MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 818 - United Nations Middle East Peacekeeping Forces

Attached for your consideration is S. 818, sponsored by Senator Sparkman, which authorizes such appropriations as may be necessary for the payment of the United States share of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East.

Additional information is provided in OMB's enrolled bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, NSC, Phil Buchen (Lazarus) and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign S. 818 at Tab B.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 818 - United Nations Middle East peacekeeping forces
         Sponsor - Sen. Sparkman (D) Alabama

Last Day for Action
June 21, 1975 - Saturday

Purpose

Authorizes appropriations for United States payments of its share of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget                     Approval
Department of State                                  Approval
Department of Defense                                Approval
National Security Council                            No objection

Discussion

The enrolled bill, which is identical to a State Department draft proposal transmitted to the Congress earlier this year, would provide an open-ended authorization of appropriations for payment by the United States of its share of the expenses of the United Nations Emergency Force in the Sinai and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force on the Golan Heights. These forces resulted from the disengagement and cease-fire agreements worked out under United Nations auspices following the October 1973, Middle East war. They play a key role in limiting contact between the opposing forces while efforts are being made to achieve a durable, Middle East peace settlement through international negotiations.
Under the formula for apportioning expenses for the U.N. forces among United Nations members, the U.S. share was established at 28.9% of the total. The enrolled bill specifically recognizes this formula by providing that the appropriations it authorizes are not subject to the general limitation of 25% on U.S. contributions to the U.N.

The Congress has already appropriated $28.8 million subject to enactment of this bill to cover estimated U.S. contributions through October 1975. S. 818 would also authorize any additional appropriations for any periods after October 1975, to cover necessary U.S. payments for its share of the peacekeeping forces' expenses.

James M. Tray
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosures
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 818 - United Nations Middle East peacekeeping forces
Sponsor - Sen. Sparkman (D) Alabama

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Office of Management and Budget Approval
Department of State Approval
Department of Defense Approval
National Security Council No objection

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James M. Tray
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosures
Date: June 16, 1975

FOR ACTION: Max Friedersdorff
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jim Cavanaugh
Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 17

SUBJECT:
Enrolled Bill S. 818 - UN Middle East peacekeeping forces

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- For Your Comments

For Your Recommendations
Draft Reply
Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR.
For the President
Honorable James T. Lynn  
Director  
Office of Management & Budget  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lynn:

Mr. Hyde's communication of June 10 has requested the Department's views on enrolled bill S.818 to "authorize United States payment to the United Nations for expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East."

This bill is identical to the draft legislation submitted by the Department of State to the Congress in February, 1975. The purpose of the legislation is to authorize funds to pay the United States assessed share of the costs of the United Nations peacekeeping forces placed on the Israeli-Syrian and the Egyptian-Israeli fronts as a result of the respective disengagement and cease-fire agreements worked out under UN auspices, largely through the efforts of the U.S. Government. It would be difficult to overstate the importance of these forces to the preservation of peace in the Middle East and the prospect of a viable and lasting settlement in that area.

Accordingly, we strongly recommend that the President approve the legislation.

Sincerely,

Robert J. McCloskey  
Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Relations
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301  

June 16, 1975  

Honorable James T. Lynn  
Director, Office of Management  
and Budget  
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of Defense on the Enrolled Enactment of S. 818, 94th Congress, "To authorize United States payments to the United Nations for expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, and for other purposes."

S. 818, as passed by the Congress, would authorize the appropriation to the Department of State of such sums as may be necessary from time to time for payment of the U.S. share of the expenses of the UN Emergency Force in the Middle East (UNEF) and the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). By UN General Assembly resolution, 28.9% of the total costs has been apportioned as the U.S. share pursuant to Article 17 of the UN Charter.

The Department of State Appropriation Act, 1973 (P.L. 92-544) provides that "after December 31, 1973, no appropriation is authorized and no payment shall be made to the United Nations or any affiliated agency in excess of 25 per centum of the total annual assessment of such organization...." S. 818 authorizes the above-mentioned payments notwithstanding this limitation of P.L. 92-544.

