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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE INCREASE
IN THE NUMBER OF UNITED NATIONS OBSERVATION POSTS AND
MILITARY OBSERVERS IN THE ISRAEL-LEBANON SECTOR

Addendum

1. In his report of 2 November 1972 (S/10824), the Secretary-General described the action taken by the Chief of Staff of UNTSO, Major-General Fnsio Siilasvuo, to implement the arrangements set forth in the Secretary-General's memorandum of 27 October 1972 to the President of the Security Council (S/10818, annex II).

2. It may be recalled that General Siilasvuo had indicated that 13 additional military observers would be required for the Israel-Lebanon sector as a result of the increase in the number of United Nations observation posts in that sector. However, he had also indicated that those additional observers could, if necessary, be provided from the other UNTSO sectors for a limited period. On the basis of this information, the Secretary-General decided not to recruit additional observers for UNTSO for the time being. The approximate financial implications for the proposed arrangements, as conveyed to the President of the Security Council, were calculated for a period of two months and on the assumption that no recruitment of additional observers was immediately required. The Secretary-General stated, however, that, after this period and in the light of the experience, the eventual need to recruit additional observers would have to be assessed (S/10818, annex II, para. 7).

3. On the instructions of the Secretary-General, General Siilasvuo recently undertook a careful assessment of the personnel requirements of UNTSO. He was instructed by the Secretary-General to examine in particular whether, by a further streamlining of the organization and procedures of UNTSO, he could avoid the recruitment of additional observers while maintaining the operations of UNTSO at the present level. General Siilasvuo has now reported to the Secretary-General that by giving more flexibility to the deployment of observers and by assigning to field service staff some of the functions of a non-operational nature hitherto performed by observers, he would be able to manage without the 13 additional observers he had originally requested, provided that the following two recommendations could be met:

(a) In January 1972, four Finnish vehicle drivers/mechanics, who had observer status, were repatriated without replacement because it was decided that the two armed vehicles used to supply the OPs on the east side of the Suez Canal sector were no longer required. General Siilasvuo now recommends that four additional Finnish observers be obtained in place of the drivers/mechanics.

(b) General Siilasvuo further recommends that UNTSO be provided with four additional field service officers.

4. The estimated average monthly cost for the additional personnel requested by General Siilasvuo would be as follows:

Military observers	\$2,000
Field service officers	<u>6,000</u>
Total	\$8,000 ^{1/}

5. The Secretary-General fully endorses the findings and recommendations of General Siilasvuo. The Government of Finland has indicated that it would be willing to provide UNTSO with four additional observers, if an official request were submitted. It is the Secretary-General's intention to put General Siilasvuo's recommendations into effect not later than 15 March 1973, as any further delay in providing UNTSO with the additional personnel it requires is likely to affect the efficiency of its operations.

^{1/} It may be noted that the cost incurred by the United Nations is higher for a field service officer than for an observer. This is due to the fact that the salary of an observer is paid by the contributing Government.

