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REPORT OF THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN
THE CONGO TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE
APPLICATION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS OF 21 FEBRUARY AND
24 NOVEMBER 1961
(continued)

G. Recent Fighting in North Katanga

57. On 5 August 1962, clashes were reported between the ANC and the Gendarmerie. The village of Kiambi, east of Manono, was captured on that day by the Gendarmerie. On 13 August, according to information received from ANC headquarters in Albertville, two companies of the Nyoka Battalion of the ANC were encircled 40 kilometres south of Mukato on the Baudouinville-Kapona-Albertville road, and only a few soldiers escaped. Another report indicated that the Gendarmerie had captured Kyayo on the Albertville-Kapona road.
58. On 14 August, ONUC aircraft made reconnaissance flights and observed thirteen vehicles loaded with baggage abandoned about 10 kilometres north of Mukato. Villages in the area were completely deserted. Further ONUC reconnaissance flights made on 15 August brought reports that about twenty vehicles were parked in the Kapona area.
59. On the same day, the Chief of Staff of ONUC headquarters in the Katanga area proceeded to Albertville to discuss the military situation with the local civilian authorities and with Lieut. Col. Masiala, the ANC Commander.
60. At the same time, attacks by the Gendarmerie were reported in the Kitenge area. The Gendarmerie occupied Kitenge (67 kilometres north-east of Kabongo), but according to ANC reports the town was recaptured by the Central Government troops. One ANC officer and one mercenary were killed in the fighting. The body of the mercenary, who seems to have been a Frenchman, was flown by ONUC to Leopoldville. Although it arrived in a very advanced stage of decomposition, the

two tattoos on the arms are similar to those borne by members of the French Foreign Legion. The dates 1952-1959, which appear below the tattooing, seem to refer to the dates of his service in the Foreign Legion.

61. On 17 August, the Officer-in-Charge sent a letter to the Katangese authorities warning them that if the Katangese Gendarmerie did not stop its attacks, ONUC would be forced to intervene with all the means at its disposal (Annex XXIX). On the same day, Mr. E. Kimba, Acting President of the provincial government of Katanga, replied that the necessary instructions to cease all military movements had been issued (Annex XXX).

H. Detention of Mr. Antoine Gizenga

62. As previously reported by the Officer-in-Charge (S/5053/Add.8, paragraph 30), former Vice-Prime Minister Gizenga is being held in custody by the Central Government on the island of Bulabemba in the estuary of the Congo River. According to information received from the ONUC base administrator in Kitona on 13 August 1962, Mr. Gizenga was in good health. He has repeatedly requested the Congolese authorities to bring him before a court to obtain a decision concerning his detention and has sent several letters to government officials for that purpose. On 14 August, Mr. Gizenga went on a hunger strike. However, on 17 August, upon being advised that the Central Government would shortly take action on his case, he stopped his hunger strike at 2100 hours. At that time, he did not seem to be ill or weak.

63. On 20 August, a commission comprising the ANC base commander of Banana, the commander of Mr. Gizenga's guard and a member of the guard, a representative of the Sûreté nationale, two doctors and a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross visited Mr. Gizenga. The Red Cross delegate has submitted a report, a copy of which has been sent to ONUC, in which it is stated that Mr. Gizenga is in good health. The Red Cross delegate recommends that:

- (a) Mr. Gizenga should be allowed to receive visitors, particularly his wife and/or his mother;
- (b) He should be permitted to exchange correspondence with his close relatives through the International Red Cross delegation.

ANNEX XXIX

Letter dated 17 August 1962 from the Officer-in-Charge of the
United Nations Operation in the Congo addressed to Mr. Kimba

I regret to note that once again hostilities have broken out between the Katangese Gendarmerie and the ANC forces in the Mukato-Kyayo area.

I must remind you that under its terms of reference, which instruct it inter alia to prevent civil war and to ensure the maintenance of law and order, ONUC is obliged to intervene in order to end the present conflict.

To obviate such intervention I would ask you to be good enough to issue immediately the necessary instructions to halt all military movements without delay. If, contrary to this request, the Katangese Gendarmerie should continue hostilities, ONUC would be forced to intervene with all the means at its disposal.

/...

ANNEX XXX

Letter dated 17 August 1962 from Mr. Kimba addressed to the
representative of the United Nations Operation in the Congo
at Elisabethville

I have the honour to acknowledge to you the receipt of the letter dated 17 August 1962 from Mr. R. Gardiner, Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Mission in the Congo, concerning hostilities between the Katangese Gendarmerie and ANC forces in the Mukato-Kyayo area.

The Katangese Gendarmerie has continuously maintained law and order in this area, whose inhabitants have always been faithfully attached to the Government of Katanga.

The Gendarmerie was subjected in the area to attacks by the ANC which it immediately repulsed, and on this account orders were given yesterday for the Katangese Gendarmerie to cease all movements there.

I am sure that ONUC, for its part, in accordance with its instructions to prevent civil war, will not fail to give orders, through your authority, to prevent the ANC from continuing its attacks, especially at a time when efforts are being made on all sides to find a peaceful settlement for the Congolese crisis.

I was struck, on receiving your letter, by the fact that the Leopoldville radio had broadcast yesterday the news that the Katangese Gendarmerie had reoccupied Albertville. I can only see in this false announcement a manoeuvre designed to poison the general atmosphere.

I accordingly reiterate to you the assurance that the orders have been given. In case of any delay due to the fact that the obstructions to normal communications have increased the difficulty of making contact with certain areas, I confirm to you that these orders were repeated today on receipt of your letter.

