that Katanga possesses the natural resources for economic viability, which the rest of the Congo does not, the likelihood is that the strong wind of nationalism blowing today in Africa would quickly sweep away Premier Tshombe, his followers and his supporters from the outside. It seems inconceivable that a régime, supported by white interests, could long survive as an enclave in the midst of emerging black nations. The pressures from without on the political situation within Katanga would be irresistible and whatever the West might hope to gain from supporting Premier Tshombe would soon be lost to extremists of the left. As well, the West would have incurred the bitter animosity of the surrounding African nations, which would include African members of the Commonwealth.

7. The alternative is to back the United Nations effort to bring about an agreed solution. It is undoubtedly the Secretary-General's aim to remove the Congo situation and indeed all political problems in Africa from the context of the cold war. This has been his technique in Middle East and in South-East Asia. He is persuaded that, not only is the cause of peace served by this technique, but also the best interests of the Western Powers. As Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammarskjöld does not consciously work for the interests of any group of powers, but he has never tried to hide that his outlook is Western and it has generally been accepted as such by the Western Powers. In dealing with the Belgians, he faces formidable opponents, who have military and economic interests in the Congo. It is already clear that some sections of the press have tried to discredit the United Nations effort in the Congo by circulating false reports (about clashes between United Nations troops and the Force Publique) and distorted descriptions of the United Nations attitude (the London *Daily Mail*