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REPORT OF A STUDY GROUP  
APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
TO INQUIRE INTO THE FUTURE USE OF THE MILITARY BASES  
OF KAMINA AND KITONA  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

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REPORT OF A STUDY GROUP APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO INQUIRE INTO  
THE FUTURE USE OF THE MILITARY BASES OF KAMINA AND KITONA IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

PART I - INTRODUCTION

Study Group

In his letter dated 27 August 1960, the Secretary-General appointed Mr. Galo Plaza (Ecuador) to be the Chairman of the above mission to the Congo. The other members of the Study Group are Brigadier I. J. Rikhye (India) and Mr. F. C. Nwokedi (Nigeria).

Terms of Reference

2. The Secretary-General's letter of 27 August defined the work of the Study Group as follows:

"The Study Group on the Bases in the Congo (BASIC) is directed to undertake both at Kitona and Kamina a study as to the use to which these Belgian bases can be placed once their present military use has been terminated. It is requested to examine and report on the alternate and rational use of the existing installations and to evaluate the financial implications for their maintenance or for their conversion to other use. In this regard, special attention should be given to alternate means of utilization.

"Realizing that these bases provide at present a source of employment for many Congolese and give also important social services to these employees as well as their dependents, the Study Group is further requested to study means by which continued employment for these Congolese can be assured either on the bases or elsewhere, making a full investigation of their possible transfer to other types and places of employment, where their acquired skills can be utilized.

"The Study Group is requested to explore all other ways by which the transfer of these bases from their military to civilian use can be smoothly undertaken. It should also make a study as to the financial involvement of these bases in case the Central Government of the Congo would desire to continue these bases in their present form."

Places visited and people seen

3. Mr. Plaza and Brigadier Rikhye arrived in Leopoldville from New York on 29 August 1960. The following day, Mr. Plaza, in the company of Mr. Bunche and Mr. Cordier, called on President Kasavubu and the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bomboko, and explained the object of his mission. Mr. Plaza had been asked by the Secretary-General to contact the Government of the Republic of the Congo on arrival in Leopoldville as it was desirable that the Study Group should act in consultation with the Government. The Secretary-General mentioned that he had received no reply to his letter on the subject, dated 22 August 1960, addressed to the Foreign Minister of the Republic. At the interview the President expressed concern as to the future of Kamina base and wondered if it could be utilized for military training for the Congolese army under UN Technical Assistance. Mr. Plaza noted the President's views which, he said, could be taken into consideration as part of a much larger overall plan for the future conversion of the Kamina base to aid civilian operations and the economic development of the country.

4. Later in the day, Mr. Plaza and Brigadier Rikhye took a plane for Kamina base. Mr. Nwokedi arrived in Leopoldville on 2 September and joined the Study Group at Kamina on the 3rd. Brigadier Rikhye left Kamina for Leopoldville after a few days to attend to urgent administrative matters at Headquarters.



The Study Group visited Kitona on 12 and 13 September and finally left Leopoldville for New York on 15 September.

5. At Kamina and Kitona, the Study Group interviewed the Belgian technicians who were maintaining the services at the bases under UN control, and obtained from them much valuable information pertaining to the bases. The main installations, workshops and housing estates were visited and discussions were held with Congolese workers. A representative group of the workers was interviewed at Kamina.

6. Before leaving Leopoldville, the Study Group held a meeting with Dr. Linner (Chief of UN civilian operations in the Congo) and representatives of UNESCO and ILO, and exchanged views with them on the problem of technical training and education in the Congo. It was generally agreed that the use of the training facilities at Kamina and Kitona could form part of an overall educational plan for the Congo.

7. The Study Group was greatly assisted by UN officials posted to Kamina and Kitona. We wish to record our indebtedness to Mr. Dumontet at Kitona and to General R. A. Wheeler, who inquired into the question of recommencing work on the interrupted building projects at Kamina base. As will be seen later in the report, in connection with paragraph 2 of our terms of reference, his inquiry provided an immediate solution to the problem of finding suitable employment for Congolese workers who lost their jobs when the Belgian building contractors cancelled their contracts. We are also grateful to Belgian commanders and technicians who provided us with all the information we needed.



PART II - KAMINA BASE

8. The Kamina military base is situated in Katanga Province half way between the principal towns of Luluabourg and Elisabethville and about 1,200 miles from Leopoldville. It is 18 miles from Kamina town which is an important railway and road junction in the South of the country. The base covers an area of approximately 500 square kilometres (300 square miles) and is located on a plateau 1,200 meters (3,600 feet) above sea level, with a mean temperature of 22° C. There are two seasons, the dry season - April to September - and the rainy season - October to March. The climate is congenial and flying conditions are ideal except for about three days in the year. Most of the vegetation is wooded savannah with clusters of tall trees and thick vegetation marking the courses of streams and water basins.

9. The base is divided into two main sections between the air force (East zone "Lumwe") and the army (West zone "Kalunga") with a central zone containing 9 school buildings for Congolese children, a youth centre and two villages for Congolese staff. A main road, 6 miles long, links the East and West zones. A 9,000 kilowatt hydro-electric plant at Kilubi, 60 miles from the headquarters of the base, supplies electricity to the base and to the railways and industries in Kamina town and district. A plan of the base is attached as Annex I.

10. The air force section comprises a flying school, air installations and workshops for the repair and maintenance of aircraft, refueling station,

technical school, water and power facilities, administrative headquarters, a school for Belgian children and houses for Belgian and Congolese staff.

11. The army section contains the hospital, chapel, Mission, farm and telecommunications centre. There are also a camp for Belgian troops, logistics, ammunition depot, administrative headquarters and houses for Belgian and Congolese staff.

12. There are some 2,800 buildings on the base, including 402 for Europeans and 1,374 for Congolese. A list of all the buildings and installations is attached as Annex II.

13. The total population of the base is normally in the region of 16,000, comprising 1,200 Belgians, excluding combat personnel, now departed, and 15,000 Congolese (including their families). The Belgians perform all the administrative, professional and highly skilled jobs; the Congolese are employed in skilled and semi-skilled occupations and as labourers. The standard of accommodation and social amenities is very high; food rations are issued to workers, medical attention is free and the houses for Congolese workers are probably the best for similar categories of employees in colonial Africa.

14. The Belgians started building the base in 1949 and it was completed in 1951. The annual cost of maintenance of the buildings, equipment and power plant is 15 million francs (approximately 300,000 dollars). This does not include the cost of labour.



15. The United Nations formally took over the base from the Belgian authorities on 3rd September 1960. The last of the Belgian troops, with the exception of about 750 technicians, had left by that date. The technicians, who were regarded as members of the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission, are temporarily required for the continued maintenance of the installations at the Base and will leave the Congo as soon as replacements can be provided. A supply platoon has already reached Kamina to relieve the Belgians in the supply depot, bakery, butchery and all petroleum installations. An Indian Signal Unit is expected to augment the Canadian detachment which is already in Kamina. As regards the maintenance of aircraft, some UN technicians are already in the Congo; more are expected in the near future and until their arrival, Belgian aircraft technicians will continue to be used. A Pakistan ordinance detachment is already in Leopoldville and will proceed to Kamina to replace all the Belgians employed in materials depots and in the tailoring and cobbling shops. The Swiss Red Cross has been requested to supply about 20 medical personnel to replace the Belgians at the Kamina hospital.

#### Future Utilisation of the Base

16. We consider that the base could be rationally utilised in one of the following ways:

- (i) Short term use
  - (a) UN military base
  - (b) UN military base and technical training centre



(ii) Long term use

- (a) Congolese military base
- (b) Congolese military base and technical training centre
- (c) Technical and clerical training centre.

UN Military Base

17. Paragraph 1 of our terms of reference relates to the future utilisation of the base after the termination of the United Nations present military administration. We have, therefore, not made any detailed inquiry into the continued use of the base solely for UN military purposes. We are, however, satisfied that the base is fully equipped and adequate for immediate UN purposes. The cost of its maintenance will be determined by the size of UN personnel and the services rendered. Mr. W. McCaw, Controller, is undertaking an inquiry into the cost of UN present activities in the Congo, including the operations at Kamina.

UN Military Base and Technical Training School

18. We are convinced that the most rational use of the existing installations at Kamina base would be the conversion of the whole base to a civilian institution for the training of Congolese technicians, craftsmen, clerical officers, etc. Our reasons are developed further in a later section of the report dealing with training and africanisation. There is at present a technical training school with a student body of 200 which offers a four-year course in fitting, aircraft repairs, radio and motor mechanics and other engineering trades. Fuller details about the school are given in paragraph 42 of this report. In order to ensure the smooth transition

of the base from military to civilian use, we recommend the gradual and progressive expansion of the training facilities now offered at the base. The training sector of the base should come under the UN Technical Assistance program, and should not be linked directly with the military program, as was the case under the Belgian administration. We have discussed the possibility of early implementation of these recommendations with Dr. Linner and representatives of UNESCO and ILO in Leopoldville, and they agreed with us that further detailed studies were urgently required. We envisage that the base will ultimately be turned over to the Congolese Government as a non-military technical training centre.

#### Congolese Military Base

19. The cost of maintaining the base for military purposes would be quite prohibitive for a young nation like the Republic of Congo. It should also be remembered that the installations were primarily designed to serve the needs of Belgium as a colonial power. The Belgian budget for 1960 amounted to 450,100,000 francs (approximately \$8,900,000) and the 1961 budget contemplated an additional expenditure of 134,191,000 francs (approximately \$2,784,000). We attach as Annex III an estimate of expenditure for the years 1960 and 1961 prepared by the Belgian authorities before the present emergency. The maintenance budget for 1960 is also attached as Annex IV. We are unable to recommend the diversion of invaluable resources to the maintenance of a military base of the size of Kamina. We are also of the opinion that the needs of the Congo in the field of technical training are so pressing that it would



seem irrational to use the excellent facilities at the base solely for military purposes without regard to the demand for africanisation both in government and industry. Our recommendations under Part III of this report should meet the military requirements of the Congo.

#### Congolese Military Base and Technical Training Centre

20. We have already considered, in paragraph 18, the question of using the base for the dual purpose of a UN military base and training institution. If that view were accepted, the future transfer of the administration of the base by the UN to the Congolese Government could be effected without great difficulty. In this connection, we would express the hope that when military activities are scaled down progressively, a corresponding expansion of the training institution should take place.

21. The cost of operating the base for military and technical training purposes would depend on several factors including the future policy of the Congolese Government in regard to the two objectives. The Study Group is unable to forecast the intentions of the government in this respect.