Inasmuch as Administration requested the authorization which the bill would provide, the Department of Defense recommends that the President approve S. 818, 94th Congress.

Sincerely yours,

Martin R. Hoffmann
MEMORANDUM FOR:  Mr. George Gilbert
Office of Management and Budget

FROM:  Mr. Les Janka

SUBJECT:  S. 818

The NSC staff has no objection to enrolled bill S. 818.
June 16, 1975

FOR ACTION: Max Friedersdorf
             Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jim Cavanaugh
                     Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 17
     Time: 4:30pm

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill S. 818 - UN Middle East peacekeeping forces

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

No objection. -- Ken Lazarus 6/17/75

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM Cavanaugh
FROM: Max L. Friedersdorf
SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 818 - UN Middle East peacekeeping forces

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies that the

Attachments
U.N. PEACEKEEPING IN THE MIDDLE EAST

APRIL 24 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1975.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. SPARKMAN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 818]

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to which was referred the bill (S. 818) to authorize United States payments to the United Nations for expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE AND PROVISIONS

The purpose of S. 818 is to authorize such appropriations as may be necessary for the payment of the United States share of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East for the period beginning October 25, 1974. The bill would also authorize supplemental payments for the period prior to October 25, 1974, to meet the U.S. share of peacekeeping expenses in excess of those originally anticipated.

BACKGROUND

With the cease-fire on the Egyptian-Israeli front in October 1973, the U.N. Security Council authorized the creation of the U.N. Emergency Force in the Middle East (UNEF) to separate the forces and police the cease-fire. In May 1974, with Israeli-Syrian disengagement, the Security Council authorized creation of the U.N. Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) to operate with a similar purpose on that front.

Following the Security Council authorization of UNEF, the U.N. General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to make commitments of up to $5 million per month for a period which was eventually extended to a full year ending October 24, 1974. UNDOF has been funded and staffed by drawing upon resources from both UNEF and the U.N. True Supervision Organization (UNTSO), the latter having been established after the 1948 war in the Middle East.
AUTHORIZING U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCES

MAY 12, 1975.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Fraser, from the Committee on International Relations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 818]

The Committee on International Relations, to whom was referred the bill (S. 818) to authorize United States payments to the United Nations for expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of S. 818 is to authorize an appropriation for the payment of the United States share of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force) for the period October 25, 1974 until October 31, 1975.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On March 25, 1975, the Honorable Donald M. Fraser, Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, introduced H.R. 5457, to authorize payment of the United States share of expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East. The bill was introduced in response to an executive communication from the Department of State and was cosponsored by the Honorable John H. Buchanan, Jr., and the Honorable Edward J. Derwinski. It was referred to the Committee on International Relations, which in turn referred it to the Subcommittee on International Organizations.

On April 8, 1975, the subcommittee held a public hearing on H.R. 5457, for which the witness was the Honorable William B. Buffum, Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs. Mr. Buffum testified in support of the bill.
On April 23, 1975, the subcommittee agreed by voice vote to report the bill favorably without amendment to the full Committee.

On April 28, 1975, the Senate passed S. 818, a bill identical to H.R. 5457. Thereupon, on May 6, 1975, the full Committee on International Relations considered S. 818, in lieu of H.R. 5457, and ordered it reported favorably by voice vote.

COST ESTIMATE

Passage of S. 818 would authorize an appropriation of "such sums as may be necessary from time to time for payment by the United States of its share of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East." The United Nations assesses the United States at a rate of 28.89 percent of the total in accordance with Article 17 of the United Nations charter. The dollar amount of assessment covered by S. 818 for this year is $28,837,000. The authorization will remain in force for succeeding fiscal years if the United States is again assessed for these peacekeeping forces.

