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REPORT OF THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN
THE CONGO TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF PARAGRAPH A-2 OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF
21 FEBRUARY 1961

Addendum covering developments during 14-15 September 1961

1. Attacks on United Nations troops in Elisabethville, Jadotville and Kamina continued during 15 September.

2. In Elisabethville, attacks on UN positions took place during the night.

A small detachment of UN troops was surprised by a sudden attack in overwhelming force and suffered serious losses, including three missing presumed dead.

During the day of 15 September fire on the ground came mostly from snipers, but two air raids were carried out by a jet fighter, possibly the same one which on the previous day strafed and bombed UN troops at Jadotville. (Available information indicates that the Katanga forces dispose of two jet fighters.) In the first raid two bombs were dropped on the airport; during the second raid bombs were dropped in the vicinity of the residence of the UN representative, of the Lido Hotel where a number of UN troops are staying, and of the refugee camp. No casualties were suffered from these raids, but an Air Katanga plane parked at the airfield was destroyed. Three UN vehicles were damaged by fire opened from an ambulance car marked with a red cross.

3. In Jadotville, the UN company rejected two ultimata to surrender which were issued to it in the afternoon and evening of 14 September. It was thereupon attacked by a superior force. The UN troops repelled the attack and captured two Belgian officers who were leading the Katangese forces.

It had not yet been possible to relieve these troops. They stood up gallantly to two more bombing and strafing attacks from the air on 15 September, as well as to nearly constant fire from gendarmerie positions surrounding them.

(The reasons for sending the UN unit to Jadotville are referred to in para. 5 of S/4940/Add.2.)

4. Contact with UN troops at Kamina base was re-established after the UN troops there had repelled two attacks. The twenty-one Belgian officers and mercenaries who were detained at Kamina base while awaiting repatriation were evacuated to Leopoldville in the night of 14-15 September. Thereafter the attempts to penetrate into the base stopped, although mortar and machine-gun fire against UN troops at the base continued. At 1140 hours on 15 September a jet fighter strafed with machine-gun fire and rockets the air control tower and the runways, damaging a UN airplane and causing four casualties among its crew and the Congolese ground staff.

5. In the morning of 15 September Mr. Kibwe advised the UN representative that he had finally made contact with Mr. Tshombe, who was willing to come to a meeting at the British Consulate. The UN representative met again with Mr. Kibwe at 1530 hours, and the meeting with Mr. Tshombe was arranged to take place at 1900 hours. However, neither Mr. Tshombe nor Mr. Kibwe arrived at the arranged time and place, and the UN representative was unable to contact them by 2200 hours that night.

6. In the afternoon of 15 September Mr. Munongo notified the UN representative in Elisabethville through a messenger that he was holding at his villa near the Rhodesian border two Irish officers captured in the surprise attack referred to in paragraph 2 above. He warned the UN representative that the two UN officers would be shot unless the two Belgian officers captured by the UN in Jadotville were promptly set free.

7. Except for the non-Congolese residents, the population of Elisabethville and other towns remained calm. Similarly friendly relationships continued between UN troops and gendarmerie units in Northern Katanga, where all the foreign personnel had been evacuated.

