



Security Council

Distr.
GENERALS/15194
10 June 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS
INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON

(for the period from 11 December 1981 to 3 June 1982)

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INTRODUCTION

1. The present report contains an account of developments relating to the functioning of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for the period from 11 December 1981 to 3 June 1982. An addendum to this report, including my observations on UNIFIL, will be issued later.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

(a) Composition

2. The composition of UNIFIL as of 3 June 1982 was as follows:

Infantry battalions

Fiji	628
France	595
Ghana	557
Ireland	671
Nepal	432
Netherlands	810
Nigeria	696
Norway	660
Senegal	561

Headquarters camp command

Ghana	140
Ireland	51

Logistic units

France	775
Italy	34
Norway	191
Sweden	144

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In addition to the above personnel, UNIFIL was assisted by 87 military observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). These unarmed observers were under the operational control of the Force Commander of UNIFIL.

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3. In its resolution 501 (1982) of 25 February 1982, the Security Council approved an increase in the strength of UNIFIL from approximately 6,000 to approximately 7,000. On 25 April, I informed the Council of the steps taken in that regard (S/14996, para. 5). Since then, the Governments of Ghana, Ireland and Norway strengthened their contingents to the levels indicated above, and a French infantry battalion arrived in the UNIFIL area of operation on 28 May 1982, together with additional French logistic personnel.

(b) Command

4. Command of UNIFIL continued to be exercised by Lieutenant-General William Callaghan.

(c) Rotation of contingents

5. During the period covered by this report all contingents carried out rotations.

(d) Casualties

6. During the period under review, 5 members of the Force lost their lives and 17 were wounded. Of the fatalities, 1 died as a result of hostile action and the others in accidents or from natural causes.

7. Since UNIFIL was established, 75 members of the Force have died, 34 of them as a result of firing and mine explosions, 31 in accidents and 10 from natural causes. Some 115 have been wounded in armed clashes, shellings and mine explosions.

(e) Discipline

8. The discipline, devotion and bearing of the members of UNIFIL, as well as of the UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force, who have continued to serve in difficult and often hazardous conditions, reflect credit on themselves, their commanders and their countries.

B. Deployment

9. Significant changes in deployment were made as a result of the increase in the strength of the Force. The newly strengthened Ghanaian battalion took over from the Nigerian battalion a company-size area encompassing the villages of Tulin and Qabrikha. The new French battalion was deployed in the central and eastern sectors of the area previously assigned to the Nigerian battalion, which, in turn, was redeployed in the eastern part of the Senegalese battalion area of operation. The Irish battalion took over a small sector of the Ghanaian area.

10. UNTSO military observers, organized as Observer Group Lebanon (OGL), continued to man five observation posts (Lab, Hin, Ras, Mar, Khiam) along the Lebanese side of the 1949 Israel-Lebanon armistice demarcation line. In addition, seven UNTSO teams assisted UNIFIL in the performance of its tasks. A team based in Metulla (Israel) served as liaison with the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) in that locality

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and, through the latter, with the headquarters of the de facto forces (Christian and associated militias) in Marjayoun. A team based in Tyre served as liaison with local representatives of the armed elements (mainly Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Lebanese National Movement) and Amal (Lebanese Shi'ite armed organization). The number of mobile teams, whose primary functions were to prevent and investigate incidents, was increased from four to five. A new eighth team manned a United Nations position near Château de Beaufort which was re-established on 31 March 1982 (see S/14996, para. 7).

