He then referred to a further memorandum of July 20th,† which was circulated, with respect to signals specialists for the United Nations Force. There was an urgent need for such personnel for the U.N. Force in the Congo. The African countries, who were supplying military units, were unable to supply adequate signals components. The Commander of the U.N.E.F., in reply to an enquiry on the hope of seconding temporarily to the Force in the Congo a small detachment of Canadian signallers, who might serve as an advance party in setting up a communications system within the Force in Congo, had replied that he could not spare any personnel from the Canadian signals squadron with U.N.E.F. The United Nations Secretariat had suggested that the Force in the Congo might require a signal squadron of about 150 all ranks. The problems of communication would be different to those now faced by U.N.E.F., and equipment requirements would also be different.

The Minister recommended that the Cabinet approve the provision of the necessary aircraft, crews and maintenance personnel to support 4 active North Stars to transport supplies and equipment for the United Nations Force to and within the Congo and also for the shuttle airlift from Pisa to Leopoldville. He also recommended that the request of the United Nations for Canadian signals personnel with appropriate equipment be made available as soon as the troops had been immunized against tropical diseases.

(Minister's memoranda, July 21, and July 20, Cab. Docs. 238-60, 236-60 and 237-60).

5. *The Minister of National Defence* reported that a Canadian Officer was at the moment in New York discussing with U.N. personnel the arrangements to provide Canadian signal specialists for the U.N. Force in the Congo. He pointed out that the cost of the necessary equipment would be approximately $1 million. It might be possible to reduce the equipment required after further consultations. Since he anticipated that the Congo operation might last for a long time, he was anxious to obtain authority to replace the equipment in Canada at once. In answer to a question, he said that there was no advance party ready to proceed to the Congo at once from Canada, since it would take between three and four weeks to immunize the personnel against tropical diseases. He noted that the note which he had just been handed referred to the probable necessity of sending approximately 200 men to establish supply depots in the Congo. These men would probably have to be supplied by the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. Together with the signals personnel, the total Canadian Force in the Congo within the next three or four weeks might number 500. It would be necessary to begin immunization that day and to cancel the leave of the troops who were to take leave in August. This, of course, would leak at once to the public. It would, therefore, seem appropriate to make a statement in the House that day.

6. During the discussion the following points were brought out:

(a) A senior Air Force Officer should be instructed to discuss with Mr. Pate, in charge of the United Nations food distribution in the Congo, the arrangements regarding the use of R.C.A.F. North Stars.

(b) The Secretary-General of the United Nations should be informed that since it would take at least three weeks to immunize military personnel in Canada against tropical diseases, he might wish to consider allowing an advance party of Canadian signallers from U.N.E.F. to proceed to the Congo to set up a communications system. After the period of immunization, the Cabinet could decide, in the light of the circumstances, whether additional Canadian personnel should in fact be sent to the Congo.

(c) The present plans should be limited to the provision of signals personnel only, but there was no reason why the personnel for the supply depots should not also be immunized.

7. The Cabinet,

(a) approved the provision of the necessary aircraft, crews and maintenance personnel to support four active North Stars to transport supplies and equipment for the United Nations