#### Technical and Clerical Training Centre

22. As already mentioned, the Study Group considers that maximum benefit would be derived from the excellent organisation and installations at Kamina if the entire base, or as much of it as could be put into effective use, were converted to a training centre. The needs of the Congo in the field of trained personnel are enormous and many years will elapse before the Congolese would be trained in sufficient numbers to man the technical and



administrative posts now held by Belgian and UN personnel. The replacement of overseas staff at the Kamina base alone by the Congolese will take several years and we consider that our first objective must be the training of Congolese for services at the base itself. It is only by the conversion of the base to a training centre, properly staffed to undertake training at the junior and intermediate levels, that the Congolese could be assisted to face the future with some hope that they will in the not too distant future become masters in their own spheres of activities. Particulars of the types of training that are urgently required are stated in Part V of this report.

### PART III - KITONA BASE

23. The Kitona military base and the small naval base of Banana are situated on the coast near the entrance of the Congo River to the sea. The military base is on a plateau 120 metres above sea level and covers an area of 1,940 hectares. The road leading from the military base to the naval base is 20 miles long. Buildings at Kitona were started in 1952 and have been continued ever since. The hospital was completed this year and there are under construction 21 new barracks for soldiers capable of accommodating 558 men. The base was used as a transit camp for soldiers arriving by sea from Belgium. The base can accommodate 2,000 troops in an emergency, but the normal capacity is 1,000. Stores and workshops (machines, carpentry, painting and motor repairs) are spread out conveniently on a large area of land.

24. Among the facilities at the Base are a church, cinema, swimming pool and illuminated tennis courts. There is a school for Congolese children.

25. At the time of our visit to Kitona, arrangements were in progress to evacuate the Belgian technicians who were maintaining the services at the base. There were 390 men, comprising 20 staff administrative officers, 80 guards, 27 military police, 153 technicians, 19 medical and health officers, 50 men for airfield services and 41 for maintenance of buildings. At the naval base of Banana, there were 80 Belgians awaiting evacuation.

26. There were 1,009 Congolese workers at Kitona and 100 at Banana. About 400 of them were employed in construction work. UN personnel consisted of 48 soldiers, of whom 28 were at Banana. A UN civilian representative was in charge.

27. The small naval base of Banana, which is in process of extinction, deserves attention because of its Ecole de Maistrance, now closed, which was started two years ago. The school has accommodation for 26 boys. Trainees spend the first two years at the Kamina technical school and then two years on a 1,200-ton frigate which was built in 1942 and is no longer seaworthy, but has all the facilities for training. The Belgians are anxious to hand over the ship to the UN or the Congolese Government to continue the training of the Congolese. Some training aids have been shipped to Belgium but could be returned if required. We were informed



that boys who complete the course would be qualified to perform the duties of marine engineers below officer rank and that plans had been made to train some of the boys in coastal navigation. We were further informed by the Director of the school that four of the best students were to be selected for further studies at university level in Belgium.

#### Future Utilisation of the Base

28. Kitona and Banana are of strategic importance to the Congo being at the entrance to the River Congo which is the main waterway in the country. We were given to understand that the Belgians and the Portuguese Government of Angola had an agreement for the joint patrol of the Congo and Angola coastline. The military and naval bases are therefore important in the defence system of the country and the Government of the Republic of the Congo may wish to retain them for protection of the entrance to the River.

29. We consider that the short and long term uses of Kitona are:

(i) Short term use

(a) Emergency training centre for Congolese army

(b) Closing down of base

(ii) Long term use -- military and naval base.



Emergency Training Centre for Congolese Army

30. We consider that the facilities at Kitona could be put into immediate and effective use by utilizing them for the training of Congolese army who are now scattered all over the country under questionable commands. We feel that remnants of the former Force Publique could be brought to the base, by units, for special military training over a convenient period of time in order to restore their discipline. At the same time, an effort should be made to discover those with potentialities for appointment as officers or NCO's. These could be given special training which would fit them for responsible positions commensurate with their knowledge and ability. This is a matter which needs to be examined by the military authorities, but we hazard the opinion that the temporary withdrawal of elements of the former Force Publique to the base is bound to have some salutary effect on the political situation in the whole country.

Closing Down of Base

31. If the UN military authorities decide against the use of the base as an emergency training centre, we would recommend that it should be closed down until such time as the Congolese Government is in a financial position to reopen it either as a military base or for other purposes.

Military Base

32. We are unable to recommend that the Kitona base should be handed over now to the Central Government as there would seem no justification for calling upon the Government to maintain a high level of expenditure

on the base at the present time. The normal annual expenditure by the former Belgian administration was 28 million francs (\$560,000), including military expenditure. But, as we have pointed out in paragraph 28 above, the base is of strategic importance and should be preserved on a care and maintenance basis, until such time as the Government would be in a position to develop it as a full military base.

#### Naval Base

33. The present cost of maintaining the base is 3 million francs (\$60,000). It seems essential that it should be preserved on a care and maintenance basis so as to prevent the deterioration of the naval installations and training ship. The training of Congolese at the school should start again as soon as circumstances permit.

#### PART IV - LABOUR

34. We were requested in paragraph 2 of our terms of reference to study means by which continued employment for Congolese workers could be assured either on the Bases or elsewhere. We found that the employment situation differs at Kamina and Kitona. Most Congolese workers at Kitona come from distant villages and could not find employment in the neighborhood if the Base were closed. We cannot foresee any alternative employment apart from farm work in view of the isolation of the base from centres of industrial activity. If, however, it was decided to develop the Kitona and Banana military and naval bases, a large number of the workers would find employment.



35. The Kamina base, with the neighboring town of Kaminaville, offers greater opportunities for employment. The determination of the numbers that could be employed at Kamina base will depend on the time taken to convert the base from its present use to any of the purposes recommended in this report. The services of about 3,700 permanent Congolese employees, two-thirds of whom are skilled or semi-skilled, have not been interrupted. We were informed by the Belgian authorities that the skilled and semi-skilled workers would still be required for the maintenance of the workshops, electricity, buildings and other services. These employees have settled permanently in Kamina under ideal conditions provided by the Belgians.

36. We could not, for reasons stated in paragraph 17 above, and because of the limited time at our disposal, embark upon a detailed examination of the numbers that could be regarded as essential for UN present military administration. Furthermore, there was, and still is, some uncertainty as to the scope and duration of the UN military activities at Kamina and the Congo generally. We accepted the view proffered by the Belgians that skilled workers were difficult to retain at Kamina in view of the opportunities for higher wages elsewhere in the country, particularly in industry. We therefore consider that those workers who have not drifted to other occupations should be retained until the UN intentions regarding the base are known and its manpower needs determined.

37. We are recommending that the base should in the immediate future be used jointly as a military base and for civilian training purposes. If the recommendation were accepted, some of the skilled personnel would have to be

withdrawn from their present employment to be trained for higher responsibility at Kamina and elsewhere in the Congo. The problem (discussed in the next section of this report) of promoting Congolese workers, after necessary training, to skilled occupations formerly performed by the Belgians is urgent and we would recommend that any future study of the manpower needs of the base should endeavour to discover hidden talents for advanced training.

38. The conversion of the whole base to a training center will entail the progressive training and equipping of the workers for skilled employment in government and industry. Although not strictly within our terms of reference, we have given consideration to the possibility of establishing new industries in the Kamina district. There is adequate water supply and electric power for the development of industries. As already stated, the nearby town of Kaminaville is an important rail and road junction. We would strongly recommend to the Congolese Government that industrialists be invited to explore these possibilities. It might be possible for some of the workshops, for example cabinet and carpentry, to be operated on a commercial basis by the government or private enterprise. The introduction of new industries in the district will solve the problem of employment for Congolese workers at the base who would consequently be assured of permanent residence in Kamina.

39. Although we were informed by the Belgians that the unskilled labour at the base would be needed for the maintenance of roads and other services, we consider that some may be found redundant in the near future. These



could either be trained and assisted to obtain alternative employment or encouraged to go back to the land. Employment opportunities in the rest of the country will be clearer as soon as peace and stability return to the Congo.

40. There were some 550 Congolese working for contractors who lost their employment when their employers stopped their building operations. As a result of an investigation by General R.A. Wheeler, it has been possible to renew most of the contracts and to offer employment to those workers who were willing to return. The contracts which were authorized to be renewed are in respect of those houses and other buildings which were of direct benefit to Congolese workers. A copy of General Wheeler's report is attached as Annex VII. We envisage that with the revival of industry, these contractors will be able to find continued employment for these workers on the termination of the present contracts.

#### PART V. AFRICANISATION AND TRAINING

41. The present system of training of Congolese workers has been geared to the special needs of the military and the air force at the two bases, and in accordance with the Belgian colonial system. In the army sectors, training was done on the job without any theoretical or formal instruction. Each trainee was taught only part of an operation and not the full syllabus of a trade. Consequently, none was able to rise to the grade of foreman or supervisor. In contrast to the position in the army sector, the air force has provided systematic training for Congolese craftsmen required

for the maintenance of aircraft, but always under the level of foreman.

42. The air force technical training school, to which reference has already been made in paragraph 18 above, offers two years' training for boys recruited for service at the naval base at Banana, near Kitona. The school receives about 7,000 applications every year from all parts of the country from boys who have completed six years of primary education. A careful selection of about 100 trainees is made on interview and intelligence tests. This number is reduced to about 50 during the first three months of training. We were informed that approximately 75 % complete the course, which embraces mechanical and electrical repairs of aircraft engines and parts. The standard of training is high and successful candidates experience no difficulty in securing lucrative employment with the Sabena aircraft company and other industrial establishments. The Air Force has tried to retain them by delaying the issue of diplomas to successful candidates until they had completed three years' post-qualification service at the base. The prospectus of the school is attached as Annex V.

43. It is clear from the above that suitable candidates are not in short supply. We have classified below, under four categories (a, b, c, d) all the main posts at the base. The posts in categories (a) and (b) are at present held by Belgian and UN personnel. A list of Belgian staff employed at Kamina base is attached as Annex VI.

Category (a). Administrative and Professional Grades

Executive and administrative officers, engineers, accountants, architects, doctors, dentists, chemists, agricultural officers, meteorological officers, laboratory technologists, pharmacists, nursing superintendents, social development officers, labour and employment officers and other equivalent professions.



Category (b). Intermediate Grades

Administrative assistants, accounting assistants, technicians, laboratory assistants, storekeepers.

Category (c). Junior Technical Grades

Craftsmen, skilled operatives.

Category (d). Clerical Grades

Typists, stenographers, clerks.