11. The deployment of UNIFIL as of 3 June was as follows (see annexed map):

- (a) The Force headquarters remained located at Naqoura;
- (b) The Senegalese battalion was deployed in the northern part of the western sector, with its headquarters at Marakah;
- (c) The Nigerian battalion was deployed in the northern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Tayr Zibna;
- (d) The French battalion was deployed in the north-eastern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Burj Qallawiyah;
- (e) The Ghanaian battalion was deployed in the eastern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Kafr Dunin;
- (f) The Irish battalion was deployed in the south-eastern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Tibnin;
- (g) The Dutch battalion was deployed in the south-western part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Haris;
- (h) The Fijian battalion was deployed in the southern part of the western sector, with its headquarters at Qana;
- (i) The Nepalese battalion was deployed in the western part of the eastern sector, with its headquarters at Blate;
- (j) The Norwegian battalion was deployed in the eastern part of the eastern sector, with its headquarters at Ebel es-Saqi;
- (k) The headquarters camp command, composed of Ghanaian and Irish troops, was based at Naqoura;
- (l) The French logistic component was located at Naqoura;
- (m) The French engineer company was located at Al Hinniyah;
- (n) Two Ghanaian engineer platoons were based at Naqoura;
- (o) The Norwegian maintenance company was located in the vicinity of Tibnin;

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(p) The Italian helicopter wing was based at Naqoura;

(q) The Swedish medical company was located at Naqoura;

(r) The Observer Group Lebanon was based at Naqoura;

(s) A UNIFIL guard detachment, whose strength was reduced to 25 men, drawn from the infantry battalions of the Force on a four-week rotation basis was stationed in Tyre barracks;

(t) The Military Police company was based at Naqoura and functioned throughout the UNIFIL area of operation and outside it, as required.

12. The Lebanese national army unit, under the operational control of the UNIFIL Commander, remained at an approximate strength of 1,350, all ranks. Its headquarters continued to be located at Arzun and subunits were attached to UNIFIL battalions. A guard platoon as well as an engineer company were stationed at Tyre barracks. The unit as a whole continued to be involved in patrolling and in manning observation posts and check-points jointly with UNIFIL.

13. The Lebanese engineer company continued to improve existing buildings and to construct shelters. It also undertook projects for the benefit of the civilian population in the UNIFIL area of operation. A Lebanese army engineer platoon completed its assignment with the French engineer company at Al Hinnyah.

14. UNIFIL continued to receive the close co-operation of the Lebanese Internal Security Forces (ISF), and operational matters of common concern were regularly discussed at co-ordination meetings held under the chairmanship of the Governor of South Lebanon.

II. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

15. Progress was achieved in developing the physical infrastructure and other facilities required by the Force. The hiring of local labour to assist the various battalions in routine duties enabled military personnel to be released for operational tasks. Additionally, the assignment of Field Service officers to individual battalions has facilitated the handling of administrative matters. However, difficulties continued to be faced, especially as regards vehicle maintenance.

A. Accommodation

16. The prefabricated building programme was stepped up. Forty-nine buildings were erected. Work on 21 structures, including ammunition magazines, workshops, petrol stations and a pump house, was begun.

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B. Communications

17. A fully automatic telephone system linking UNIFIL headquarters with Beirut, all the battalions and UNDOF was completed. In addition, work on a microwave link between Beirut and Naqoura was undertaken. Steps were also taken to improve telephone communications with the battalions. The French logistic component was provided with a separate radio channel.

C. Logistics

18. Logistic support for UNIFIL continued to be provided by a headquarters logistic branch, the French logistic component, the Norwegian maintenance unit, the Ghanaian engineer unit, the Swedish medical company and the Italian helicopter wing.

19. During the reporting period, considerable efforts were made to reduce delivery time for spare parts through an expanded direct provisioning system covering a wider range of vehicle and equipment makes. Petrol supply from the Zahrani refinery was satisfactory, and contingents reserves were increased.

20. Efforts continued to increase further the procurement of goods and services in Lebanon and to use to the largest possible extent the facilities of the Beirut port, which became the main port of entry for items arriving in the area.

21. Despite some progress, including the general overhaul of vehicles of the French, Irish and Dutch contingents in their countries, the UNIFIL fleet of vehicles continued to pose maintenance problems. Many vehicles could no longer be economically repaired and had to be replaced. Some 100 vehicles, mainly jeeps and trucks, were ordered. Despite the improvement of workshop facilities, the maintenance of armoured personnel carriers continued to be a problem.

