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

1. Pursuant to the map and time-table agreed upon at the final meeting held on 24 January 1974 at Kilometre 101 (see S/11056/Add.8), the implementation of the agreement on disengagement of forces began on 25 January with the Israeli forces redeploying northwards from their positions in the general area south of the Suez-Cairo Road. The operation proceeded smoothly and the handover of this area, including the Suez-Cairo Road, by the Israel forces to UNEF took place without incident on 28 January at 1000 1/ at Kilometre 101 in the presence of the Force Commander, Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo.

2. Some aspects of the operation are described hereunder:

(a) The Finnish battalion, with elements of the Swedish, Senegalese and Indonesian battalions, was in the main responsible for executing UNEF tasks in this first phase. While continuing to man previously occupied positions, UNEF on 27 and 28 January deployed more troops in the Gebel Ataq, Adabiya, Suez City and Kilometre 101 areas. In addition, on 28 January UNEF began to deploy in the general area north of the Suez-Cairo Road, where it will interpose between Egyptian and Israeli forces.

(b) On 26 January, UNEF established a forward headquarters at Kilometre 101 to co-ordinate the various activities in this first phase. This headquarters comprises UNEF operations officers, signals and logistics elements and a military police detachment. Liaison officers from Egypt and Israel have been attached to the forward headquarters. On 28 January at 1100, the forward headquarters moved into an area north of the Suez-Cairo Road where UNEF troops are being interposed.

(c) On the east bank of the Suez Canal, the Panamanian battalion has deployed to its area of responsibility in the southern sector and the Peruvian battalion has conducted reconnaissance to the north.

(d) Also in the southern sector on the east bank of the Suez Canal, UNEF troops, with the assistance of UNTSO military observers, have commenced marking the future zone of disengagement in which UNEF will be stationed, as provided in paragraph 2 of the 18 January agreement on disengagement (S/11198 and Add.1).

1/ All times GMT.

3. As a consequence of the disengagement of forces, the supply convoys to Suez City were discontinued on 26 January, but the convoys to the Egyptian troops on the east bank are scheduled to move supplies to the crossing point near former OP Kilo until 30 January.

4. On 28 January at 1600, Egyptian forces will begin to deploy into the area vacated by the Israeli forces. For their part, Israeli forces will continue to redeploy on the west bank towards the north. At the same time, Egyptian and Israeli forces in the southern sector of the east bank will commence redeploying.

5. United Nations assistance has been requested by Egyptian and Israeli authorities and also by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the recovery of bodies of soldiers killed during the hostilities in the Suez Canal area. UNEF initially participated in search and recovery operations at local levels. A meeting between the parties at Kilometre 101 took place on 27 January, with a UNEF representative in attendance, in order to co-ordinate this work. At this meeting, it was arranged that four teams comprising Egyptian and Israeli representatives as well as either a UNEF officer or an UNTSO military observer would, as from 29 January, conduct searches on the east bank of the canal (Operation Omega). At the same time, bodies would also be exhumed from cemeteries in the presence of ICRC officials who will arrange for their handover. The whole operation both in Egyptian and Israeli-held areas is to be completed by 5 March, when the disengagement of forces will conclude.

6. On 27 January 1974, the strength of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF), was as follows:

Austria	598
Canada	1,096
Finland	615
Ghana	499
Indonesia	552
Ireland	271
Panama	409
Peru	497
Poland	821
Senegal	396
Sweden	<u>620</u>
Total	<u>6,374</u>

7. The increase in the strength of the Force since the last report results from the arrival of the main parties of the Senegalese and Ghanaian contingents, which

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were transported to the UNEF mission area by aircraft of the Federal Republic of Germany made available free of charge to the United Nations. The body of the Senegalese contingent, 349 all ranks was flown in between 18 and 20 January 1974. The body of the Ghanaian contingent, 495 all ranks, was flown in between 22 and 24 January.

8. The Nepalese contingent, approximately 570 all ranks, is now scheduled to arrive in mid-February. Arrangements for airlifting the Kenyan contingent, approximately 600 all ranks, during the first half of February are expected to be finalized shortly.