44. There are no facilities at the base for training under Category (a).

It is therefore recommended that suitable Congolese should be offered scholarships to study in secondary and technical schools and universities at home and abroad, preferably in Africa, in order to qualify for these senior appointments. We cannot think of any alternative to this long-term period of training at the end of which it should be possible for the Congolese to fill most of the senior posts at the base and elsewhere in the Republic.

45. With regard to the intermediate and junior posts, we have already recommended in paragraph 18 that further investigations should be undertaken into the possibility of expanding the training program at the base. However, we envisage the establishment of three training schools: senior technical school for Category (b) posts; junior technical school for Category (c) posts; clerical training school for Category (d) posts.

Flying School

46. There is a flying school which occupies the top floor of one of the two main buildings at the Kamina Base Airport. It runs an 8-month course comprising 180 hours flying and 500 hours ground instruction. As already stated, climactic conditions at the base are ideal for flying and there are only about three days

bad flying weather during the year. Recruits were given preliminary training in Belgium before coming to the base to learn operational flying. Thereafter, they were sent to Holland, Belgium and Germany where they learned tactics and the handling of different types of aircraft.

47. We were very impressed by the excellent facilities for the training of pilots and consider that the school should be converted, in due course, to a Congolese civilian and military flying school. Air service is important for a country of the size of the Congo and the present lack of Congolese young men with the requisite educational qualifications for training as pilots should not rule out consideration for establishing a flying school in the future. Consideration might also be given to the training of pilots from other African countries. We wish to express the hope that equipment in the flying school, not required for immediate use, should be carefully preserved.

#### Belgian Attitude to Training of Congolese Staff

48. We have observed that none of the Congolese workers has yet attained the grade of foreman or supervisor either at Kamina or Kitona bases. Even those who went through a proper course of apprenticeship at the technical training school and qualified as good craftsmen were not considered suitable for positions carrying any degree of responsibility. The Belgians explained that the lack of knowledge of the English language handicapped the Congolese worker who could not read the technical books and manuals, many of which were written in English. A further explanation proffered by the Belgians was that traditional social and family ties and obligations retarded the progress of the workers who could not escape the burden of a large number of dependent relatives. We consider that these limitations could be overcome and, therefore, recommend that the



teaching of the English language should find a place in the technical school curriculum. Furthermore, the training of women should be intensified and not allowed to lag behind that of the men. They should be trained as typists, nurses, receptionists, etc.

49. We could not accept all the explanations given by the Belgians for the very slow progress made by the Congolese. We reject as untenable the Belgian theory that the Congolese are incapable of holding any position of responsibility.

There was no evidence to show that the Congolese, given the same opportunities as Africans have had in other parts of the continent, would not attain to the same height and standards. Indeed, Congolese workers trained at the technical school responded well to their training. The Belgians imposed a ceiling on the level of advancement of the Congolese worker. Everything possible was done to promote his material well-being within that ceiling. He was provided with good housing, food, medical attention, good wages and family allowances, but was denied the essential training and education which would ensure that he became his own master in the future. This meant that the Congolese worker enjoyed some of the best living conditions in colonial Africa. It suited the Belgians who had a well-housed, properly fed and seemingly contented skilled operative. They did not have to break anyone's back or impose radical changes to social customs and habits in order to attain this objective; they simply took full advantage of the social and political structure of the simple society

they found in the Congo. The Congolese worker accepted the situation and made little or no effort to improve his knowledge in order to equip himself for higher responsibilities. Asked if he would want his son to be a doctor, he simply laughed and thought it impossible. He thought in terms of a male nurse.

50. We consider that the problem at Kamina and Kitona bases presents to the UN a unique opportunity and challenge for rendering a service that would be a model for Africa and the under-developed countries. The UN will be faced with the task of breaking down the psychological and physical barriers limiting the progress of the Congolese. The Congolese must be assisted to regain their self-confidence. Only the UN can undertake this fundamental task. In our opinion, it would be unwise to continue to entrust the Belgians with the responsibility of preparing the Congolese for positions of responsibility. They could not be expected to change overnight their basic philosophy regarding the place of the Congolese in society. The Congolese themselves no longer trust the Belgians and could not be



expected to adjust their thinking to the new situation under Belgian guidance.. With the departure of the latter from the bases, it should be possible to break down not only the psychological barrier but also the racial segregation which is manifested in the allocation and use of housing and social amenities at Kamina and Kitona.

51. Reference has been made to the effort by the UN to replace the Belgian technicians at the bases. We are conscious of the difficulty which the UN is experiencing in this matter, but the difficulty must be overcome soon if the intentions of the UN in the Congo are not to be misunderstood or undermined. The UN administration should be identified in the minds of the Congolese workers at the base and elsewhere not as a colonial power substituting the Belgian administration, but as the world organisation which is destined to open up new vistas to Congolese ambitions and to guide them towards the fullest development of their capacities.

52. A map of the Republic of the Congo is enclosed for easy reference.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

53. We recommend:

KAMINA BASE

- (1) That the whole base should be converted to a civilian technical training centre for the training of Congolese technicians, craftsmen, clerical officers, etc. (Paragraphs 18 and 22)
- (2) That the training program now offered at the base should be progressively extended while the base is used both as a UN military base and for training purposes. (Paragraph 18)
- (3) That the training sector of the base should come under the UN Technical Assistance Program and should not be linked directly with the military program, as was the case under the Belgian administration. (Paragraph 18)
- (4) That further detailed studies, probably by UNESCO and ILO, should be undertaken now to ensure the early implementation of the above recommendations. (Paragraph 18)
- (5) That the base should ultimately be turned over to the Congolese Government as a non-military training centre. (Paragraph 18)

KITONA BASE

- (6) That the buildings and other facilities at Kitona should be put into immediate and effective use by utilizing them for the training of the Congolese Army, who should be brought to the base, by units, over a convenient period of time, in order to restore their discipline. (Paragraph 30)
- (7) That effort should be made to discover those with potentialities for appointment as officers or NCO's and that such men should be given special training for this purpose. (Paragraph 30)



- (8) That the base should be closed down if not required for the emergency training of the Congolese Army in which case it should be preserved on a care and maintenance basis on account of its strategic importance and prospects for future development. (Paragraphs 31 and 32)
- (9) That the base should not be handed over at the present time to the Central Government as a military base in view of the large expenditure of money that would be involved in maintaining the services. (Paragraph 32)
- (10) That the Banana Naval Base should also be preserved on a care and maintenance basis so as to prevent the deterioration of the naval installations and the training ship. (Paragraph 33)
- (11) That the training of Congolese at the naval base should be resumed as soon as circumstances permit. (Paragraph 33)

#### LABOUR

- (12) That skilled and semi-skilled workers at Kamina base who have not drifted to other industrial employment should be retained until the UN is in a position to determine its actual manpower needs at Kamina. (Paragraph 36)
- (13) That workers at Kitona and Banana bases who are not required for maintenance services should be discharged if the UN decide to close down the base. (Paragraph 34)
- (14) That selected workers at Kamina should be withdrawn from their present employment and given further training for higher responsibility. (Paragraph 37)
- (15) That further study of UN manpower needs at the base should endeavour to discover hidden talents for advanced training. (Paragraph 37)
- (16) That the Congolese Government should invite industrialists to explore

possibilities of establishing new industries in Kamina district. (Paragraph 38)

(17) That consideration should be given to operating some of the workshops, e.g. cabinet and carpentry, on a commercial basis either by the Government or private industry. (Paragraph 38)

#### AFRICANISATION AND TRAINING

(18) That suitable Congolese should be offered scholarships to study in secondary and technical schools and universities, at home and abroad, preferably in Africa in order to qualify for senior appointments. (Paragraph 44)

(19) That three technical training schools should be established, viz. senior technical; junior technical; and clerical training school. (Paragraph 45)

(20) That the flying school should be converted, in due course, to a Congolese civilian and military flying school. (Paragraph 46)

(21) That consideration should be given to the training of pilots from other African countries. (Paragraph 47)

(22) That all equipment in the flying school not required for immediate use should be carefully preserved. (Paragraph 47)

(23) That the teaching of the English language should find a place in the technical school curriculum. (Paragraph 48)

(24) That the training of women should be intensified and not allowed to lag behind that of the men. (Paragraph 48)

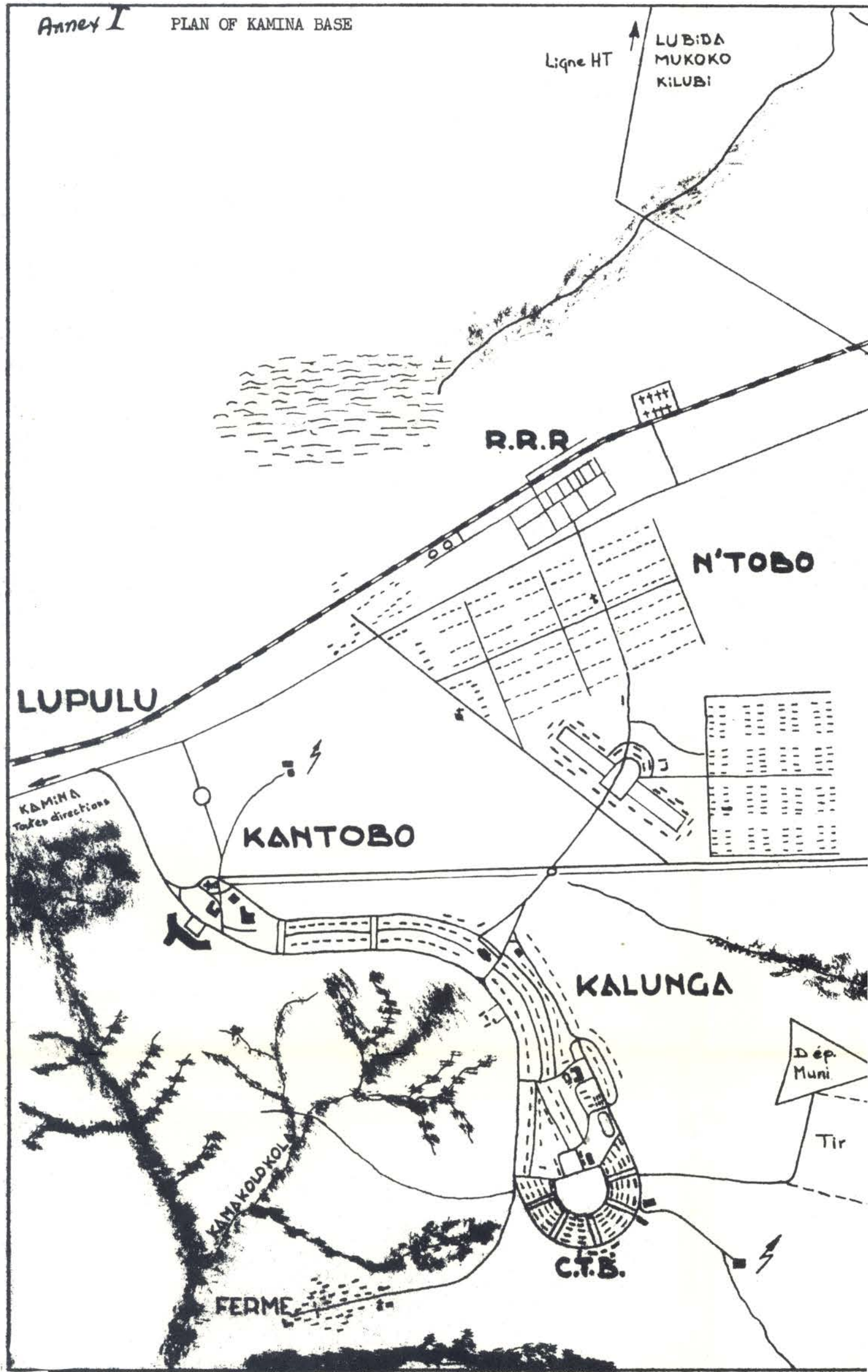


(25) That the UN should undertake the fundamental task of breaking down the psychological and physical barriers as well as the racial segregation imposed by the Belgians. (Paragraph 50)

