

# United Nations

---

## Press Release

Department of Public Information  
Press Section  
United Nations, New York

Biographical Note



SG/A/283  
BIO/1894  
8 June 1982

---

BRIG.-GEN. THOR JOHNSEN OF NORWAY APPOINTED CHIEF MILITARY OBSERVER  
OF UN OBSERVER GROUP IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has announced the appointment of Brigadier-General Thor A. Johnsen of Norway as Chief Military Observer of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).

General Johnsen arrived in Srinagar, Kashmir, on 1 June and is taking up his new duties today (8 June 1982).

General Johnsen succeeds Brigadier-General Stig Waldenstrom, of Sweden, who is retiring from United Nations service. General Waldenstrom was in New York in May to give an initial briefing to his successor and to meet with the Secretary-General and other officials at Headquarters.

The Secretary-General has expressed his warm appreciation to Brigadier-General Stig Waldenstrom, who served as Chief Military Observer of UNMOGIP since June 1978. Under his leadership, UNMOGIP functioned in an efficient and impartial manner and continued to serve as a symbol of the United Nations presence and interest in the area.

Brigadier-General Thor A. Johnsen was born in 1927 in Oslo, and graduated from the Norwegian Military Academy in 1950 and the Army Staff College in 1956. He also holds a law degree from Oslo University.

General Johnsen has served mainly in staff positions in the Norwegian Army. He has been Commandant of the Signal School, instructor in the Norwegian Army Staff College, and Deputy Chief of Staff of Personnel in the Norwegian Army Command.

From 1972 to 1974 he was head of the Division in charge of United Nations peace-keeping matters in the Norwegian Ministry of Defence. He served as Counsellor and Military Adviser of the Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations from 1978 to 1981.

General Johnsen is married and has two children.

\* \* \* \* \*