

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/4475/Add.3
10 September 1960
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

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. 3

LETTER DATED 9 SEPTEMBER 1960 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF BELGIUM ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

By a cable dated 4 September addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium, you brought to his notice some information which had reached you concerning the situation at the Kitona base. Some data in reply have been communicated orally to your staff. I am now in a position to give you in writing, on the orders of my Government, all necessary clarification. Before going into the details of your cable aforementioned it is essential to specify to you that there are no operational troops left in the Congo.

The men remaining at Kitona are technicians, together with a group of airfield guards. The latter are ready for their departure, which is to take place immediately upon the arrival of United Nations troops capable of taking over this duty. Perhaps that arrival will already have taken place by the time you receive this letter. The Belgian Government hopes for assistance from the United Nations in evacuating these men as quickly as possible. Any technicians whose activity was considered, in agreement with the representatives of the United Nations, not to be essential would also be evacuated. The number of men needed will have to be determined on the spot.

My Government does not believe that it would be useful to revert to the statements which, according to the report you received, were made by the commander of the base. This was essentially a case of regrettable misunderstandings between local commands, to which it would seem inopportune to attach much weight. Moreover I have no doubt that these misunderstandings will have been speedily allayed now that the evacuation of the operational forces is completed.

As to the two gunboats in the Banana roadstead, I am able to inform you that one is an algerine just back from Loanda, which has a cargo of fresh provisions to unload on to barges and which is to return to Belgium as soon as it finishes unloading, and the other an algerine which had been used as a school for Congolese sailors, which is not seaworthy and which, furthermore, is under United Nations guard.

My Government wishes to reiterate that it has always been at pains to act on the Security Council resolutions and has applied them to the fullest extent physically possible.

(Signed) J. de Thier
Permanent Representative a.i.
