



Fourteenth session

UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE: BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE PERIOD
1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 1960

Eleventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has examined the budget estimates which the Secretary-General has submitted (A/4160) in respect of the maintenance of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in 1960, should the General Assembly again decide on its continued functioning.
2. The Secretary-General, in connexion with his regular progress report on the Force, will present to the General Assembly his observations on the serious difficulties experienced to date in meeting the cash requirements for the operation of the Force.
3. The estimates for 1960 amount to a total of \$18,916,000 which is \$84,000 less than the approved amount of \$19,000,000 for 1959. This reduction is to be achieved in spite of an increase of \$1,300,000 over the 1959 provision for the reimbursement to Governments providing contingents of extra costs relating to pay and allowances, due to a change in the composition of the Force, and an increase of \$224,000, due to additional charges for aircraft servicing the Force. It should be noted, however, that the 1960 estimates make no provision for contingencies or for compensation in respect of equipment, materials and supplies furnished by Governments. In the 1959 estimates, provision was included for these purposes in the amounts of \$250,000 and \$1,000,000 respectively.
4. In its report on the 1959 estimates (A/4002)^{1/} the Advisory Committee commented in some detail on the various factors influencing expenditures under the several sections of the budget. The 1960 estimates are presented in the same

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Annexes,
agenda item 65.

form as in 1959 and, apart from the two significant increases noted in the preceding paragraph, reflect in the main the same basic requirements.

5. The Advisory Committee understands that, as a result of another recent visit to the area by two senior officials from Headquarters, a number of further measures have been taken for the improvement and tightening-up of administrative control. In particular, an inspection service has been instituted with special responsibility for the examination of records and the checking of supplies at points of receipt. Other matters which are due to receive attention include:

- (a) The strict control of stocks;
- (b) The improvement of project accountability for construction and maintenance work done in the area;
- (c) More accurate control of stocks and supplies issued for engineering activities;
- (d) The use of cheaper and more durable materials for structures and the improvement of warehousing facilities for the protection of rations.

6. The Advisory Committee notes with satisfaction that it has been possible to reduce the estimate for rations to \$0.90 per day per man from the rate of \$1.20 reflected in the 1959 estimates,^{2/} resulting in a decrease of \$126,000 under section 4. It appears that this result has been achieved by a planned programme of procurement, an improvement in local sources of supply, better storage facilities and more effective methods of control, issuance and usage.

7. Under the item for reconditioning and maintenance of premises in section 3 there is an increase of \$40,000 over the 1959 provision. The Advisory Committee trusts that, as suggested in previous reports (A/3839, para. 15; A/4002, para. 15),^{3/} care will be taken to keep further capital improvements within the limits of strict necessity, bearing in mind the temporary nature of the premises and the fact that these undertakings represent a capital outlay in respect of which the United Nations may not obtain any ultimate return.

8. The Advisory Committee has inquired as to the progress made in the arrangements for the ultimate payment of compensation in respect of equipment, materials and supplies furnished by Governments to their contingents, in terms of paragraph 91 of the Secretary-General's report on UNEF to the twelfth session of

^{2/} The corresponding rates in 1957 and 1958 were \$2.00 and \$1.25 respectively.

^{3/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 65.

the General Assembly (A/3694).^{4/} The Committee understands that as from 1 October 1958 a complete record has been maintained of all contingent-owned equipment in the area. The establishment of similar records in respect of the period before October 1958 is proving somewhat difficult, but every effort is being made to solve the problems involved. The committee is informed that the Secretary-General will report to the General Assembly in due course on the question of the basis on which compensation should be paid as well as the timing of such payments. It may be noted that, should the need arise for any early payments of compensation, the Secretary-General will submit specific proposals in regard to the reserve of approximately \$7 million which has been established for the purpose but in respect of which actual cash is not available at the present time.

9. In the light of its study of the estimates, the Advisory Committee recommends that, should the Assembly decide to continue the Force in 1960, the Secretary-General's proposal for an appropriation of \$18,916,000 should be approved. The Committee would suggest, however, that efforts should be made to keep 1960 expenses within a target level of \$18,500,000.

10. The Advisory Committee also concurs in the Secretary-General's proposal, in paragraph 8 of his foreword to the estimates, that, while the amounts under Part B may not be transferred to other sections of the UNEF budget without the specific prior approval of the Committee, the Secretary-General should have the authority to transfer credits, as required, between sections within Part A of the budget. A similar authority was given to the Secretary-General in respect of Part A of the 1958 and 1959 budgets.

^{4/} Ibid., Twelfth Session, Annexes, agenda item 65.