(26) That the Belgians should no longer be entrusted with the responsibility of preparing the Congolese for positions of responsibility. (Paragraph 51)

Annex I

PLAN OF KAMINA BASE





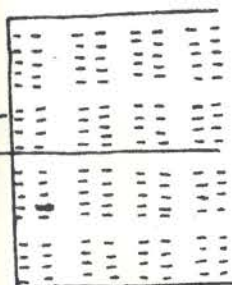
SIDA  
KOKO  
BI

# BAKA

25° 14'

Echelle  $\frac{1}{25,000}$

N'TOBO



ECOLE  
|||  
|||

CENTRE DE JEUNESSE

EPURATION  
D'EAU

LUMWE

CA

Dép.  
Muni

Tir

LUFUFUY



25° 14'

25° 16'

BUKAMA

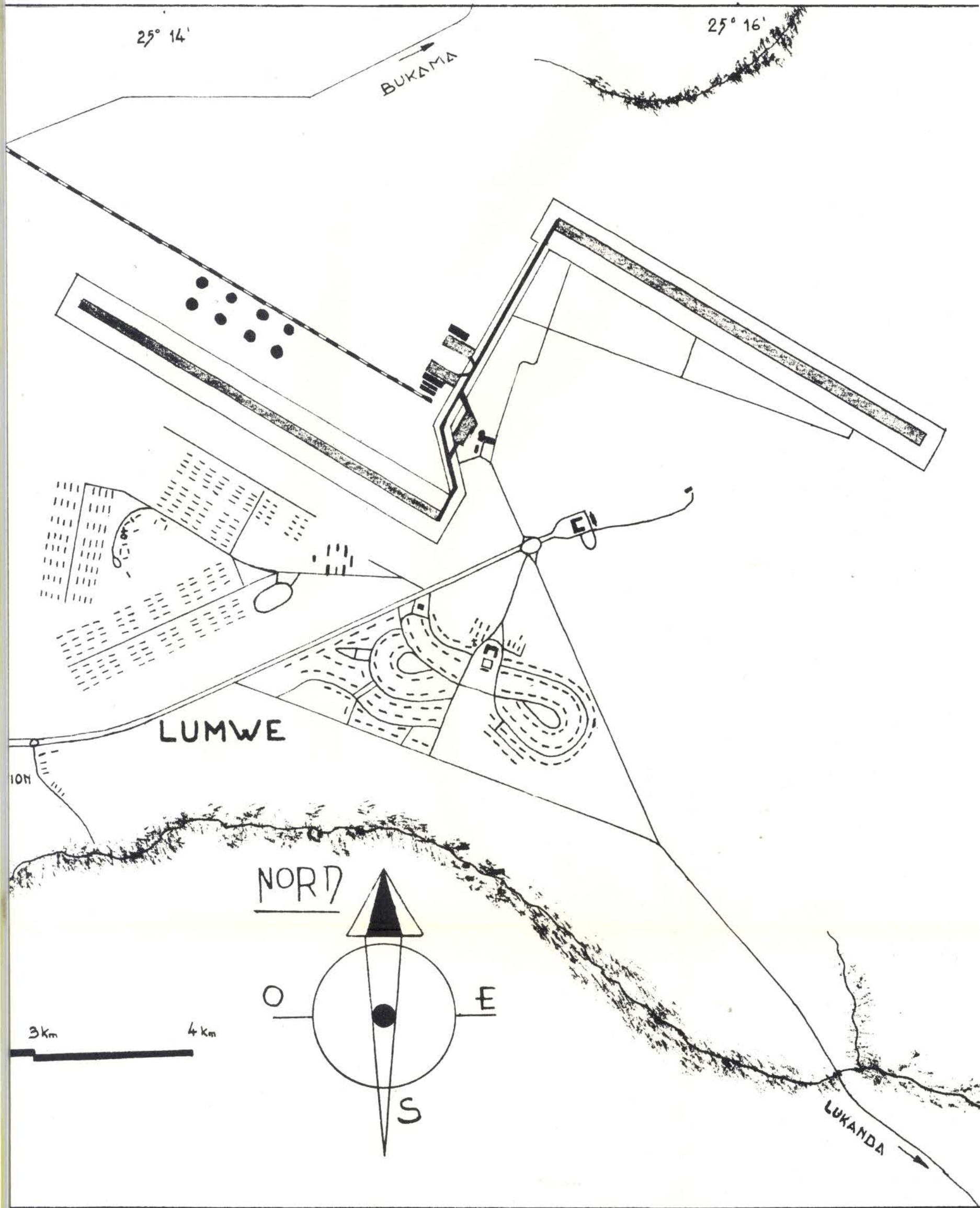
LUMWE

NORD

3km

4km

LUKANDA





25° 16'

8° 38'

8° 40'

LUKANDA



## ANNEX II

### LIST OF BUILDINGS AT KAMINA BASE

1. Comprises 2 zones (East and West)
  - 1 central zone including Schools and Youth Centre
  - 1 Electrical Power Plant (KILUBI)
2. EAST ZONE : AIR FORCE, comprising
  - a) Air installations
  - b) Refuelling station
  - c) Flying school (EPA)
  - d) Water, Sewer and Power facilities (EEE)
  - e) One European District
  - f) One Congolese District
  - g) Technical School
  - h) Administrative Services Area.
3. WEST ZONE : LAND FORCE, comprising
  - a) Logistics (RRR)
  - b) White Troops Camp (CTB)
  - c) Area comprising Schools, Chapel, Military Hospital and Mission
  - d) Farm
  - e) Ammo Depot
  - f) Telecommunications Centre
  - g) Administrative Services Area
  - h) One European District
  - i) One Congolese District
4. CENTRAL ZONE:
  - a) Congolese Schools
  - b) 1 Congolese District
  - c) 1 Centre de jeunesse (Youth Centre)
5. KILUBI:
  - a) Power Plant and Dam
  - b) 1 Mess and related services
  - c) 1 Congolese District
  - d) European Houses

Note: 2,800 structures, including 402 European Houses  
1,374 Congolese housing units.



BUILDINGS

EAST ZONE

a) Air Installations:

- One maintenance Hangar 120m x 50m with 45 individual premises for shops or offices
- One shelter Hangar 120m x 50m for planes, including 25 separate areas for shops or offices
- Two Montignies Hangars: for plane or transport shelter
- Two equipment and parts hangars: 1,200 sq m storage or shop room (each)
- One Telecom. Building: 1 storeroom, 2 offices, 2 shops
- One weather-forecast Building: 4 separate areas
- One HYDROGEN building: 3 separate areas
- Air terminal: comprising 68 areas (offices, shops, storerooms) Also a lecture room, a hall, a bar and the control Tower
- Parachute Store: including one drying room for parachutes and one repair shop
- Emergency: one garage  
about ten separate areas for a dispensary  
about seven offices or areas for various purposes  
transformer and emergency plant
- Telephone exchange building

b) Refuelling Station

- 5,500 cubic m Tanks
- Two underground pumping stations
- Two distribution stations
- Watch Unit

c) Flying School

- One main building: 60 rooms - 12 multipurpose areas  
1 Movie projection room - 2 bars  
1 Kitchen - 1 club-room
- One athletics building: 1 athletics room  
4 rooming areas

d) Water, Sewer and Power facilities (EEE)

- 3 Housing Units for Europeans: 1 living room, 3 bedrooms,  
2 buildings: bathroom, 1 kitchen  
1 European housing unit used as offices for EEE

- 1 Storehouse
- 1 Hangar including offices and shops, with two large shops at each end
- 1 Water purification Building and Lab
- 1 Water purification Hangar with pumps, emergency power plants and 1 transformer and ozonization equipment
- 1 Water-pumping Station
- 3 Housing Units for Congolese
- 1 Building housing panel and switches of transformer (lowering voltage)
- 1 Congolese house for transformer service

e) European District

- 55 Type F Houses
- 34 Type H Houses
- 28 Types FP and K
- 84 Type J Houses with one storey (except for 30 houses)
- 62 Bachelor apartments: 1 bedroom - 1 shower with 32 garages
- 1 living room -
- 1 kitchen - 3 bedrooms including garage

CLUB LEO II

- 2 dining rooms - 2 bars
- 1 kitchen, plus storerooms and offices
- 2 verandahs
- 1 swimming pool
- 1 PX comprising 1 shop, 2 offices, 1 storeroom
- 1 Dispensary with about 10 areas (clinic room and offices)
- 1 Telephone exchange Building
- 1 Post Office Bldg comprising one hall for the public, 2 offices, one safe-room and one sorting room
- 1 School building with about 6 classrooms

f) Congolese District

- 252 4 room units
- 52 5 room units
- 47 4 room units
- 46 2 room units (1 kitchen and 1 living-room)
- 42 Shower buildings
- 44 Toilet buildings
- 21 Community kitchen buildings
- 21 Water distribution buildings



g) Technical School

- One HQ building: offices
- 4 buildings: class rooms and workshops
- 1 hangar for workshops with one large workshop at each end
- 2 sanitary wards
- 1 emergency power plant

h) Administrative services

- One PX comprising: 1 retail-shop, two store-rooms and several offices
- One administrative services building
  - One annex: store-room
  - Three social welfare centre buildings including laundry-ironing-cooking rooms, 3 lecture rooms and two offices
- Two multipurpose buildings, one of which is used as dining-room and cinema
  - One school comprising four classrooms (under construction)
  - One covered market (under construction)
  - One dispensary for Congolese comprising about 10 separate areas.

