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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF
 PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Progress report of the Special Committee on
 Peace-keeping Operations

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1. On 13 December 1967, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2308 (XXII) which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and 2053 A (XX) of 15 December 1965,

Recalling further its resolution 2249 (S-V) of 23 May 1967, which, inter alia, requested the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to continue the review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects and to study the various suggestions made by different delegations during the Special Committee's session held between February and May 1967, in particular those related to:

(a) Methods of financing future peace-keeping operations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

(b) Facilities, services and personnel which Member States might voluntarily provide, in accordance with the Charter, for United Nations peace-keeping operations,

Mindful of the importance which Member States attach to the comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects,

Having received and examined the report of the Special Committee,^{1/}

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 37, document A/6815.

1. Reaffirms its resolution 2249 (S-V);
 2. Requests the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to continue the work assigned to it by the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 2249 (S-V);
 3. Considers that the preparation of a study on matters related to facilities, services and personnel which Member States might provide, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, for United Nations peace-keeping operations would be appropriate;
 4. Further requests the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations to prepare by 1 July 1968 its report on the progress made, for the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, including the study referred to in paragraph 3 above;
 5. Transmits to the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations the records of the debates at the present session on the item entitled 'Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects', with the request that the suggestions and proposals contained therein be taken into account."
2. During January and February 1968, the officers of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations held consultations with the intention of facilitating the work of the Special Committee. Following these consultations, the Special Committee held a series of meetings between 4 March and 27 June 1968. The copies of the annexes to the records of the 28th to 35th meetings will be issued as an addendum to the present report.
3. At the 28th meeting of the Special Committee, on 4 March 1968, which was its first meeting in 1968, the Chairman invited States members of the Special Committee to co-operate with him by making their own contributions to the study mentioned in operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 2308 (XXII), either orally or in writing, to enable the Special Committee to start its work. Various statements were made in the course of subsequent meetings of the Special Committee, and communications were received from the representatives of Sweden (20 March 1968 - A/AC.121/11 and Corr.1), the United States of America (17 May 1968 - A/AC.121/15), the United Kingdom (27 May 1968 - A/AC.121/16), Canada (18 June 1968 - A/AC.121/17) and the Netherlands (21 June 1968 - A/AC.121/18). Communications dated 20 March 1968 on this subject were also received from three non-members of the Special Committee: Denmark (A/AC.121/12), Finland (A/AC.121/13) and Norway (A/AC.121/14).

4. At its 34th meeting, on 3 April 1968, following an earlier suggestion for the establishment of a Working Group, the Special Committee decided, on the proposal of the Chairman, to appoint a Working Group which would prepare working papers for the study the Special Committee was to submit to the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 2308 (XXII). In doing so, the Working Group would study the documents submitted and statements made by members of the Special Committee. It might also request the Secretary-General to provide appropriate United Nations documents and, where necessary, other United Nations materials of a factual nature which would not set forth any conclusions or recommendations. The meetings of the Working Group would be informal, without verbatim or summary records. The Chairman of the Special Committee was authorized to designate the membership of the Working Group after consultation with members of the various geographical groups on the Special Committee.

5. On 8 April, the Chairman informed the members of the Special Committee that the Working Group would comprise, in addition to Canada, Czechoslovakia, Mexico and the United Arab Republic, whose representatives are officers of the Special Committee, the representatives of France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

6. The Working Group held a series of meetings during April, May and June 1968. On 28 May, the Chairman stated in the Working Group that a concensus had been reached on the first stage of its work. Accordingly, and in order to start with certain elements of the study called for by the General Assembly, it approved as a first model in its programme of work a study of the United Nations military observers established or authorized by the Security Council for observation purposes pursuant to Security Council resolutions. That would mean studying:

(1) The strength and equipment of the group of observers; their recruitment and organization; facilities and services; financial questions;

(2) The relationship between observers and the State or States on the territory or territories of which they have to operate;

(3) The status of observers; privileges and immunities; duration and termination of the mission of observers.

7. Accordingly, and with the authorization of the Working Group, the Chairman met the Secretary-General and requested him to give instructions for the preparation of:

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(a) A compilation of the statements made in the Security Council and in the Special Committee on the military observers established or authorized by the Security Council, covering all the aspects referred to above;

(b) A report containing all the documents and materials available in the Secretariat which refer to the military observers established or authorized by the Security Council covering all the aspects referred to above. It was understood that the documents and materials which the Secretariat would submit to the Working Group would not put forward any conclusions or recommendations.

8. The Secretary-General informed the Chairman of the Special Committee that the Secretariat would undertake preparation of the material requested. He also informed the Chairman that the material on United Nations military observers established or authorized by the Security Council for observation purposes pursuant to the Security Council's resolutions would be ready for submission to the Working Group in the first week of September 1968.

9. The Working Group expected to resume its work upon receipt of this material from the Secretariat.
