

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I believe, Sir, in a couple of weeks.

#### U.N. ACTION IN KATANGA

♦3. SHRI J. C. CHATTERJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Congo crack Gurkha troops from India stormed the city of Elisabethville in the second week of September, 1961; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some member countries were acting against the interests of the United Nations Organization in the affairs of Katanga?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER or EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) In the fighting in Katanga which started on 13-9-1961 in implementation of para 2 of the Security Council Resolution of the 21st February, 1961, the Indian troops under the UN Command in Katanga, consisting mainly of Dogras, secured important communication centres in Elisabethville, such as the Radio Station and Post Offices by use of force.

(b) Yes Sir. It is well-known that the politics and actions of some countries have come in the way of the effective implementation of the Security Council Resolution mentioned above.

SHRI J. C. CHATTERJI: May I know, Sir, what the attitude of the United Kingdom was in regard to this matter?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The attitude of the United Kingdom in regard to what?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: With reference to part (b) of the question, may I know the names of the countries which have come in the way?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, unless a specific question is put, it would rather be difficult to answer

this general question. Well, the Security Council passed a Resolution in February last laying down certain objectives in regard to the Congo and Katanga. Those Resolutions were voted upon by many countries. I forget now whether there was any dissentient vote. Since then, Sir, some difficulties have arisen in their application. No one has opposed it, so far as I know. Well, I will not say 'No one.' I will say that none of the principal countries has opposed that. But in actual practice some difficulties have arisen. Now those difficulties have arisen in regard to a particular matter, not as a whole. So, unless that particular matter is specified, it is difficult to answer it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do I understand from what the Prime Minister has said that our troops under the U. N. had to face certain difficulties created in their way by certain elements associated with certain powers? If so, what are those powers?

(No reply)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: When our troops under the Commander of the U.N. stormed Elisabethville, was there any fighting, and whether there were any casualties among the personnel of our troops?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The word 'stormed' is rather a big word for the actual operations undertaken in the region. Speaking to the best of my recollection, there was not much fighting and, in fact, it was hoped that this might be done peacefully, i.e., to take possession of strategic points in that town. But there was some little conflict, not much. The conflict came later when some sniping took place, to begin with, from the Belgian Consulate building on to the Indian troops, and it has also been reported that some ambulance cars and others actually started firing on the Indian troops. They were protected by the fact that there were ambulance cars. Of course, they were not used as such. Then there was some fighting and there was some sporadic fighting else-

where too, and some U. N. troops, not Indian troops but Irish troops, were surrounded and isolated and ultimately they surrendered. So, the actual fighting was not on a big scale anywhere. One factor however came in which made a difference, i.e., the aircraft which the Katangan authorities used. It was not quite clear how they got the aircraft or where they got them from, but there it was. They used them. And naturally as the U. N. were not using any aircraft, it made a difference in favour of the Katangan authorities at that moment. Thereafter the U. N. wanted them and aircraft have been sent there. We have supplied some and other countries have also supplied them.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, in view of what the Prime Minister has said just now about the Katanga Government having the aircraft 'from other places, would he be able to say whether those aircraft were supplied by West Germany and the United Kingdom, because reports to that effect have appeared in the Press?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I am not quite clear about it. I think some West German aircraft were sold to somebody who sold them to a third party and so, after changing hands for two or three times they reached the Katangan authorities. So, there is no information how they got them there; they sold them to some other party. There were some French aircraft too which were sent; there were no direct sales to the parties concerned.

May I point out the difficulty in answering these questions about the Powers? Only this morning the newspapers contained an account of the resolutions which came up before the Security Council. That itself produces, to me at any rate, not a very clear idea of the attitudes of the various Powers. Some voted for it, one or two did not vote for it, one or two abstained and there were some parts of the resolution that were vetoed afterwards.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: How is it that the U. N. which started taking action against the Katanga Government suddenly stopped it and agreed to a cease-fire? Why did it not take into consideration the factors against it when it started this action?

(SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The U. N. functions, naturally, not after reference to us, but it decides as it thinks best. Although our troops are there, they are there as U. N. troops. We are not asked. We get to know after the events have happened, very often, as to what they have done, through our agencies. There has been some controversy about the stopping of this fighting by the U. N. at that time, as the hon. Member refers to and to us it was not quite clear as to why this was done at that particular moment but it is not very right, perhaps 'for any of us to judge a situation without knowing all the factors there. We do not know all the factors nor probably does the hon. Member. I can neither justify the U. N. action nor criticise it 'from the partial data available to me.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: As our troops are involved in the fighting, have we not the right to have full information from the U. N.?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: As far as this question is concerned, there is full information. The question relates to a particular event.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is about the Gurkha troops.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Exactly. On that We have all the information needed. That is what I stated in the answer, that it was not the Gurkha troop, but the Dogra regiment and they were given the definite task of getting these strategic positions. They have done it and they were attacked from the Red Cross Van.

PANDIT HBIDAY NATH KUNZRU: I do not quite understand the Deputy Minister. Our troops were part of the troops of the U. N. What the duty assigned to them was does not matter and whether they fought actually or whether they occupied strategic positions is a matter of no consequence but our troops were there. They might have been asked to fight and have we not got the right to get full information on the subject from the U. N.?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I cannot discuss the question of the rights in this matter but the decisions are made by the U.N. authorities. We get to know of the decisions, naturally, after they have been made, after, to some extent, they have been given effect to. We do hear or we get information, that is, our army people get information from our 'forces there, not of the overall situation because they can only refer to the points they know. We also get some information from our Permanent Representative, Mr. C. S. Jha, in the U. N. but the decisions are made without consulting us, by the U. N. authorities.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: That is quite clear. What is the information that has been received.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: In regard to what matter?

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: About the sudden cessation against Katanga by the U. N.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I cannot go into that report.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a different question.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Some information is received—I speak from memory—that having considered all this and consulted all the people, they decided to have the cease-fire

because either in the military sense or politically—or both—they considered it advisable to act as they did. There is some information—I have not it on my fingers at present—as to what reasons they gave because we ourselves were rather surprised at that decision.

**AFL MED RAID BY PAKISTANI ON VILLAGE DANDE&A IN DLSTT. GANGANAGAR (RAJASTHAN)**

\*4. SHRI J. C. CHATTERJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a party of eight armed Pakistanis entered the border village of Dandera in Anoop-garh Police Circle in the District of Ganganagar in Rajasthan on or about the 11th September 1961 and snatched away ornaments from three women and drove away thirteen camels from the nearby village of Narainawala; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. On September 2, 1961 some raiders from Pakistan drove away eight camels and also looted about 4 tolas of gold and 230 tolas of silver from the inhabitants of the two villages.

(b) The question of the restoration of the looted property was discussed at the 6th Conference of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Rajasthan and the Deputy Director General, West Pakistan Rangers, held at Bikaner on 14-16th October, 1961. The Deputy Director General, West Pakistan Rangers reported that they had recovered all the stolen camels and some other property.

A meeting between the police officials of Rajasthan and West Pakistan was scheduled for November 8, 1961 for the restoration of the said property. This meeting did not materi-