WEST ZONE

a) Logistics (RRR)

Transport

- 1 guard station
- 1 closed shed
- 5 vehicle hangars
- 2 fuelling stations
- 1 repair shop
- 1 distribution office
- 1 slaughterhouse, refrigeration room, cattle pen and meat distribution area
- 1 showers building
- 1 food store-room
- 1 laundry building
- 1 heating building
- 1 sterilization building

- 1 office building
- 1 carpentry and timber stocking building
- 1 timber-drying building
- 1 battery charging ward
- 12 hangars: warehouses and workshops
- 4 office buildings
- 22 hangars: warehouses or workshops
- 1 shed for inflammables of the sanitary services

b) White Troops Camp

- 1 General Services Block comprising: 1 kitchen - 1 dining room - 1 cafeteria - 1 guard station and prison cells.
- 1 Health ward
- 52 blocks for troops, comprising: 1 general dormitory and 4 small officers' rooms
- 7 Health wards
- 6 Coy blocks: two central offices and four other areas
- 4 HQ blocks: two central offices and four other rooms
- 1 Bowling alley
- 1 Ammo storehouse for small arms

Semi-permanent facilities

- 4 storehouse buildings
- 1 Chapel
- 1 office building
- Parachute-store comprising: 1 hall - two drying rooms - 2 folding rooms - 3 storerooms - 1 workshop - 3 lecture rooms - 4 offices and 1 annex area for air conditioning equipment
- One CE Paratrooper training storeroom
- One MT garage and annexes: washing area and POL room included
- One dispensary: ten areas

c) Schools, Chapel, Military Hospital and mission area

- 1 school with class rooms
- 1 sanitary block



- 1 chapel
- 1 rectory: housing unit
- 1 mission comprising: 1 kitchen - one chapel - one dining room - rooms and several areas for various purposes
- 1 hospital comprising: 1 central block for administrative services and doctor's consultories, one operation room, one European wing with kitchen, bar and beds, one Congolese wing with nursery, kitchen and beds, one Congolese maternity ward, beds and 7 store-rooms in the basement

d) Farm

- 1 house for European: 1 kitchen - 1 living room - 2 bedrooms - 4 hangars for storing - offices and sheep-pens
- 1 stable

e) Ammo depot

- 1 guard station
- 17 sheds for ammo.

f) Telecommunications Centre

- 1 Transmission Centre Building: one large central area and some storerooms
- 1 Receiving Centre Building: one large central area and some storerooms

g) Administrative Services Area

- 4 Office buildings
- 1 Prison block
- 1 PX and store rooms
- 2 Annex buildings, 1 chapel and 1 dining room
- 3 Social welfare buildings comprising: 1 kitchen, 1 laundry, 1 ironing-room, 3 lecture rooms, 2 offices
- 1 School building with 3 class-rooms
- 1 hangar (garage) and offices of the police fire-brigade
- 1 covered market (under construction)

h) European District

- 1 PX for Europeans: retail shop - storeroom - two offices
- 1 Post Office, 1 hall, 1 sorting room, 2 offices, 1 safe room

- 1 Club (RMH) comprising 1 kitchen, storeroom and offices,  
2 dining rooms, 2 bars
- 1 Swimming pool, lockers, and water purifying station
- 1 Cinema comprising theatre, hall, 1 bar
- 1 Sports arena comprising 2 health wards, 1 storeroom and  
2 gamesrooms
- 18 housing units for bachelors: 1 bedroom, 1 shower and toilet,  
8 garages
- 20 AB houses - 1 kitchen, 1 living-room, 2 bedrooms
- 25 F " )
- 36 H " ) 3 bedrooms
- 6 FP " )
- 56 J " 1 story and 3 bedrooms
- 8 Apartments for female social workers: 1 bedroom, 1 kitchen  
1 living-room, 1 bath-  
room
- BASE HQ: 1 story building - hall and offices

i) Congolese District

- 26 Blocks with 13 housing units
- 32 Blocks for general purposes
- 410 Housing units for Congolese: 4 room houses
- 70 Shower buildings
- 70 toilet buildings
- 35 Community kitchens
- 35 Water distribution buildings
- 48 4 room houses

Note: Cité Tramontoy: 28 houses of all types both for Congolese and Europeans

Central Zone

- 9 School buildings for Congolese: 3 - 4 class-rooms;  
6 - 3 class-rooms
- 1 Congolese district with 10 buildings comprising 20 housing  
units for Congolese with 1 kitchen - 1 living-room -  
2 bedrooms
- 1 Youth Center: 1 school building, with central area, offices  
and sanitary facilities; 12 small buildings with 2 areas each.



KILUBI:

Dam and related facilities

1 central building comprising engine room, offices, storerooms

1 inflammables building and garage

2 FP houses with three rooms (for Europeans)

1 6-room house

25 double housing units with 2 units each comprising:

1 kitchen, 1 living-room, 2 bedrooms (under  
construction)

1 dispensary with 4 areas

1 mess, 1 bar and 1 dining-room

1 building: 1 kitchen and 1 storeroom

1 " : 1 kitchen, 1 mess, 2 dining-rooms, 2 bars, 1 kitchen  
and sanitarines (under construction)

1 housing unit: 4 rooms

2 buildings: housing units for Europeans

ANNEX III

BELGIAN ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE ON KAMINA BASE 1960 and 1961

SUBJECT: DOCUMENTATION ON KAMINA BASE

REF.: Your letter 3 September 1960

You will find below in the annex the information requested in points 4), 5), 8) and 10) of your letter of 3 September 1960.

1. Budget estimates for 1960

- a) It is difficult to determine accurately the amounts earmarked for Kamina Base in the different budgets in which credits were provided for the Base.

In fact Kamina Base received directly and indirectly funds from the following budgets:

- (1) regular budget of the Forces Métropolitaines d'Afrique
- (2) regular budget of the Land Forces
- (3) regular budget of the Air Force
- (4) extraordinary budget

- b) Regular budget of the Forces Métropolitaines d'Afrique

In 1960 the share of Kamina Base on this budget amounted to about:

<u>216,000,000.00 Francs</u>	for personnel expenditure, i.e. salaries, wages, allowances for Belgian and Congolese personnel, <u>food</u> (for personnel entitled to free food allocation, about 25,000,000.00 frcs for this heading), entertainment expenses, funerary expenses.
<u>68,887,000.00 Francs</u>	for equipment and maintenance expenses as follows. 2,017,000.00 frcs for salaries of non-military personnel
465,000.00 Francs	Social work for Congolese
9,022,000.00 "	Procurement of equipment and commodities
11,243,000.00 "	Maintenance and renewal of equipment
3,375,000.00 "	Fuel and maintenance of vehicles and ordinance
21,835,000.00 "	Transport
2,351,000.00 "	Pharmaceutical supplies and welfare (871,000.00)
1,160,000.00 "	Maintenance of railway equipment



11,320,000.00 Francs Repair of buildings and fire protection  
equipment

59,000.00 " Maintenance of plantations and plant nurseries

c) Regular budget of the Land Forces

(1) The following amounts on this budget were credited for Kamina Base  
for the benefit of the troops in the camp.

- (a) 25,000.00 Frs Maps
- (b) 10,000.00 " Minor repairs for field radio equipment
- (c) 2,000,000.00 " Fuel
- (d) 1,300,000.00 " General transport (this heading already  
spent in January 1960)
- (e) 340,000.00 " Stationery
- 3,675,000.00 " Total

(2) The Land Forces paid directly all the supply for the troops  
stationned in Africa. The Kamina Base received the equipment, the  
vehicles and other supply for the troops, but had no hand in the  
financial settlement.

We have requested an estimate for the value of these supplies for  
your information. We received an answer saying it would take quite  
a time to give a detailed estimate of this heading.

d) Regular budget for the Air Force

(1) The following amounts have been earmarked for Kamina Base:

- (a) 10,000,000.00 Frs For purchase of aircraft fuel on foreign  
airports (i.e. outside Congo)
- (b) 500,000.00 " Various articles and commodities
- (c) 500,000.00 " For maintenance of machines and tools
- (d) 1,000,000.00 " Maintenance telecom. equipment
- (e) 500,000.00 " Aircraft minor repairs
- (f) 50,000.00 " Maintenance bicycles, motorcycles and some  
types of automotive equipment
- (g) 12,550,000.00 " Total

- (2) The Air Force paid directly for the supplies destined to military aviation.

This entails considerable amounts, particularly:

- (a) Purchase of aircraft, spare parts, repairs, etc.
- (b) Purchase of fuel for Kamina Base
- (c) Purchase of telecom., radar, meteorological equipment and parts, special vehicles, etc.

e) Extraordinary budget

For financial year 1960 a total of 143,979,022.00 frcs were earmarked to be charged on the extraordinary budget of 1960 and of the previous years.

This sum was detailed as follows:

- (1) 51,304,004.00 Frcs for European district
- (2) 38,445,743.00 " for Congolese district
- (3) 17,700,000.00 " for capital equipment
- (4) 9,285,400.00 " for hospital and services
- (5) 3,019,758.00 " for electrical and tele. installations
- (6) 894,523.00 " for water supply
- (7) 6,726,493.00 " for materials and various equipment
- (8) 16,603,151.00 " for sundries of which:
  - 3,375,000.00 Frcs ordinance purchase
  - 1,364,000.00 " vehicle purchase
  - 970,000.00 " for renewal of hospital and surgical equipment

---

143,979,022.00 Frcs Total

This amount was curtailed in the course of the financial year due to the recent events.

f) Conclusions for 1960 budgets

A total amount of 445,100,000 francs was estimated for the Operation of Kamina Base for the year 1960. This does not include expenses pertaining to:

- (1) Troops stationed on the Base. However, the Defence of the Base Coy was maintained on credits earmarked for Kamina Base. It will be noted that only one paratrooper battalion was intended for the Base (about 400 Men) and that the expenditure



for Base Operation was estimated on the basis of only one battalion.

(2) Wing Command and Maintenance team of the Air Force.

