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LETTER DATED 7 SEPTEMBER 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to draw the attention of the Security Council to another mining incident in the vicinity of the Israel-Syrian border.

Yesterday, 6 September, at 0700 hours, near the village of Shear Yashuv, a tractor drawing a flat trailer hit a landmine laid in Israel territory at a spot about 150 metres west of the demilitarized zone. The tractor and trailer were at the time carrying a group of civilian labourers engaged in land reclamation work nearby. As a result of the mine explosion, seven of the labourers were injured, two of them seriously.

Fresh footprints of a single person led to the scene of the incident from the direction of the Syrian military position of Tel Azaziyat, and returned in the same direction. This position is located on a hilltop about 700 metres from the scene of the incident, and encroaches illegally across the Syrian border into the demilitarized zone.

The Israel authorities have lodged a complaint with the Mixed Armistice Commission, and the Foreign Minister of Israel has conveyed to the UNTSO Chief-of-Staff, General Bull, the gravity with which the Government of Israel views this new outrage and act of aggression, which is a violation of the Israel-Syrian General Armistice Agreement and of the unconditional cease-fire, recently reaffirmed.

The Government of Israel continues to be deeply concerned with the preservation of peace and quiet on all its borders. But it must insist that this is a reciprocal obligation on the parties to the armistice agreement. The recent

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history of the Israel-Syrian border demonstrates how dangerous and provocative are the mining and sabotage actions in Israel territory, originating from Syria.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Michael COMAY  
Permanent Representative

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