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QUESTION CONSIDERED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT ITS 749TH AND  
750TH MEETINGS HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 1956

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General circulates the following Aide-Mémoire which is the communication referred to in the first paragraph of the messages received by the Secretary-General on 6 November from the Governments of France and the United Kingdom (A/3307 and A/3306). The Aide-Mémoire was given to the delegations for immediate transmittal to their Governments in the late afternoon of 5 November, after receipt of the Israeli acceptance of a cease-fire (A/3297), later supplemented through a further communication (A/3301).

AIDE MEMOIRE

1. In replies received to the request for a cease-fire, effective 4 November 1956, 24.00 GMT, the Governments of France and the United Kingdom<sup>1/</sup> informed the Secretary-General that as soon as the Governments of Israel and Egypt signify acceptance of, and the United Nations endorses a plan for, an international force with the functions prescribed, the two Governments would cease all military action.
2. By adoption of the resolution, 5 November 1956, providing for the establishment of a United Nations Command, the United Nations General Assembly has taken the first decisive step in implementation of its previous acceptance in principle of a United Nations force to secure cessation of hostilities under all the terms established in its resolution on the subject of 2 November 1956.
3. The Government of Egypt has, through a message to the Secretary-General of 5 November 1956<sup>2/</sup>, accepted the resolution of the General Assembly of 5 November 1956, and may thus be considered as having accepted the establishment of an international force under the terms fixed by the United Nations. No similar declaration is yet available from the Government of Israel.
4. The Government of Egypt has, 4 November 1956<sup>3/</sup>, accepted the request of the Secretary-General for a cease-fire, without any attached conditions. It is to be assumed that this acceptance, although referring to the time-limit set in the request of the Secretary-General, is generally valid.
5. The Government of Israel has now<sup>4/</sup>, in a clarification of its first reply to the request of the Secretary-General for a cease-fire, stated that in the light of Egypt's declaration of willingness to a cease-fire

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1/ A/3293, and A/3294.

2/ A/3295.

3/ A/3287, annex 6.

4/ A/3297.

Israel confirms its readiness to agree to a cease-fire.

6. The conditions for a general cease-fire would, thus, seem to be established and a new request warranted,

provided that the Governments of France and the United Kingdom would recognize the decision of the General Assembly, establishing a United Nations Command, as meeting the condition they have made for a cessation of hostilities, and

if, further, the Government of Israel were to endorse the same General Assembly decision.

7. In view of the urgent request from the General Assembly for a cease-fire, in view of the attitudes on a cease-fire taken by the Governments of Egypt and Israel, in view of the General Assembly decision to establish a United Nations Command and its acceptance by the Government of Egypt, and in pursuance of the General Assembly resolution of 4 November 1956 (document A/3275), operative paragraph 2, I wish to ask the Governments of France and the United Kingdom whether they would recognize the decision of the General Assembly, establishing a United Nations Command, as meeting their condition for a cease-fire. I likewise wish to ask the Government of Israel if it finds itself in a position to accept the General Assembly resolution on the establishment of a United Nations Command.

8. In case of affirmative replies to the questions in paragraph 7 I intend to address again a proposal for an agreed cease-fire to the four Governments concerned.

5 November 1956

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