22. In co-operation with the competent Lebanese authorities, UNIFIL continued work to augment water supply to its Naqoura headquarters as well as to the various battalions. Progress was made in gradually connecting UNIFIL to the Lebanese electricity grid. With the assistance of the office of the Governor of South Lebanon, urgently needed repairs commenced on the road from Al Hinnayah to Zibqin in the western sector of the area of operation.

23. During the reporting period, the French engineer company defused or exploded 150 shells, mines, grenades and traps, and neutralized 140 cluster bombs. It also cleared some 10,000 square metres of ground of mines. In addition, it moved 60,000 cubic metres of earth, levelling building sites, digging trenches and maintenance pits, and clearing approximately 40 kilometres of new tracks in the area of operation.

24. The UNIFIL hospital at Naqoura, operated by the Swedish medical company, continued to provide health and hygiene services to the Force and to the civilian population in an integrated effort with the battalion centres and Lebanese medical facilities. During the period under review, the out-patient clinic treated 4,646 patients - 1,997 UNIFIL personnel and 2,649 Lebanese civilians. In the same

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period, the hospital admitted 450 patients - 225 UNIFIL personnel and 225 Lebanese civilians. In its surgical unit, 221 operations were performed. A total of 1,603 X-ray examinations and 5,296 laboratory analyses were conducted, and the hospital dentist treated 705 patients. Further, battalion medical centres continued to provide assistance to the local population. In particularly serious cases, which could not receive adequate treatment at the Naqoura hospital, UNIFIL was able, as in the past, to resort to the services of Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

25. The Italian helicopter wing was again instrumental in providing air transport for serious medical cases. UNIFIL personnel as well as Lebanese civilians requiring urgent treatment were evacuated to the hospital at Naqoura. Thirty-six such evacuations, 19 of them at night, were carried out, often in hazardous conditions. In four instances, the helicopters came under fire by armed elements. The helicopter wing also carried out essential logistic support activities. During the reporting period, it transported 3,140 passengers and 67 tons of cargo. Its vital role was particularly evident in periods of tension or reduced freedom of movement.

III. FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Guidelines and terms of reference

26. UNIFIL continued to operate in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Secretary-General's report of 19 March 1978 (S/12611) on the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978), which was approved by the Council in its resolution 426 (1978). According to that report, UNIFIL was envisaged as a two-stage operation. In the first stage, the Force was to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory to the international border. Once that was achieved, UNIFIL was to establish and maintain an area of operation. In that connexion, the Force was to supervise the cessation of hostilities, ensure the peaceful character of the area of operation, control movement and assist the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its authority in the area.

B. Co-operation with UNTSO

27. UNTSO military observers continued to assist UNIFIL and to co-operate in the performance of its tasks under the institutional arrangements described in paragraph 10 above.

28. As indicated in my special report of 25 April 1982 (S/14996 and Corr.1), I instructed the Chief of Staff of UNTSO, in pursuance of Security Council resolution 501 (1982), to contact the Israeli and Lebanese Governments, with a view to reactivating the General Armistice Agreement of 23 March 1949 and the convening of an early meeting of the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission (ILMAC). In the course of those contacts, the parties reiterated their positions on those matters. Despite the efforts of the Chief of Staff, it was not possible to arrange a meeting.

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C. Contacts with the parties

29. During the period under review, contacts with the parties concerned were maintained both at United Nations Headquarters and in the area, with a view to implementing the UNIFIL mandate. In the early days of February 1982, Mr. Brian Urquhart, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, travelled to the area at my request. He held discussions on the situation in southern Lebanon with the President of Lebanon and senior officials of that Government, the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Prime Minister and senior officials of the Israeli Government. I informed the Security Council of those contacts in my special report of 16 February 1982 (S/14869).

30. General Callaghan and his senior staff were in continuous contact with the parties on matters regarding the deployment and functioning of the Force. In addition and in accordance with Security Council resolutions 488 (1981), 498 (1981) and 501 (1982), meetings were held with Lebanese officials and, in particular, with the army Commander, with a view to achieving progress on a joint phased programme of activities for the implementation of resolution 425 (1978). In the area of operation, negotiations and consultations were held by members of UNIFIL with the various armed groups, as required.

