

*National Defence*

The Canadian government has now agreed to meet this request and the following arrangements have been made as to transport of the required personnel and equipment:

29 Canadian army scout cars, wireless vehicles and related equipment for the new reconnaissance unit have been put aboard ship at Saint John, New Brunswick, and the ship is, I understand, expected to sail today.

39 Canadian army personnel to carry out administrative duties at emergency base units will leave by R.C.A.F. airlift tomorrow from Dorval for the Middle East.

105 officers and men comprising the new reconnaissance unit are now assembled at Petawawa and will be airlifted to the Middle East by the R.C.A.F. from Uplands commencing on Monday next.

**Mr. D. S. Harkness (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, may I just ask a question on that statement. From what units were the personnel drawn? I refer to the personnel which comprise this force. From what units were they drawn? Did Egypt give its consent to sending these new troops and armaments?

**Mr. Campney:** Mr. Speaker, in answer to the first question may I say that the reconnaissance unit is a composite unit and the personnel were drawn principally from the armoured regiments. As to the last question, that matter is not within my purview, and I shall not therefore deal with that phase. I might say, however, that negotiations were carried out between the commander of the United Nations force, through the United Nations, and us, and we have agreed to accept the request he made.

**Mr. Harkness:** I wonder whether the Secretary of State for External Affairs could answer that question?

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to try to get from the secretary general an answer to that question for tomorrow.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I remind hon. members that when a statement is made by a minister, only questions for the purpose of clarification can be asked at that time arising out of the statement which has been made. As to other questions, hon. members should wait until question time.

[Later:]

EGYPT—POSITION RESPECTING WITHDRAWAL OF  
UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra):** May I ask the Prime Minister whether the United Nations emergency force going into [Mr. Campney.]

the Gaza strip and to the shores of the gulf of Aqaba will be subject to being ordered out by Egypt at any time?

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** That is a question I cannot answer, Mr. Speaker. The discussions that are going on are on the basis that Egypt having consented to the organization and entry of the United Nations emergency force, no request for their withdrawal could be entertained until it had been communicated to the United Nations and dealt with by the United Nations. Now, there again this is the attitude taken by the United Nations, and we all trust that this attitude will receive implementation.

These attitudes are taken in the hope that they will avoid fighting in the area, and not with the intention of enforcing them by military measures. We hope that will work, and it is in that spirit that the members of the United Nations have been devoting a lot of time, both in the meetings in the hall and in their discussions outside the hall, in trying to bring about compliance with what is the right thing to do without there being any resort to the use of force.

**Mr. Green:** Would it be correct to say that in this particular case also we are dependent upon the whims of this man Nasser?

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** We are dependent upon the whims of the man who happens to be at the head of the government of the country where the United Nations force is at the present time. It was well understood at the time that his consent was necessary and was given to the stationing of forces in the territory of his country, and that consent having been given the attitude has been taken by, I think, most of the members of the United Nations, that that consent authorized the force to be there until a request is made for its removal, not to the troops but to the United Nations and dealt with by the United Nations. It is the United Nations that has discussed the question with the government of Egypt and made the arrangement for the acquiescence of that government in the placing of troops in that area. The troops have no direct relationship with the government of Egypt. They have direct relationship with the United Nations, and all the relationships regarding their presence are between the United Nations and the government of Egypt.

**Mr. Green:** But Nasser has the last word.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** Nasser has the last word just as we in Canada have the last word about the placing of any armed forces of other nations in our territory. This is something upon which we are very insistent, and I am not surprised that the government of Egypt would be just as insistent.