

U N I T E D N A T I O N S

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Biographical Note

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MAJOR-GENERAL ENSIO SIILLASVUO, NEWLY-APPOINTED CHIEF OF STAFF OF UNTSO

Major-General Ensio Siillasvuo, who will become Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine (UNTSO) on 1 August 1970, was born in Helsinki, Finland, on 1 January 1922. He was educated in Finland and got his commission at the Military Academy in 1941. During the Second World War, he served as an Infantry Company Commander and Chief of Staff of an Infantry Regiment in Karelia and Finnish Lapland.

From 1945 until 1951, he served as an Infantry Company Commander and after attending the Finnish Army Staff College from 1951-1952, he served from 1953-1957 in various positions in the military districts in northern Finland.

He was Finnish Defence Attaché in Warsaw from 1959-1961. From 1962-1965, he served on the staff of the 3rd Division and became an instructor at the Finnish National Defence College from 1965-1967.

In June 1967, he became the Chief of the Foreign Department on the General Staff.

Major-General Siillasvuo previously took part in United Nations peace-keeping missions, first in 1957 as Company Commander in the Finnish Contingent in the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF). In 1958, he served as an Observer in the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL), and from 1964-1965 he served as Finnish Contingent Commander in the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). He became a United Nations Observer in UNTSO on 15 October 1967 and served as Acting Chief of Staff of UNTSO from 1 May to 15 July 1970. He was promoted to the rank of Major-General on 6 December 1969.

Major-General and Mrs. (Salli) Siillasvuo have three sons.

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