31. In Jerusalem, Major-General Erskine, Chief of Staff of UNTSO, and his senior staff maintained contact with the Israeli authorities, as necessary, on matters pertaining to UNIFIL. In Beirut, ILMAC headquarters continued to function as a liaison office for UNIFIL. Mr. Iqbal A. Akhund, who is serving in Beirut as Co-ordinator of Assistance for Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon, continued to assist UNIFIL, while the support of the United Nations information centre in Beirut remained most useful to the Force in its relations with the media.

D. Situation in southern Lebanon and activities of UNIFIL

32. The situation as of 10 December 1981 was described in the last periodic report (S/14789 and Corr.1). After examining that report, the Security Council, on 18 December 1981, adopted resolution 498 (1981), in which it renewed the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of six months and reiterated its determination to implement resolution 425 (1978) in the totality of the area of operation assigned to UNIFIL up to the internationally recognized boundaries. Subsequently, the Council adopted resolution 501 (1982), in which it once again reaffirmed its resolution 425 (1978).

33. During the period under review, the activities of armed elements, Amal, the de facto forces and IDF within and near the UNIFIL area of operation continued. Clashes originating outside the UNIFIL area often had repercussions within it. This was particularly so at the end of January and in mid-April, when violent clashes occurred between Amal and groups associated with the Lebanese National Movement. In the course of April, there were also several incidents in Brashit, in the Irish battalion sector, where houses were blown up by unidentified intruders and three Lebanese were shot. While the number of hostile actions directed against UNIFIL itself was comparatively limited, there was a fatal incident on

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2 January 1982, in which two Ghanaian soldiers guarding a UNIFIL position were attacked by unidentified persons and one of the soldiers was shot and subsequently died.

(a) Incidents involving armed elements

34. Attempts by armed elements to establish positions in the UNIFIL area of operation continued to cause serious concern to the Force. These attempts, which occurred mainly in certain parts of the Senegalese and Dutch battalion sectors, were resisted. The positions held by armed elements remained under close surveillance by UNIFIL to ensure that they were not used for tactical or hostile purposes. Negotiations continued with a view to reducing their number and strength.

35. UNIFIL continued to prevent groups of armed elements from entering its area: one such group was stopped during the second half of December, 8 in January, 2 in February, 3 in March, 2 in April and 2 in May. As in the past, repeated attempts to enter the UNIFIL area or to move within it were also made by individuals carrying weapons, wearing military uniforms or refusing to have their vehicles searched. Those individuals were stopped at UNIFIL check-points and their weapons confiscated. In December, entry was denied to 64 such persons, and 21 weapons were confiscated. The corresponding figures in January were 70 persons and 61 weapons; in February, 27 persons and 58 weapons; in March, 98 persons and 96 weapons; in April, 69 persons and 62 weapons; and in May, 27 persons and 47 weapons. On a number of occasions, tension developed at check-points because of the refusal of individuals to co-operate with UNIFIL.

36. During the period under review, there were a number of firing incidents involving various armed groups and UNIFIL. Some of the more serious incidents are outlined below:

- (i) On 25 January, members of Amal, claiming that Lebanese National Movement elements had occupied a house dominating the village of Jwayya, forced their way into the Senegalese company headquarters located at the eastern entrance of the village. An exchange of fire ensued between the two Lebanese groups, during which the Senegalese company headquarters received numerous direct hits. UNIFIL reinforcements were moved into Jwayya and re-established control of the area.
- (ii) On 28 January, hostilities broke out again between Amal and elements of the Lebanese National Movement in the general area of Qana and Hannawiyah, in the Fijian battalion sector. Fighting spread rapidly to Ayn Bal and As Siddiqin in the Dutch battalion sector, claiming lives on both sides. Quiet was restored on 30 January after intensive efforts by UNIFIL.
- (iii) On 8 February, A French soldier driving a truck in a UNIFIL convoy was shot in the leg by an unidentified person 3 kilometres north of the Kasmiya bridge.
- (iv) Between 13 and 16 April, new hostilities took place between Amal and various factions of the Lebanese National Movement in the Senegalese battalion sector. In the intense exchanges of fire that took place, some UNIFIL positions were hit with small arms and mortar fire.

