

indispensable step to take. That was our entire report. We gave it to him at five in the morning after we had chewed around with the damn thing for hours. That was right. Then they immediately arranged for General E. L. M. Burns who was then head of the Truce Supervision Organization and who had the high confidence of Mike Pearson.

JK: And also a Canadian.

Epstein: Of course. He had the high confidence of Mike Pearson.

They immediately arranged both with the government and with him that he should be transferred. He was already on the UN staff. So, He was transferred from Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization to Chief of Staff of UNEF. He agree and within a day or so he was here and started working.

He knew the kind of forces you needed. He knew what they were, the logistics and everything.

JK: When did they decide on the composition of the forces?

Epstein: Then they started on the composition of the forces.

They immediately offered to send a regiment. Whom do they choose? An outfit called The Queen's Own Rifles. That is going back to the Empire days. We had the Highlanders and the Queen's Own Rifles and the Prince's Pats. The Egyptians absolutely blankly refused and it took days to organize that.

Finally they agreed that Canada would supply the logistics.

JK: But not the actual troops.