Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 307 (1971)

Addendum

1. The present report, based largely on information received from the Chief Military Observer of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) on the situation along the cease-fire line in the State of Jammu and Kashmir supervised by UNMOGIP, covers developments since the circulation of the Secretary-General’s report of 29 January 1972 (S/10467/Add.3). This report is circulated in pursuance of paragraph 6 of resolution 307 (1971) as it applies to the observance in the State of Jammu and Kashmir of the “durable cease-fire and cessation of all hostilities” demanded in paragraph 1 of that resolution.

2. During the period under review, the Pakistan local military authorities have continued to submit to the several UNMOGIP field stations complaints of alleged cease-fire violations by Indian armed forces. The Indian local military authorities have submitted no such complaints, although officials of the Government of India have referred publicly to violations of the cease-fire said to have been committed by Pakistan armed forces.

3. As the members of the Council are aware, a number of allegations of violations of the cease-fire along the cease-fire line supervised by UNMOGIP have been communicated to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan in letters dated 31 January (S/10529), 23 February (S/10545), 28 February (S/10555), 13 March (S/10566), 15 March (S/10567), 25 March (S/10575), 31 March (S/10588), 27 April (S/10593) and 8 May 1972 (S/10596). The Secretary-General has transmitted all these complaints to the Chief Military Observer of UNMOGIP.

4. The situation concerning the functioning of the United Nations military observation machinery in Jammu and Kashmir remained during the period under review as described in the Secretary-General’s last report (S/10467/Add.3, paragraphs 6-8). As a result of this, the Secretary-General has not been in a position to keep the Council fully informed under paragraph 6 of resolution 307 (1971).

5. On 5 May 1972, the Chief of the Pakistan Army Staff handed to the Chief Military Observer in Rawalpindi the following complaint of alleged cease-fire violations said to have been committed against Pakistan by Indian troops, the first in the Northern (Astore) sector and the second in Domel sector (Tithwal area):

UNMOGIP
(1) "Area NW 1588. Map Sheet 43 refers. On 24 April 1972 own troops on routine patrolling were fired upon by Indians who had encroached into own territory in area NW 11030. Indians further encroached into our territory and occupied hill features in area NW 1588. On 25 April 1972 Indians fired on our troops in the area with machine guns, rifles and mortars. The strength of Indians in this area is approximately a battalion minus. On 25 and 26 April Indian helicopters brought in more reinforcements, supplies and ammunition into this area. The Indian troops in this area continued to strengthen their positions and fired on our troops thereafter. On 2 May 1972 another battalion strength of the Indians was spotted in area NW 1383 moving north. These are additional troops sent by the Indians to reinforce his positions in area of encroachment.

(2) "Lina Valley area. Two companies attack launched by India on 4 May on position in area NL 9035. Further attacks launched against same position by India on 5 May. Matter referred under United Nations good offices for any action considered necessary."

The Chief Military Observer, acting in the exercise of good offices, promptly transmitted the above complaints to the Indian Chief of Army Staff.

6. A statement concerning the Lina Valley (Tithwal area) incidents, made in the Indian Parliament by the Minister of Defence on 9 May, has been transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of India. According to this statement, Pakistan troops in battalion strength attacked an Indian post 10 miles south-east of Tithwal at 0300 hours (local time) on 5 May. Again at 1345 hours on 5 May, Pakistan troops in more than battalion strength are said to have attacked another Indian post 10 1/2 miles south-east of Tithwal. Indian troops withdrew from both posts after suffering more than 90 casualties, including 20 killed, and inflicting heavier casualties on the Pakistan side. Indian Army headquarters contacted Pakistan Army headquarters on 6 May and offered a cease-fire to be followed by a flag meeting between local commanders. As a result, both army headquarters ordered a cease-fire, which came into effect at 1930 hours on 6 May.

7. The Chief Military Observer reports that the areas referred to in the Pakistan complaints and in the statement by the Indian Minister were on the Pakistan side of the cease-fire line established under the Karachi agreement of July 1949. Both were claimed by India as being under Indian control when the present cease-fire went into effect on 17 December 1971. Pakistan claims that both areas were under Pakistan control as of that date. The members of the Council will recall in this connexion (S/10467/Add.3, para. 2) that the lines of control as of 17 December 1971, as reported to the Chief Military Observer by the high commands of the India and Pakistan armies, do not coincide in all cases. Owing to the situation referred to in paragraph 4 above, the locations of these lines on the ground have not so far been verified by the United Nations Military Observers. For the same reasons, the Secretary-General is not in a position to provide any independent information to the Council on the alleged violations referred to by Pakistan and India (paras. 5-6 above).
8. According to information available to UNMOGIP, the firing in the area of the
Lipa Valley incidents has ceased. In the Northern Sector, according to the
Pakistan authorities, firing was still taking place as of 0630 hours GMT
on 12 May 1972.

9. Concerning flag meetings between local commanders, the Secretary-General has
been informed that in the Indian view such meetings provide a bilateral and
effective machinery for maintaining the durability of the present cease-fire, which
has been successfully used on 32 occasions in March/April alone, on the initiative
of one or the other side. In the Pakistan view, as stated to the Secretary-
General, flag meetings in order to be acceptable and effective would have to be
held under the auspices of UNMOGIP Military Observers. Owing to this difference
of views, the flag meetings suggested by India in connexion with the Lipa Valley
incidents have not taken place.

10. The Secretary-General expresses the hope that, in keeping with the demand of
the Security Council, the cease-fire and cessation of all hostilities will be
strictly observed and that both sides will take effective measures to ensure that
there is no recurrence of fighting. The machinery of UNMOGIP, which reports to the
Secretary-General on the observance of the cease-fire in its area of responsibility,
continues to be available to the parties, if desired. Moreover, the Secretary-
General has been informed of efforts being made by the Governments to open direct
high-level negotiations to resolve their differences, including the recent meetings
of the Special Envoys of the two countries at Murree and Islamabad which
resulted in the joint statement of 30 April. The strict observance of the cease-
fire would undoubtedly facilitate further progress in this direction.