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*Note du secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
et le ministre de la Défense nationale  
pour le Cabinet*

*Memorandum from Secretary of State for External Affairs  
and Minister of National Defence  
to Cabinet*

CABINET DOCUMENT NO. 243-60

[Ottawa], July [28], 1960

SECRET

CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
EMERGENCY FORCE IN THE CONGO REPUBLIC

1. On July 15, the United Nations Secretary-General asked the Government of Canada for an early indication as to whether Canada would be in a position to provide the United Nations with personnel and equipment for signals and also for parts of the logistic support for the United Nations Force in the Republic of Congo. It was understood that the Secretary-General's enquiry would be stated more precisely in the course of consultations about it. On July 20-21 the Secretary-General's enquiry was explored in some detail in conversations in New York between Major-General Alexander and Mr. Henry Labouisse on the United Nations side, and Brigadier Bishop and Colonel Clement on the Canadian side.

2. The organizational structure envisaged for the United Nations Force is as follows: Headquarters United Nations Organization Congo (UNOC) at Leopoldville which will be a combined military-civilian command unit, including the Force Commander and the senior representative of the Secretary-General; four brigades (consisting in all of about 15 battalions) with headquarters in Leopoldville, Stanleyville, Luluabourg and Bukavu (Costermansville).

3. The assistance requested initially of Canada consisted of:

- (a) a signal net to provide wireless communications between each of the four brigade headquarters and headquarters UNOC,
- (b) internal communications for headquarters UNOC,
- (c) ground to air communications at each brigade headquarters; and,
- (d) organization and supervisory personnel for four composite logistic depots, one for each brigade headquarters, each capable of providing for four major units.

Because of uncertainty as to whether or not Canada would supply the troops originally requested by the Secretary-General, Major-General Von Horn has arranged for the communication networks from the headquarters in Leopoldville to the four brigade headquarters by employing civilian personnel. Since then, further revisions to the initial request have been received.

4. Consequent to the change in arrangements, as outlined above, the assistance requested of Canada now consists of the following items:

- (a) In Leopoldville the signal detachment at Headquarters, UNOC including the signal office, message centre, a 100-line switchboard, linemen and despatch riders.
- (b) Five ground to air communication links, and possibly two more later.
- (c) Twelve mobile wireless detachments.
- (d) Eight cipher detachments.
- (e) The original request for four composite logistic depots may be withdrawn.