

(d) Eight cypher detachments.

(e) The original request for four composite logistic depots (this might be withdrawn).

13. *Mr. Pearkes* suggested that the U.N. be informed that 200 troops were available for the first four of these items, to be used to the best advantage under the U.N., on the understanding that no detachment would be stationed at lower than Brigade Headquarters level. He entered this caveat because the battalion units, of which all but two were non-European, would be operating independently under conditions which Canadian soldiers would find very difficult. In addition, the restriction on the use of R.C.A.F. aircraft already sent to operate between Pisa and Leopoldville should be removed. Finally, a small Headquarters for Canada's forces in the area should be authorized. A few personnel as an advance party should be sent immediately, and the remainder concentrated in Canada to be moved as soon as possible.

14. *Mr. Green* said that, notwithstanding the evidence of confusion and disorder in the Congo, it was amazing what the U.N. had accomplished. The Belgians were withdrawing. U.N. intervention had meant the exclusion of Soviet and United States forces from the area thus preventing what would probably have been a very tense and difficult situation. Much had been made of Canada's support of the United Nations. Not to do what the Minister of National Defence had suggested would be a mistake. Accordingly, he agreed that the necessary authority be given to send the 200 personnel to the Congo.

15. *During the discussion* the following points emerged:

(a) Parliament's approval should be sought for sending a force of this size outside of the country. This could take the form of a resolution, a specific vote in the estimate or a report and discussion on the estimates of the Minister of National Defence. Legally it was not necessary to take such steps as these but similar procedures had been followed for U.N.E.F. and the troops for Korea.

(b) Some expressed serious reservations about sending troops into such a chaotic situation. On the other hand it would be difficult to refuse the U.N. request.

(c) Authority should be provided to make 500 men available for the operation in the Congo in order to provide for rotation, illness, etc.

16. *The Cabinet* agreed,

(a) that authority should be granted by Order in Council for the despatch and maintenance abroad of up to 500 officers and men of the Canadian Forces as part of or in support of the United Nations operations in the Congo;

(b) that approximately 200 officers and men be provided as soon as possible for signals and communications services;

(c) that none of the Canadian personnel should be attached to units below Brigade Headquarters level; and,

(d) that Parliament's approval be obtained for sending these forces to the Congo by the passing of an appropriate supplementary estimate.

R.B. BRYCE
Secretary to the Cabinet