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(v) On 24 April, a UNIFIL position in the Dutch battalion sector came under fire by armed elements using small arms, machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades.

(vi) On 19 May, a UNIFIL helicopter conducting a medical evacuation came under machine-gun fire from a position located approximately 2 kilometres south-west of Qana. Fire was returned from two positions manned by Dutch soldiers, and the helicopter was able to complete its mission.

37. In addition, there were 23 incidents in which armed elements fired close to UNIFIL positions and personnel. Those were strongly protested.

(b) Incidents involving the de facto forces

38. Apart from its headquarters in Naqoura, UNIFIL continued to maintain 16 positions in the enclave. Further, the five observation posts originally set up by UNTSO in 1972 in pursuance of a consensus of the Security Council, were also maintained. During the period, the de facto forces continued to oppose and prevent further deployment of UNIFIL in the enclave.

39. The restrictions on the freedom of movement of UNIFIL personnel and UNTSO observers within the enclave remained essentially as previously reported (S/14789, para. 39). These restrictions continued to limit the operational capability of UNIFIL and the ability of the observers to monitor the situation in the border area. Efforts continued to remedy the situation so as to enable the observers to discharge fully the responsibilities entrusted to them by the Security Council.

40. The de facto forces continued to maintain encroachments in the UNIFIL area of deployment at Bayt Yahun, Blate, Ett Taibe, Rshaf and on Hill 880 near At Tiri. UNIFIL made intensive efforts, including repeated contacts with the Israeli authorities, to have these provocative positions removed. However, the necessary co-operation was not forthcoming.

41. Among the more serious incidents involving the de facto forces and UNIFIL were three separate instances, on 17 December 1981 and 7 and 14 May 1982, when a Ghanaian position in the enclave was overrun by the de facto forces and looted. Another serious incident occurred on 7 April, when armed persons occupied a house in Brashit, and an Irish patrol which was conducting an investigation came under fire. The intruders escaped towards the de facto forces position at Bayt Yahun.

42. During the period under review, there were frequent instances of firing by the de facto forces at or close to UNIFIL positions. Sixty-three such incidents were recorded. Those were strongly protested.

(c) Activity of the IDF in and near the UNIFIL area of operation

43. IDF activities in the UNIFIL area of operation continued unabated. UNIFIL and UNTSO raised the matter repeatedly with the Israeli authorities.

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44. The presence of IDF personnel and equipment inside the enclave remained at a high level. Further work was undertaken by IDF to strengthen observation posts and gun positions. Increased training activity was observed in the vicinity of Khiam and, recently, also in the area around Yarin. IDF increased its presence and activities in the eastern sector of the enclave, particularly in the Kafer Chouba and Chebaa areas, and IDF patrols were frequently sighted along the perimeters of the Dutch and Ghanaian battalion areas of deployment.

45. On 21 April, an IDF jeep ran over a mine on a track leading to the de facto forces encroachment at Ett Taibe. One Israeli soldier was killed, and another was wounded and evacuated by UNIFIL helicopter. On 7 and 8 May, Israeli soldiers attempted to enter the UNIFIL area by helicopter and on foot. Warning shots were fired by Norwegian troops, and the soldiers withdrew. It was later learned that five Lebanese had been taken into Israel for questioning, following the discovery of two mines in the enclave. The five were released after a few hours.

46. There were violations of Lebanese air space by Israeli aircraft and of Lebanese waters by Israeli naval vessels. UNIFIL observed 130 air violations and 62 sea violations in December 1981, 285 air violations and 53 sea violations in January 1982, 121 air violations and 54 sea violations in February, 187 air violations and 97 sea violations in March, 368 air violations and 59 sea violations in April, and 302 air violations and 59 sea violations in May.