BACKGROUND

As a result of the war in the Middle East in October 1973, two peacekeeping forces were established by the United Nations in order to separate the hostile forces from each other and to provide for policing the area between them. The United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) operates on the front between Israel and Egypt and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) operates on the front between Israel and Syria. These forces play a crucial role by limiting the contact between belligerents while efforts are being made through international negotiations for a durable peace settlement between Arabs and Israelis. The number of men presently assigned to the two peacekeeping forces are 4,176 for UNEF and 1,202 for UNDOF. The forces are comprised of contingents from Austria, Canada, Finland, Ghana, Indonesia, Peru, Poland, Senegal and Sweden.

The United States strongly supports the establishment of these forces and favors their continuation, particularly at the present time of increased instability in the Middle East conflict. The U.N. Security Council recently renewed the mandate for UNEF for a three-month period ending July 24, 1975. Renewal of the mandate for UNDOF will be considered by the Security Council prior to its expiration on May 31, 1975. Indications are that its next period of mandate will be for two months.

The rates of assessment for contributions by member nations of the United Nations were appportioned by the General Assembly in 1973, and reaffirmed in 1974, according to a formula by which the permanent members of the Security Council were assessed 15% more than their rate of assessment for the regular budget of the United Nations. This was done in recognition of the special responsibilities for international peace and security held by the permanent members of the Security Council. A key role in the negotiation in the rates of assessment was played by a member of the Committee on International Relations, the Honorable John H. Buchanan, Jr., of Alabama, while he served as a U.S. delegate to the 1973 United Nations General Assembly. Under the formula of regular-budget-percentage-plus-15% the permanent members of the Security Council were assessed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4.997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>6.773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.S.R.</td>
<td>14.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>0.137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>28.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The United States share of the costs of the first year of peacekeeping operations was $17.3 million, which Congress made available as part of $2.2 billion Emergency Security Assistance Act of 1973. The present United States assessment is $528,837,000, which includes $23.1 million for the second year of Middle East Peacekeeping and $5,720,946 to cover the United States share of a shortfall of $19,800,000 for the first year of operation. The U.N. Secretary General estimates the total cost for the second year of operation at $80 million.

The present Middle East peacekeeping operation is the first case in which the Soviet Union has agreed to assessments under the collective security responsibility provisions of the United Nations Charter in Article 17. At present the United States is approximately six months delinquent in its payments for the peacekeeping forces because of insufficient time to settle differences in House and Senate versions of the authorization bills during the last days of the 93rd Congress. Accordingly, the executive branch has urged expedited passage of this legislation.

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY XI(1)(3) OF HOUSE RULES

Pursuant to the requirements of rule XI(1)(3) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are made:

(A) Oversight findings and recommendations: United States financial contributions to the U.N. Middle East peacekeeping forces are important to the American interest in avoiding another outbreak of war between Arabs and Israelis and supporting international negotiations to achieve a lasting settlement. The U.N. formula for Middle East peacekeeping assessments is quite favorable for the United States, since it requires each of the five permanent members of the Security Council to carry proportionately the same burden.

(B) Congressional Budget Act: Section 308(a) requirement: This measure provides for no new budget authority or increased tax expenditures.

(C) Congressional Budget Office estimate and comparison: No estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under Section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was received by the Committee.
(D) Committee on Government Operations summary: No oversight findings and recommendations have been received which relate to this measure from the Committee on Government Operations under clause 2(b) (2) of Rule X.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

The measure would not have any specifically identifiable inflationary impact. Its objective is to prevent outbreak of another war in the Middle East which would have serious inflationary consequences for the United States.
An Act

To authorize United States payments to the United Nations for expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State such sums as may be necessary from time to time for payment by the United States of its share of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, as apportioned by the United Nations in accordance with article 17 of the United Nations Charter, notwithstanding the limitation on contributions to international organizations contained in Public Law 92-544 (86 Stat. 1109, 1110).

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.
June 10, 1975

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on June 10th:

S.J. Res. 92
S. 818
H.R. 3109
H.R. 4700

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable James T. Lynn
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D. C.