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Further progress report of the Secretary-General
on the United Nations Emergency Force

1. Since my last report dated 1 April 1974 (S/11248), no significant events have taken place in UNEF which continues to carry out effectively the tasks entrusted to it.

Composition and deployment

2. On 19 April 1974, the strength of the Force, including UNEF headquarters staff and brigade headquarters staff, was as follows:

Austria	611
Canada	1,076
Finland	599
Ghana	508
Indonesia	551
Ireland	271
Nepal	571
Panama	406
Peru	352
Poland	825
Senegal	399
Sweden	619
Total	<u>6,788</u>

3. During the period under review, no major rotations of contingents have taken place and the strength of the Force has remained under the 7,000 figure. The following rotations of contingents have already commenced or will take place in the near future.

(a) Swedish battalion: 130 personnel will be repatriated during the period from 18 to 24 April. They will not be replaced. Once the rotation is completed, the strength of the battalion will be reduced to 500 all ranks.

(b) Irish battalion: 130 personnel will be rotated in the last week of April. A further repatriation and replacement of personnel will take place early in May.

(c) Peruvian battalion: Half of the current strength of the battalion will be rotated at the end of April. Rotation of the rest of the battalion is planned to take place one month later.

(d) Finnish battalion: A major rotation of approximately 80 per cent of the battalion strength will take place in the last week of April. Once the rotation is completed, the strength of the battalion will be reduced to 500 all ranks.

(e) Austrian battalion: The rotation of approximately one third of the battalion strength will start during the first fortnight of May. Once the rotation is completed, the strength of the battalion will be reduced to 500 all ranks.

(f) Panamanian battalion: A rotation of personnel, the number of which has not yet been determined, will take place in May.

(g) Polish logistic element: The rotation started by groups on 10 April and will continue over a number of weeks.

(h) Canadian logistic element: The personnel are rotated in small groups at regular intervals.

(i) The rotations of the other contingents have not yet been determined.

4. The location of UNEF battalions in the zone of disengagement remains as described in my report of 1 April (S/11248, paragraph 15). Some changes have taken place in the number of outposts manned by the battalions in the zone of disengagement, which at present is as follows:

(a) The Irish battalion is manning a forward command post, a reserve position and five outposts in its sector.

(b) The Panamanian battalion is manning a forward command post, one reserve position and six outposts in its sector.

(c) The Peruvian battalion is manning a forward command post and six outposts in its sector.

(d) The Swedish battalion is manning a forward command post and 13 outposts in its sector.

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(e) The Indonesian battalion is manning a forward command post and eight outposts in its sector.

(f) The Ghanaian battalion is manning a forward command post and six outposts in its sector.

(g) The Austrian battalion is manning a forward command post and six outposts in its sector.

(h) The Senegalese battalion is manning a forward command post, a reserve position and nine outposts in its sector.

(i) The Finnish battalion is manning a forward command post, a reserve position and 11 outposts in its sector.

5. The Nepalese battalion remains in Cairo, acting as the Force reserve. A company will move to the UNEF camp in Ismailia during the last week of April to perform tasks relating to security of the camp. The Canadian and Polish logistic elements continue to provide logistics, engineering, transport and communication support for the Force.

6. The Indonesian battalion has moved its base camp from Ismailia to Suez. Personnel of the Polish logistic element have taken over the premises vacated by the Indonesian battalion in Ismailia and continue their preparations and work towards the establishment in those premises of a military hospital for the Force.

7. At the request of the Egyptian authorities, an area of UNEF camp in Ismailia has been transferred to Egyptian military personnel assigned to activating the airfield located in the UNEF compound with a view to providing air facilities and support to the Suez Canal clearing operations. It has been agreed that UNEF will share the use of the airfield located in the UNEF camp in Ismailia. Maintenance, air traffic and navigational control of the airfield will be handled by the Egyptian authorities.

Activities of the Force

8. In addition to the manning, patrolling and control of the zone of disengagement, UNEF has continued to conduct weekly inspections of the Israeli and Egyptian areas of limited armaments and forces, as well as inspections of other areas.

9. During the period under review, no significant incidents have been observed. Overflights of the zone of disengagement have taken place on most occasions by aircraft which could not be identified because of their high altitude or other circumstances. Occasional minor incursions into the zone of disengagement by military personnel of the parties were immediately rectified and the personnel involved were escorted out of the zone.

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10. On 6 April, 25 men and 23 women and children were transferred from Israel to Egypt. On 10 April, 61 civilians were transferred from Egypt to Israel and 45 from Israel to Egypt. UNEF officers and representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross witnessed these transfers.

11. Although survey of the A and B Lines has been completed, it continues to be necessary to conduct periodic and detailed verifications of those lines in certain areas in order to ensure the continued integrity of the zone of disengagement. This activity is carried out as required under the supervision of UNEF brigade headquarters with the co-operation of the parties concerned.