47. During the period under review, various UNIFIL positions and personnel came under close fire by IDF. Seventeen such incidents were reported. Those incidents as well as the repeated violations of Lebanese territory were strongly protested.

(d) Efforts to maintain the cease-fire

48. Both at United Nations Headquarters and in the field, intense efforts were made to maintain the cease-fire which came into effect on 24 July 1981 and to restore it after hostile acts occurred.

49. On 21 April 1982, I learnt with deep concern of Israeli air strikes in Lebanon. I urgently appealed for an immediate cessation of all hostile acts and urged all parties to exercise the maximum restraint so that the cease-fire, which had generally held, could be fully restored and maintained. On 22 April, following consultations with members of the Security Council, the President of the Council issued a statement on their behalf in which they urgently demanded an end to all armed attacks and violations which jeopardized the cease-fire which had been in effect since 24 July 1981 and warned against any recurrence of violations of the cease-fire, in accordance with Security Council resolution 490 (1981) of 21 July 1981. In the same statement, the members of the Council also enjoined all the parties to fulfil their responsibilities with respect to peace and invited them to work for consolidation of the cease-fire (S/14995).

50. On 9 May, Israeli aircraft again attacked targets in Lebanon. Later that day, UNIFIL observed the firing of rockets from Palestinian positions in the Tyre pocket into northern Israel. The Israeli attacks were the subject of a letter dated 10 May from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon (S/15064 and Corr.1). In this connexion, the Council will also recall the letter of 10 May from the Permanent Representative of Israel (S/15066).

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51. Since the situation in the area remained extremely volatile, I took every opportunity to urge restraint on the parties and, in doing so, was mindful of the statement made by the President of the Security Council on 22 April.

E. Humanitarian activities

52. The relative quiet prevailing in the UNIFIL area of operation during the period covered by this report and the combined efforts of the Government of Lebanon, UNIFIL and other international agencies facilitated progress in the economic and social fields. Agriculture, trade, increased construction activities and the improvement of basic educational, health and other public services all benefited from the relative calm. In those circumstances, the Lebanese population returned in large numbers, with attendant demands on governmental and UNIFIL services to meet the needs of approximately a quarter-million inhabitants.

53. UNIFIL continued to hold regular meetings with the Governor of South Lebanon, the President of the Council for the South and their staff, with a view to co-ordinating approaches to a wide range of economic, social and humanitarian matters. In this connexion, UNIFIL lent its support to the implementation of projects financed by the Council for Development and Reconstruction and UNICEF. Thus, UNIFIL assisted the Lebanese electricity company by providing escorts, arranging helicopter reconnaissance flights and clearing mined land. New road repair projects commenced in the area of operation in close consultation with UNIFIL. Further, with UNIFIL providing logistical and security assistance both at Naqoura and in Ebl es-Saqi, the Council for the South was able to effect the payment of compensation to more than 2,000 persons whose property had been damaged in the enclave during the Israeli military operation of March 1978. Similarly, UNIFIL provided essential logistic support to UNICEF in its programme of assistance to the population of southern Lebanon. UNIFIL medical officers co-operated closely with the Lebanese Ministry of Health and UNICEF in the improvement of medical services. The UNIFIL humanitarian section was also active in resolving cases of kidnapped villagers and continued to co-operate with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in such matters as the tracing of missing persons and visits to prisoners.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

54. By its resolution 36/138 A of 16 December 1981, the General Assembly, among other things, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNIFIL at a rate not to exceed \$13,316,666 gross (\$13,177,500 net) per month for the period from 19 December 1981 to 18 December 1982, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 488 (1981) of 19 June 1981. Subsequently, by its

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resolution 36/138 C of 19 March 1982, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNIFIL at a rate not to exceed \$1,913,000 gross (\$1,910,333 net) per month for the period from 19 June to 18 December 1982, inclusive, in addition to the amounts authorized for the Force under Assembly resolution 36/138 A, to finance the increase in the strength of the Force approved by the Security Council under its resolution 501 (1982). Naturally, the financial provisions concerning the period beyond 19 June 1982 will depend on the decision that may be taken by the Security Council.

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