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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE
QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING
OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR
ASPECTS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fortieth year

Note verbale dated 19 December 1985 from the Permanent
Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform him that the Netherlands has reviewed its offer of stand-by forces for United Nations peace-keeping operations as presented in his letter No. 4988 of 6 July 1979.

In order to allow for greater flexibility and to meet the most pressing needs of the United Nations, especially at the start of a peace-keeping operation, the Netherlands Government has decided to make the following units available for United Nations peace-keeping missions:

Within 48 hours:

- (a) A marine corps unit drawn from elements of the headquarters and support company, a liaison unit and a reinforced infantry company, comprising in all some 300 men;
- (b) One frigate;
- (c) Three type alouette-111 light reconnaissance helicopters with crews, maintenance personnel and logistic support;
- (d) One type F-27 friendship transport aircraft with crew, maintenance personnel and logistic support;
- (e) A 30-man unit of military police.

Within a week:

- (a) A second marine corps unit of 300 men;
- (b) A number of frigates;
- (c) One support vessel.

The units mentioned above will, in general, be available for a period of up to six months.

Within three to six months:

For longer-term participation in a United Nations peace-keeping mission other units will be designated in the light of circumstances and availability. In principle, all options will be kept open to meet requests by the United Nations on the basis of a case-by-case evaluation. While not excluding the possibility of other forms of participation, preference will be given to the deployment of specialized units.

This offer of stand-by forces is designed to ensure both rapid deployment once a peace-keeping operation is initiated by the United Nations and maximum flexibility in assembling specific units for United Nations duties in the longer term. In this way the Netherlands Government wishes to underscore its continuing support for United Nations operations as an instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security. It views its participation in peace-keeping operations as an integral part of its security policy. Preparations for participation therein have a high priority.

This offer is made on the understanding that prior consultation with the Netherlands Government will take place on each specific occasion on which the Secretary-General of the United Nations requests that Netherlands units be put at his disposal.

It is the understanding of the Netherlands Government that in the matter of financial arrangements the United Nations will conform to established practice based on the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions and will reimburse the Government accordingly.

The Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has the honour to request that this note be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects", and of the Security Council.