However, the personnel (and not the equipment) of the following sections was paid on the budget of Kamina Base:

- (a) Transport Squadron (DC3)
- (b) Rescue Squadron (Sycamore helicopters)
- (c) Support Squadron (Harvards)

2. Budget estimates for 1961

a) Same budgetary apportionment as in 1960

b) On the budget of the Base proper, only expenditure for equipment was foreseen, expenditure for personnel is to be estimated in Brussels, taking into account

(1) Foreseen expansion of personnel. (The Flying School was to be considerably expanded to train Dutch Pilots, and two battalions were foreseen for Kamina, one of which eventually to go to Ruanda Urundi)

(2) The escalator clauses for salaries

(3) The evaluations foreseen for equipment expenditure for an amount of 89,191,000 Frs, detailed as follows:

2,072,000	"	Salaries of personnel
494,000	"	Social work for Congolese
9,902,000	"	Procurement commodities
20,771,000	"	Maintenance and renewal of equipment
15,900,000	"	Fuel and maintenance vehicles and ordinance
22,500,000	"	Transport
2,865,000	"	Welfare and pharmaceutical supplies
400,000	"	Funerary expenses
14,287,000	"	Maintenance railway equipment and buildings

c) Nothing is known as yet of the Air Force and Land Forces budget.

Brussels was supposed to inform us before the end of 1960.

As for the extraordinary budget, only the first proposals had been received, including among others:

100 double houses for Congolese	28,000,000
20 houses for Europeans	14,000,000
2 churches for Congolese	3,000,000

3. List of equipment and supply that could be handed over to the UN

We have transmitted the lists to you on September 2 and 3.

They include only major items. Complete stocks are registered in tens of accountancy files and a complete and detailed inventory (thousands of everything on the Base) would entail prolonged work for which time and extra personnel would be necessary.

4. Procurement plan to 31 December 1960 in annex

Col. Van Lierde



ANNEX IV

BELGIAN ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE ON MAINTENANCE  
ON KAMINA BASE DURING 1960

FROM: Com. de Wilde  
TO: M. Plaza  
SUBJECT: Detailed evaluations for Base Operation  
REF: Your Note 3 Sept., point 7

1. The included budget covers the normal operation costs of buildings and various works in normal times.

The costs cover the operation and maintenance of:

- Congolese districts
- European houses
- Public buildings
- Roads and Runways
- Power Plant
- Water-purification Plant (detail in Annex 1)

For the year 1960 the programme was slowed down, however it could soon be terminated since bids are not to be awarded before Dec 30, 1960. Normal awarding of bids is impossible under the present circumstances (lack of publicity, no detailed specifications, no UN directives as to conditions of payment [Belgium or Congo], delays, taking over of contracts, delegation of financial responsibilities for the implementation of contracts).

2. Please note the following points:

Buildings are relatively new, and therefore repairs are relatively inexpensive.

For this reason it is pointed out in note n° DT 4 824 of 3 Sept 60 that the normal maintenance totals about 9,000,000 which is barely over 1/2% of the capital invested in buildings and capital equipment.

Annex 1 of my letter lists a total of 15,000,000.

This difference is due to the fact that the first figure is an estimate of maintenance proper of buildings exclusively, whereas the

second figure includes the maintenance and operation of equipment pertaining to the Kilubi Power Plant and to the water-purification plant.

The second figure comprises also several improvements to buildings (alterations in pavement, minor masonry work, etc. ...) and various minor conversion works, on a one-time basis.

It is to be hoped that in the next few years, the maintenance of buildings proper, in spite of obsolescence will be below 9,000,000 for the purchase of materials. Figures quoted above do not include labor.



(Annex 1)  
Financial year 1960

1. Security control of industrial equipment	90,000,-
2. Chemicals for wood conservation (anti-termite)	50,000,-
3. Paper for blueprints	30,000,-
4. Furniture polish and varnish	45,000,-
5. Renewal of furniture	27,000,-
6. Maintenance fire-protection equipment	100,000,-
7. Renewal of fire-protection equipment	207,000,-
8. Maintenance of buildings (minor work?)	100,000,-
9. Major maintenance work on buildings	
Refrigerated butchers' storerooms	600,000,-
Improvement of Flying School Sanitary installations	600,000,-
Tiling of camp toilets (ceramic)	160,000,-
Tiling (pavement) in following:	
Congolese Dispensary	300,000,-
Troop Dormitories in Camp	600,000,-
8 European houses	80,000,-
Parachute-store	270,000,-
Handrailing of staircases in 55 one-storey houses	121,000,-
Air-conditioning tyre storeroom	200,000,-
Conditioning of slaughter room	250,000,-
Unforeseen works	250,000,-
Repainting: Cong. dispense., Europ. school, Soc.Centers	312,200,-
Building materials	2,920,000,-
Paints for repainting en régie	2,400,000,-
Roofing materials	686,800,-
Various equipment and materials (cooking equip. refrig. various equip.)	850,000,-
Road materials	739,000,-
10. Maintenance of the power station and of the power network (power lines, underground network & transformer)	1,650,000,-
11. Operation of the water purification plant and distribution network	1,357,000,-
TOTAL	14,995,000,-

## ANNEX V

## PROSPECTUS OF TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHOOL, KAMINA BASE

Translated from French

Date of foundation of the School	1951
First regular four-year course	1951-1955
Leaving diplomas awarded	279
Two-year Naval study certificates	52
-	
Present capacity of the School	250 pupils
-	

The summaries furnished as documentation do not represent the full literature available as several summaries are undergoing revision.



## KAMINA BASE AIR FORCE TRAINING SCHOOL

### I. PURPOSES OF THE SCHOOL

1. To train Congolese technicians capable of safely assisting European technicians working on aircraft or in technical installations of the Air Force.

The main trades in which instruction is now given are:

- fitter
- rigger
- electrician
- radio mechanic

2. To provide preliminary training for Congolese technicians entering the Navy (for two years; training for a further two years to be continued at BANANA).

3. As a subsidiary measure, and only in so far as required, to train technicians in the following occupations:

- aircraft hand-fabric repairer-painter
- blacksmith-welder
- lathe operator
- joiner
- parachute packer

4. To assist in the general work of educating Congolese youth.

### II. ENTRANCE AND RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. For admission on a trial basis (period: three months) candidates must:
  - (a) Be unmarried and not more than seventeen years of age.
  - (b) Hold a school leaving certificate for the sixth year of primary schooling. (Some priority is given to candidates holding a certificate showing that they have successfully completed one or more years of post-primary schooling and in such cases some flexibility is allowed concerning the maximum age on entry.)
  - (c) Pass a medical examination conducted by a doctor of the Health Service/KAMINA Base.
  - (d) Pass the competitive entrance examination at a sufficiently high level - the number of candidates admitted each year is determined by the Command.
  - (e) Be of Congolese nationality.

The entrance examination is held between 15 August and 15 September and includes the following tests:

- (i) French: a dictation (twenty lines), a composition on an easy subject, three exercises to test knowledge of everyday vocabulary, a passage for reading.
- (ii) Arithmetic: a written examination entailing a series of simple operations and problems requiring a good knowledge of the four fundamental operations applied to integers and fractions, vulgar fractions and decimal fractions and some problems involving simple reasoning.
- (iii) Interview based on psycho-technical tests to determine judgement, reasoning powers, mechanical aptitude and manual dexterity.
- (iv) Assessment of general conduct during the examination period.

2. For admission as a regular trainee, candidates must:

- (a) Pass a selection test (50 per cent in each subject) held at the end of the first three months of training in the subjects taught at the School during that first term.
- (b) Have satisfied disciplinary requirements during that term.
- (c) Agree to sign an employment contract for a three-year period to become effective on leaving the School, binding the candidate to the Metropolitan Forces (marriage is permitted during the period covered by the contract). This contract is signed by the trainee's guardian.

3. The recruitment procedure is as follows:

- (a) Between 1 January and 10 July of each year, candidates are enrolled. They must make an application in writing to the Commandant of the Kamina Base Training School - BML - B.P. 573 - Kamina Base offering themselves as candidates for the course starting on the following 15 September.

In the application they must give the following particulars: name and exact address, date of birth, whether a bachelor, and educational qualifications (stating the name of the institution and attaching certificates, diplomas or copies thereof).

- (b) On receipt of an eligible application (meeting the general requirements) the Commandant of the Kamina Base Training School sends the candidate a questionnaire to be completed. It must be returned to him as soon as possible.



(c) Between 10 July and 10 August the School Commandant sends for the candidates whose applications have been approved to attend the entrance examination at the examination centre nearest to their homes (KAMINA-LEOPOLDVILLE-ELISABETHVILLE-LULUABOURG).

Travel expenses to the examination centre and living expenses incurred there are borne by the candidates.

(d) Candidates who have passed the selection tests are sent immediately after the examination to KAMINA at the expense of the Base. If owing to some exceptional reason which comes to light subsequently (e.g. unsuitability on medical grounds) a candidate cannot be admitted to the School, he will be returned to the recruitment centre at the expense of the Base.

Unsuccessful candidates are notified immediately.

Important: NO CANDIDATE SHOULD REPORT UNLESS SENT FOR.

### III. GENERAL TRAINING CURRICULUM

1. The first part of the theoretical and practical training lasts four years. On completion of this first part, trainees who pass the final examination of the Training School are put to work in the units and installations of the Metropolitan Forces.

Under the supervision of qualified European personnel they attend a three-year course of advanced instruction necessary to complete the training received during the four-year course.

At the end of this period, they must pass a practical examination which entitles them to a government-approved diploma. The diploma states subjects in which instruction has been received, the length of the courses attended, the level of proficiency reached and the student's examination record. The diploma is at the lower secondary vocational level.

2. The school year begins on 15 September and ends on 1 August the following year.

Between 1 August and 15 September trainees are given paid leave.

3. Lectures or practical work are conducted in French every day of the week (except Saturday) from 7.00 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. and from 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Saturday mornings are devoted to sport, educational films and the cleaning of classrooms and teaching equipment.



#### IV. GENERAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND LEVEL

##### 1. First year:

(a) Objective: to provide trainees with a sound basis which will enable them to benefit from the trade courses.

(b) General scope of programmes

Review of main subjects studied during the last year of primary school.

- Supplementary courses (geometry - mechanical drawing - mechanics and physics up to the standard of a European vocational school).
- Practical training in technology and fitting.

##### 2. Second and third years:

(a) Objective: See 1 above.

(b) General scope of programme:

- Continuation of supplementary courses begun during the first year.
- Study and application of general principles of work in the Air Force or Navy as appropriate.
- Theory and practice of the trade considered.
- Repeated execution of routine inspections and standard operations on engines, aircraft etc.

##### 3. Fourth year

- Periods spent in the various technical units of the Kamina Base where the trainees participate under supervision in the work normally carried out by qualified tradesmen.
- Review of subjects studied during the second and third years with practical work.

