

situation. Radosevic said, 'Well, we will try to get some troops over in a few days, when we are settled.' Burns said, 'I perfectly understand your situation, and we will do everything we can to help. Brigadier Hilmy [the chief Egyptian liaison officer with UNEF] tells me that there is a camel ferry just above here at El Qantara, and it should not be too difficult for you to get some troops over quickly.' And Radosevic said, 'Well, I'll see about that tomorrow.' Burns said, 'What about today?' Nothing high-handed, but Radosevic suddenly realized that this was an order. That was how Burns worked.

"He said it with a bit of a twinkle in his eye—but not much. At the same time this was a man with an extraordinary sense of humour, rather sardonic and Lincolnesque. He was never effusive, and did not talk a great deal; but the more you got to know him, the easier it was to talk and this humour was just under the surface.

"Until we ran into the obstacle of getting into Gaza, there were no very difficult problems except the general problem of deployment on that desert terrain. It was a large area he had to cover with the comparatively small complement of six battalions, and they ran into various difficulties. UNEF was short of transport, but Burns smartly made a deal with the British commanders, Generals Keightley and Stockwell, and bought some vehicles and stores from them in Port Said. Then, when the Israelis retreated across the Sinai, they ploughed up all the roads, and he had to arrange for their rebuilding. Rations produced some complications: the Indians, for example, wanted different rations from the Danes and Norwegians. But these weren't real problems.

"The place where there might have been difficulties was in relations with the Egyptians. That didn't happen, however, thanks to a large extent to the appointment by the Egyptians of an excellent person, Brigadier Amin Hilmy, as their chief liaison officer with UNEF. Again, I think the old army training came in, and he and Burns got on extremely well. He is actually retired here in Ottawa.

"We had a newspaper which went 'round the force. It was called *The Sand Dune*—and that, in fact, was Burns' [choice of] title. We had a meeting with him of all the PR men of each contingent and agreed together to put a paper out, and encouraged them to send stuff in. There were local interest stories, and also references to what was happening at the UN in New York. It came out weekly, a four-page, mimeographed publication. At the top of the front page was the drawing of a UNEF soldier mounted on a camel and holding a United Nations flag. He is looking across a rolling desert into the face of a smiling sun. The original editor was an Indian officer, Major Victor Longer. I think it was an important link, getting across the general feeling that this is what you are all together in. There were humorous writers on my staff, a Mexican who was chief press officer and his Turkish colleague. There were good results.

"In judging the effectiveness of any peacekeeping operation, you have to say it depends on the general frame of reference within which it is carried out. It will not be effective unless you have a firm agreement among the parties to the dispute, backed by agreement among the large powers. If you have that