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THIRD REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS S/4387 OF 14 JULY 1960, S/4405 OF
22 JULY 1960 AND S/4426 OF 9 AUGUST 1960

Addendum No. 1

LETTER DATED 31 AUGUST 1960 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
BELGIUM ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to refer to my communication of 30 August and to yours
of the same date concerning the withdrawal of Belgian troops from the Congo.

At the time when I was writing to you yesterday, it was the conviction of
the Belgian authorities that the plan for the evacuation of troops from the
Kamina base, which was to ensure their departure within the appointed time-limit,
had been carried out. All the men were ready to emplane in the United States
aircraft which were to assist in the repatriation.

The Belgian Government subsequently learned that some of the aircraft
provided were not equipped to carry the projected number of men under acceptable
conditions. It consequently became physically impossible to arrange for 337 men
to leave within the appointed time-limit. These men are still at Kamina, ready
for instant evacuation.

The Belgian Government has again approached the United States Government
in order to arrange for aircraft of the necessary capacity to proceed as quickly
as possible with the withdrawal of the men awaiting repatriation.

As for the hundred or so men who are still at Albertville (the personnel
referred to in my letter mentioned above), they are not organized in combat units
but are technicians engaged in moving the transport of the First Paratroop
Battalion, which was evacuated by air. The transport itself had to be moved to
Albertville by rail, and is ready for shipment to Usumbura by boat.

At the time appointed for the withdrawal of Belgian troops, almost all of them had in fact left the Congo, and their evacuation had thus in effect been completed. The delay in withdrawing the 337 men still at Kamina is not attributable to the Belgian authorities. It was, as stated above, due to the inadequacy of the transport capacity placed at the Belgian Government's disposal; while the presence of the men at Albertville is due to delays in the movement and evacuation of some of the transport.

The Belgian Government will take all measures within its power to evacuate as soon as possible the few remnants of its forces which are to be withdrawn and are still on Congolese territory.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Walter LORIDAN
Permanent Representative of Belgium