#### V. BENEFITS ENJOYED BY TRAINEES

1. Entire training given completely free (no charge for teacher's fees, books, classroom equipment or tools).

2. Free board in a collective mess (three meals a day comprising a ration much higher than that normally issued in accordance with the statutory provisions).

N.B. This applies only during the four years of theoretical training proper.

3. Free issue of certain equipment: walking-out uniforms, raincoats, overalls, sweater, blanket, bed.....



4. Free lodging in permanent buildings.
5. Free medical care and medicaments.
6. Normal welfare.
7. Pay at the rate of 3 francs a day when attending courses.

A merit bonus is payable to trainees in accordance with the following scale:

- 1 franc a day if the trainee obtained between 65 per cent and 74.9 per cent in the examination at the end of the preceding year.
  - 2 francs a day if the trainee obtained 75 per cent in the examinations.
8. During the employment contract which follows training proper, payment of statutory wages and other statutory benefits (posho and family allowances) with prospects of increases.
  9. Upon conclusion of the first employment contract, re-engagement terms are offered to those who have shown themselves hard-working and disciplined. They can then be nominated for appointment to established posts.

#### VI. DISCIPLINE

The various penalties which may be imposed on trainees during their training are:

1. Detention: for offences against specific school regulations (low marks in oral tests - indiscipline in class). Detention is held under supervision during the week-end.
2. Fines: for offences against the internal regulations of the Kamina Base (absence without leave - breach of discipline in quarters...). They amount to one day's pay. Only one fine is imposed for each offence.
3. Severe reprimand: for a serious offence against school regulations or against Kamina Base regulations. This always involves the loss of pay for a week and can only be imposed once; repetition of such offences may lead to expulsion.
4. Expulsion.

Note: Further information may be obtained from the Commandant of the Training School - Air Force - Kamina Base.

LIST OF BELGIAN PERSONNEL AT KAMINA BASE

## A. MANAGERIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL

58Managerial and Administrative

43

## Commanders and directors

8

## General staff

6

## Instruction and transport wing

1

## Other

1

## Senior officers and chiefs

22

## General staff

8

## Purchasing

1

## Sound

1

## Works and buildings

1

## Special services

1

## Training and intelligence

2

## Proc. and evacuation

2

## Health services

2

## Head Quartermaster

1

## Air procurement platoon

1

## Training and transport wing

8

## Flying group

1

## Technical school

1

## Engineering officer

2

## Pilot instruction

1

## Pilot transport sq.

1

## Administrative officer

1

## Equipment and stores

1

## Training centre

1

## Other

1

## Other chiefs and deputy chiefs

11

## Military magistrate and Deputy

2Professional15

## Agronomist (works engineer)

1

## Electrical engineer

2

## Meteorologist

1

## Librarian

1

## Professional trainees

2

## Doctor of internal medicine and dentist

1

## Surgeon

1

## Eye, ear and throat specialist

1

## Anaesthetist

1

## Pharmacists

2

## Head of pharmacy laboratory

1

## Pharm. chemist

1



## B. TECHNICAL AND SUPERVISORY

293

Technical

55

Physiotechnician	1
Ophtalmological technician	1
X-Ray	3
Laboratory (chem.)	1
Pharmacy assistant	1
Nurses	11
Physiologist	1
Photographers	2
Cartographer	1
Translator	1
Weather forecaster	1
Radio operators	5
Radio operators aboard plane	17
Balloon specialist	1
Parachute specialists	<u>8</u>

Instructors

109

General	42
Fencing	2
Fire and police brigade	1
NCO, school	1
Parachute	8
Procurement (air supplies)	<u>30</u>
Training and Instr. Wing	67
Pilot instructors	57
Chief	2
Ground	7
Flight formation	1
Techn. school	2
In flight	9
Unspec.	24
Training	9
Link trainers	<u>3</u>
Navigation training	7
Education, other	<u>3</u>

Chaplain

1

Training and instr. wing techn. personnel  
(excl. instructors)

102

Junior officers	37
Navigation	3
Fire prevention	3
Telecommunications	2
Equipment officer	5
Pilot transport	1
Pilots	4
Rescue squad	2
Flight chief	1
Maintenance squad	<u>1</u>

B. TECHNICAL AND SUPERVISORY (Cont.)

293

Technical	11		
Telecomm. squad	3		
Techn. school	2		
Control and insp.	1		
Maintenance	4		
Auto transport	<u>1</u>		
Air services squad	1		
Unspec.	<u>7</u>		
Pilots		56	
Rescue squadron	12		
Regular flight	24		
V	2		
Students	<u>18</u>		
Navigators		<u>9</u>	
<u>Supervisory Personnel</u>			<u>26</u>
Transportation		4	
Wheeled vehicle maint.			
command	2		
Proc. officer transport	1		
Head transport platoon	<u>1</u>		
Buildings and barracks		7	
Chief of service, buildings			
and barracks	1		
Chief of service, buildings			
and barracks works	1		
Junior building officer	1		
Junior admin. officer			
buildings and barracks	1		
Junior directing officer,			
buildings and barracks	2		
Manager military buildings	<u>1</u>		
Schools		4	
Head, school platoon	1		
Platoon heads, schools	<u>3</u>		
Other		<u>11</u>	
Chief of service, techn.			
services	1		
Chief warrant officer	1		
Company commander, admin.			
company	1		
Deputy chief ordinance	1		
Warehouse command	1		
Chief, non-mobile control			
tower team	2		
Chief, works platoon	1		
Adj. S1	2		
General manageress, health			
services	<u>1</u>		



C. FOREMEN, ARTISANS AND SKILLED WORKERS

365

Foremen

15

Unspec., land engineering	6
Engineering	<u>9</u>
Chief, eng. shop	1
Buildings and works	2
Works	1
Buildings and barracks	4
Technical services	<u>1</u>

Fitters, mechanics and other metal workers

265

Fitters	123
Technical services, land eng.	2
Precision instrument	8
Aircraft	15
Motor, aircraft	82
Gunsmith	13
Engineering for ordnance	1
Ironworks	<u>2</u>

Mechanics	114
Precision instruments	11
Electrical, aircraft	3
On board, aircraft	14
Radio, air force	54
Auto	20
Telescript	1
Electrical, buildings and barracks	3
Engineering, works	2
Equipment, works	1
Woodworking machinery	1
Communication lines and cable	<u>4</u>

Repairmen	14
Radar HAA	1
Radio	2
Carburetion and elec., auto	3
Auto	5
Arms	1
Small-arms	1
Refrigeration equipment	<u>1</u>

Welders and smiths	8
Welder	3
Aeronautical welding	1
Copper- and tinsmith	<u>4</u>

Lathe operators	<u>6</u>
Metal lathe	5
Equipment and metal	<u>1</u>

Electricians

33

Carpenters

3

C. FOREMEN, ARTISANS AND SKILLED WORKERS (Cont.)

365

<u>Plumber (building installation)</u>		1
<u>Runway control and radio oper. traffic</u>		3
<u>Parachute folders and repairmen</u>		13
<u>Firemen</u>		2
<u>Fuselage coverer (canvas)</u>		2
<u>Service occupations</u>		<u>28</u>
Truck drivers and chauffeurs		11
Butchers		2
Slaughterer	1	
Butcher	<u>1</u>	
Bakers, mech.		2
Cooks		11
Cook-butcher	1	
Head cook	1	
Assistant cooks	<u>9</u>	
Launderer		1
Boiler operator		<u>1</u>



D. CLERICAL OFFICERS

192

Secretaries		39
Med. secretary	1	
Pharmacist secretary	1	
Other secretaries	35	
Typists	<u>2</u>	
Clerks		30
NCO's and warrant officers		27
Technical apparatus, air force	11	
Transport, army	6	
Training and instr. wing	4	
Other	<u>6</u>	
Storekeepers		6
Procurement		61
Headquarters	2	
Health Service	2	
Land engineering	8	
Command	3	
Works	1	
Engineering equip.	<u>4</u>	
Logistics	3	
Quartermaster	6	
Ordnance	7	
Petrol, oil and lubricants	1	
Ammunition	1	
Food	3	
Bedding and personal effects	1	
MOC	4	
Other	9	
Technical, air force	<u>14</u>	
Code officers		6
Health officers		5
Draughtsmen, architectural and techn.		4
Tribunal		5
Registrars	4	
Court secretary	<u>1</u>	
Instructors, n.o.s.		2
Cafeteria keeper		1
Other		<u>6</u>

E. OTHER PERSONNEL

197

Reinforcements, army

184

Quartermaster

27

Officers

1

Men

26

Ordnance

80

Officers

2

Men

78

Transport, men

28

Telecommunications

36

Officers

1

Men

35

Military tribunal

3

Health Service - Baka

10

Unskilled, cleaning

13



ANNEX VII

A REPORT BY GENERAL R. A. WHEELER  
ON BUILDING CONTRACTS AT KAMINA BASE

SUMMARY OF TEN SUSPENDED WORKS CONTRACTS TO BE  
RESUMED MONDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER

AND

FOUR WORKS CONTRACTS NOT YET STARTED  
TO BE BEGUN MONDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER

FOR

RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT AT KAMINA BASE

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Kamina Base, 5 September, 1960

To: Dr. Linner

From: R. A. Wheeler

Subject: List of Projects for Unemployment Relief, Kamina Base

1. Attached is the list of projects reviewed by Mr. Galo Plaza and the Director of the Belgian Technical Mission, Kamina Base. Only four items are contracts that have been awarded but not started; all other items are contracts that have been started but later suspended. All items are considered appropriate for relief of unemployment and for sponsorship by the United Nations.

2. The Congolese Central Government has approved a 30% increase in the Congolese labor rate. This increase is included in the attached list.

3. Water mains and pipe, sewer siphons and electrical cable, heaters, etc., for which competitive bids were received from Belgium and awards made to Belgian suppliers, were cancelled two weeks ago. These supplies are necessary for some of the projects included in the list. It is therefore recommended that the cost thereof be included in the total cost of the projects for which funds are requested.

4. Some of the projects in the list include materials en route from Matadi to Kamina but which have been stopped in transit by the President of Kasai Province. You have already initiated action to get the tonnage in warehouse at port Francqui en route to Kamina and the tonnage on railway cars at Luputa near the border that is also en route to Kamina on the way again. Further action along this line is recommended. Roofing material now on hand at the manufacturer's plant in Luluabourg must be forwarded as soon as rail connection is reestablished. Tiling, which is one of the items that has been stopped en route, can be replaced by local manufacture in Elisabethville, if it is delayed too long in delivery.

