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REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. At the 1227th meeting of the Security Council, on 18 June 1965, I informed the Council that I had requested my Representative in the Dominican Republic, Mr. José Antonio Mayobre, to report to me on the present deployment of the Inter-American Peace Force (IAFF) in the area where the fighting had taken place on 15 and 16 June.
2. My Representative's report on the subject, despatched from Santo Domingo in the afternoon of 18 June, indicates that, following the fighting on 15 June, United States troops of the IAFF established new positions along a general line which took in the San Diego Gate (including Columbus Castle) and ran along the northern edge of Celestino Duarte Street to its junction with Isabel la Católica Street, thence north along this street to its junction with General Cabrál Street, thence northwest along Juana Saltitopa Street to its junction with Caracas Street and thence southwest along Caracas Street and west along Montecristi Street to and including the Chile Primary School junction point with the original Corridor at Benigno del Castillo Street. As of 1600 hours local time, on 18 June, the United States forces of the IAFF remained in occupation of eight new blocks along the west bank of the Ozama River, three additional blocks west of the electric power plant area, two additional blocks along the original southern boundary of the corridor as well as the Chile Primary School. There was no change in the position of IAFF troops in the other sectors.
3. In his report, my Representative also informed me that in order to obtain first-hand information on the serious incidents which had occurred after the cessation of hostilities came into effect at 2030 hours on 15 June, he had instructed his military advisers, Major-General Indar J. Rikhye and Colonel Edmundo García, to visit the areas of incidents. Despite considerable practical difficulties,

General Rikhye and Colonel Garcia conducted an extensive tour of inspection on both sides which was concluded in the afternoon of 18 June. My Representative's account of the recent incidents on the basis of the information he has gathered is set forth in the following paragraphs.

4. Fighting was renewed between the United States forces of the IAFP and Caamaño elements in the north and northeast part of the Caamaño sector, between 0001 and 1715 hours on 16 June, along the newly established positions of the IAFP manned by United States troops. The available evidence led my Representative to believe that much of the fighting was caused by some of Colonel Caamaño's commandos, presumably operating independently against positions held by United States troops with a view to pushing them back to the Corridor. These attacks seemed to have been motivated by the belief that the United States troops would return to their original positions if pressure were maintained against them. My Representative's military advisers found that this area had suffered considerable damage during the recent fighting. But they could not ascertain the exact number of the casualties, which had been evacuated by the time of their visit.

5. Inquiries made by the two military advisers revealed that tear gas grenades had been fired from the Caamaño sector in the vicinity of General Cabral Street. Stocks of tear gas grenades of the type used had been seen in the possession of the Caamaño forces.

6. During the night of 15-16 June, the IAFP reported that the Honduras Police checkpoint along the eastern limit of the Security Zone at Josefa Perdomo Street had been attacked by the Caamaño forces. The fire allegedly came from the direction of San Rafael Maternity Clinic which was clearly marked with Red Cross insignia. The IAFP claimed that there was a large concentration of Caamaño forces in this clinic in violation of the Geneva Convention. In this connexion, General Rikhye and Colonel Garcia visited the clinic in question. They spoke to its director, Dr. Julio Alvarez, and inspected the clinic and the neighbouring area. Dr. Alvarez stated that no Caamaño troops had ever used his clinic, although they had occupied the neighbouring houses. This was confirmed by my Representative's military advisers who saw no evidence that the clinic had ever been occupied by any troops. While they found no indication of any large concentration of Caamaño troops in the vicinity, they saw a number of them in the area and in particular in several neighbouring houses.

7. At about 2000 hours on 16 June, heavy fighting broke out in the area of the National Palace and opposite the Jaragua Hotel, north and south of Avenida Independencia. The available evidence clearly indicates, in my Representative's view, that the fire was opened from the Caamaño side on Brazilian troops. Earlier, a loudspeaker from the Caamaño side had made friendly appeals to the Brazilians to abandon their positions and leave behind their weapons and ammunition "for the people" in order to enable them to carry out their fight. When the Brazilians failed to comply, these appeals changed to abuse and accusations. It has also been established, in my Representative's view, that the attackers from the Caamaño side used hand grenades in the initial phase and rifles and machine-guns later. The Brazilians held their positions and the firing stopped at about 2030 hours. Four Brazilians were wounded during the firing. The next morning three officers from Colonel Caamaño's staff reportedly visited the Brazilian Commander to apologize for the incident and assured him that they were doing their best to control some irresponsible elements on their side.

8. In the same report which was sent at 1600 hours on 18 June, my Representative also informed me that since 2030 hours on 16 June there had been no firing incident but that the situation had remained very tense. He considered that the continued occupation of additional territory in the Caamaño sector remained the main cause of the existing tension between the Caamaño forces and the IAFP. He pointed out that the Caamaño forces were a "people's army", quite different from a well organized force and that many among the Caamaño forces would wish to eject IAFP units from their newly occupied areas. In this connexion, my Representative had been informed by Colonel Caamaño that, during his meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee of the Organization of American States in the morning of 18 June, he had asked the withdrawal of the United States troops to their original positions and that he had given the assurance that there would be no firing from his side. The OAS Ad Hoc Committee had reportedly agreed to consider this request.

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