5. The total number of Congolese employed in construction and maintenance by the Base and paid by the Belgian Government is 660. None of them are included in this list.

6. Projects are summarized as follows:

a) Total cost:

Completion of contracts:	28,457,206 frs.
30% increase labor costs:	1,350,000 "
Imported materials:	2,244,408 "
Contingencies 6%:	1,948,386 "
Total	<u>34,000,000 frs.</u>

b) Total employment - 550 Congolese

c) Percentage of cost in Congolese currency: about 62%

d) Contractors request that foreign exchange portion of their contracts be paid in Belgium.

7. It is recommended that request for funds in the amount of US\$680,000. be submitted as soon as possible in order that the various works may be resumed on Monday, 12 September.

cc. Mr. Galo Plaza



Contract for completion of building of hot water showers

Contractor: J. Willaime

Price: 904,294 c.fr (price fixed, with no provision for exhalation either for increases in costs of materials and supplies or of labor.

Contractual period: Work to be completed within eight months after acceptance of bid. Bid accepted May 30, 1959 - therefore contract should have been finished by January 31, 1960.

Contractor's bond: 45,200 fr.

Contract for cinema theatre

Contractor: SOTECO

Price: original bid, Dec. 31 1958 -	5,352,015.81 fr
change order May 28, 1959 - added	17,048.19
change order 10/11/59 added -	67,947.00
change order 25 April 1960 added -	121,427.00

There are exhalation clauses for materials and labor

Contractual period: Work to start within two months after award and be finished 18 months thereafter. Original 18 month period was to start from December 31, 1958. Change order of 10/11/59 added 12 days and change order of 25 April, 1960 added 30 days. Contract should therefore have been completed by middle of August, 1960. Maximum penalty for delay on part of contractor is 5% of contract price.

Contractor's bond: 267,600 fr.

MEMORANDUM

September 6, 1960

Subject: Contracts for Public Works Projects, Kamina Base

I have examined a number of the contracts for works at Kamina Base. All are unit price contracts which were let on the basis of competitive bids. In all except one of those examined (the exception being the Willaime contract for completion of building of hot water showers) there are provisions for escalation of the contract price according to mathematical formulae, if there are changes in costs of materials and supplies, European labor or Congolese labor.

All the contracts have mandatory completion dates, with penalties for failure to meet those dates. In several cases, the contract period had either expired or was very close to expiration by the beginning of July, 1960.

In all cases, the bids (including those portions representing foreign exchange costs) were stated in Congolese francs. The contracts contain a provision that the State will bear the cost of transfer of funds. Progress payments under the contracts are to be made monthly at the end of the month, covering both work done and materials and supplies on the spot but not yet used. Adjustments for escalation are made within 60 days thereafter. Payments are to be made through Banque Centrale du Congo Belge et du Ruanda Urundi at Leopoldville or through CCP/Brussels.

All contracts contain provisions requiring shipment of all materials in bottoms of Compagnie Maritime Belge, with penalties for shipment by any other line.

The contracting party appears to be the Ministre de la Defense Nationale, acting through the Commandant Superieur des Forces Metropolitaines en Afrique. All contracts are subject to published regulations of the Ministry of National Defense.

The file which I examined may not have been complete, but it contained no written evidence of the fact, mentioned in yesterday's meeting, that for the past two months all contractual payments were made in Belgian francs.

Attached is a summary of some pertinent facts about the contracts examined.

(signed)  
Virginia M. Wheeler



Contract for 13 double houses for Congolese (in Kilubi)

Contractor: SOTECO

Contract price: 3,560,177 C.fr. Provision for escalation if supplies or labor costs increase

Contractual period: 8 months starting from November 25, 1959

Special provision: The Administration reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of houses.

Contractor's bond: 178,100 fr.

Contract for 56 double houses (Kamina) - for Congolese

Contractor: SAFRICAS

Price: original bid: 13,244,826 C.fr.

Change order Mar 20, 1960 added 187,434

Change order 21/05/60 added 157,838

Usual provisions for escalation.

Contractual period: 13 months from 16 December, 1959. Change order of March 21, 1960 added 7 days and change order of 21/05/60 added 5 days.

Contractor's bond: 662,300 fr.

Contract for 2 blocks of buildings for bachelors

Contractor: Originally GeDeVe, but ceded to Willaume

Price: original bid: 1,837,388

change order 28/01/60 added 19,771

Usual provisions for escalation

Contractual period: 10 months from November 3, 1959. Change order of 28/01/60 added 8 days.

Contractor's bond: 91,900 fr.

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	CONTRACTOR	INITIAL CONTRACT COST	COST OF REMAINING WORK	WORKERS EMPLOYED	LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT (IN MONTHS)
(Annex 1)						
1	Cinema theatre	SOTECO	5.630.717	806.073	10	1
3	13 double houses for Congolese	SOTECO	3.564.177	1.491.933	70	4
4	56 double houses for Congolese	SAFRICAS	13,994.859	4.528.522	100	6
5	2 blocks of buildings for bachelors	WILLAUME	1.857.159	1.066.271	10	4
6	44 houses of type Force Public	SAFRICAS	25.542.716	13.066.377	150	7
8	School in home eco- nomics for Cong.girls	WILLAUME	2.854.548	2.482.748	30	8
9	Hangar for storage of aviation spare parts	SAFRICAS	2.523.094	1.556.129	50	4
10	Completion of building of hot water showers	WILLAUME	866.339	244.721	5	1
11	Remodel general ser- vice block	WILLAUME	231.810	231.810	15	6
12	Repair of floors in barracks	"	444.770	444.770		
13	Repair of floors in barracks	"	315.600	315.600		
14	Remodel aviation pilot school	"	602.252	602.252		
(Annex 2)						
4	Placing sewers	WILLAUME	1.170.000	1.170.000	30	3
5	Manufacturing sewer pipes	SAFRICAS	450.000	450.000	20	2
			60.048.041	28.457.206		
	30% increase in Congolese labor rate ordered by Cong. Central Gov't. (Labor costs are 15% total cost)			1.350.000		
				29.807.206		
	Two sub-contractors for 3 prime contractors (Incl.in above)				60	8
	TOTAL			29.807.206	550	

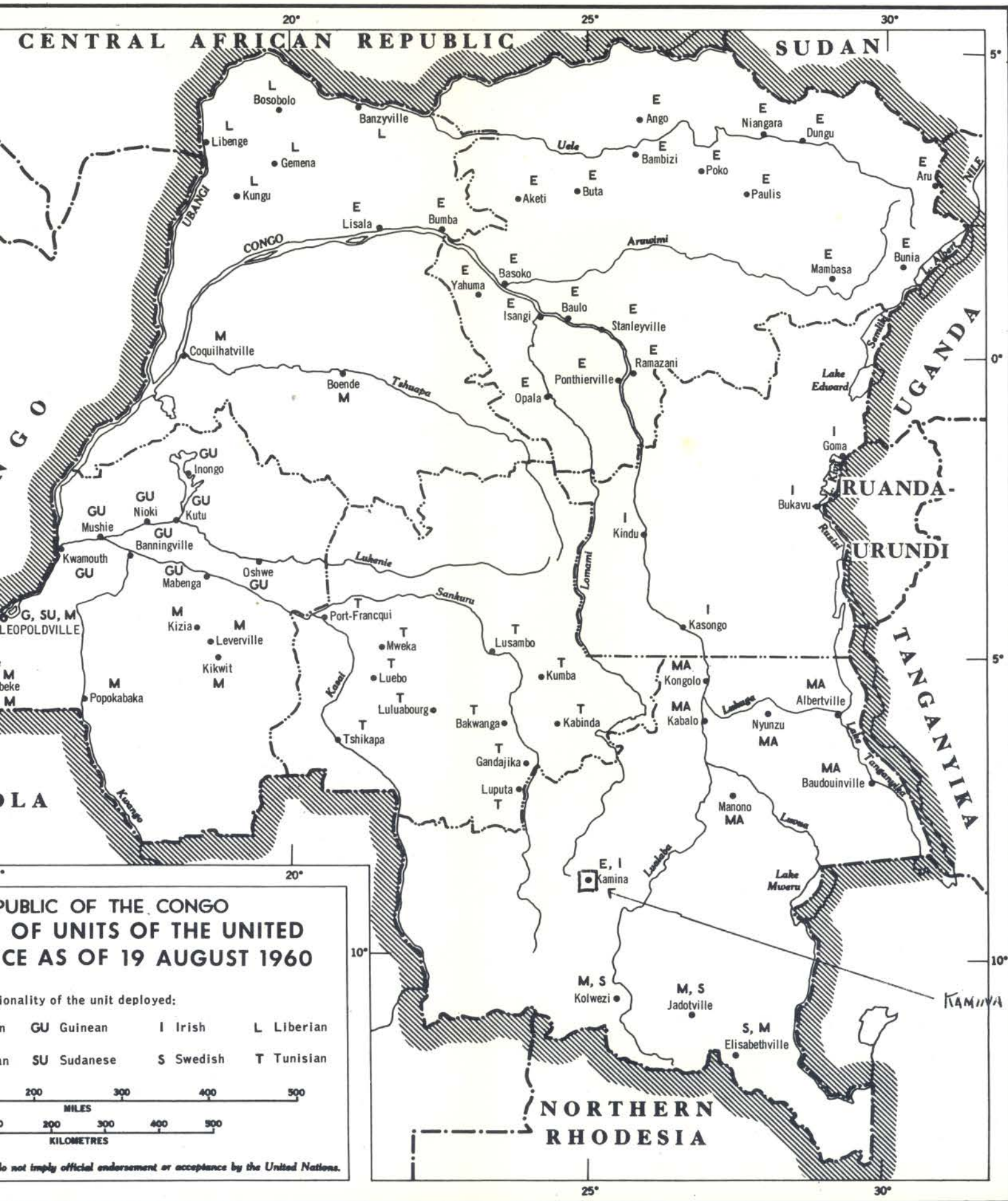


<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COST OF REMAINING WORK</u>	
TOTAL CARRIED FORWARD	29.807.206	
Water pipe, sewer siphons, electrical cable, etc., for which bids received from Belgium and awards made but cancelled. All items in Annex 2, items 1,2,3,6,7,8,9,10,11 (all hard currency)	2.244.408	
	32.051.614	
Contingencies= 6%	1.948.386	
GRAND TOTAL	34.000.000 frs.	550 Congolese workers

Note: Items are listed in Annex 1 and 2 of letter 3 Sept; 60 No.BT4824 from Commandant, Director of Belgium Technical Mission, Kamina Base.









# BASE DE KITONA PLAN GENERAL

