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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

(for the period 25 May 1976 to 22 November 1976)

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MAP: UNDOF DEPLOYMENT SITUATION AS OF NOVEMBER 1976

INTRODUCTION

1. The present report describes the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period 25 May to 22 November 1976. Its purpose is to provide the Security Council with an account of the activities of UNDOF in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to it by the Council in resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974 and extended by resolutions 363 (1974) of 29 November 1974, 369 (1975) of 28 May 1975, 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975 and 390 (1976) of 28 May 1976.

2. During the period covered by the present report, UNDOF has continued to supervise the area of separation and inspect the areas of limitation of armaments and forces in accordance with its mandate. With the co-operation of both parties, UNDOF has been able to contribute to the maintenance of the cease-fire called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

3. As of 17 November 1976, the composition of UNDOF was as follows:

Austria	522
Canada	164
Iran	388
Poland	88
United Nations military observers (detailed from UNTSO)	86
Total	<hr/> 1,248

4. Command of UNDOF continues to be exercised by Major-General Hannes Philipp. Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo has continued as Chief Co-ordinator of the United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East.

B. Deployment

5. UNDOF personnel remain deployed within or close to the area of separation, with base camps and logistic support units located near by. UNDOF headquarters is at Damascus. The present deployment is shown on the attached map.

6. The Austrian battalion mans positions in the area of separation north of the Damascus-Quneitra road. Its base camp is located near the Wadi Faouar, 8 km east of the area of separation. The Iranian battalion is deployed south of the Damascus-Quneitra road, with its base camp near the village of Ziouani, just west of the area of separation.

7. The Austrians continue to share their base camp with the Polish logistic unit, while the Iranians share theirs with the Canadian logistic unit. The Canadian signals troop has detachments at the two base camps and in Damascus, Quneitra and Tiberias. Military police detachments are located in Camp Ziouani and Damascus. The UNDOF military observers operate out of Tiberias and Damascus. UNDOF also provides some of the staff serving in the Office of the Chief Co-ordinator in Jerusalem.

8. The recent completion of a new accommodation and storage facility at the position on the peak of Mount Hermon would enable UNDOF to keep that position manned throughout the forthcoming winter. In previous winters the position has been unmanned, although patrolled when weather conditions permitted.

C. Rotation

9. The Austrian battalion carried out partial rotations in May and August 1976. The Iranian battalion was rotated in October 1976. Canadian personnel continues to rotate in small groups at regular intervals after a minimum period of service of six months. The Polish unit carried out partial rotation in May and June 1976.

II. ACCOMMODATIONS AND LOGISTICS

A. Accommodations

10. Construction of several brick and prefabricated buildings to replace those lost by fire (see S/12083, para. 10) and to provide improved living accommodation and work space has been completed during the reporting period. Special efforts have been made to reduce the danger of fire in UNDOF buildings.

B. Logistic support

11. Logistic support for UNDOF continues to be provided by the Canadian and Polish logistic units, as outlined in my report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 25-27). The Polish unit also provides a mine-clearing capability.

12. Air support is provided by the UNEF air transport unit, which operates two Buffalo DHC-5 aircraft out of Ismailia to Damascus. In addition, the Fokker F-27 aircraft provided by the Government of Switzerland for UNTSO is used by the three peace-keeping missions in the area and operates to Damascus.

13. A new warehouse is under construction at the Canadian logistic unit base, which, when completed, will provide a ration depot of sufficient size to serve the whole Force. In addition, a large refrigerator unit is being installed to provide central storage for all frozen food items used by the Force. The completion of these two projects will provide UNDOF a ration-holding capacity that will enable it to dispense with long haul by road from the UNEF logistics base in Ismailia and to receive supplies directly from ports closer to its area of operations. This will result in considerable savings in transportation costs and will be more efficient.

14. Plans are also in hand for the establishment of special medical facilities at Camp Faouar and Camp Ziouani.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Functions and guidelines

15. The functions and guidelines of UNDOF, as well as its tasks, remain as outlined in my report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 8-10).

16. UNDOF has been able, with the co-operation of the parties, to carry out the tasks entrusted to it. This has been facilitated by the close contact maintained by the Force Commander and his staff with the military liaison staffs of Israel and Syria. In his capacity as Chief Co-ordinator of the United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo has continued to take part in high-level contacts and, as occasion requires, in meetings between the Force Commander and military representatives of Israel and Syria concerning the functions of the Force.

B. Freedom of movement

17. Despite the efforts made towards resolving the question of freedom of movement, the existing arrangements still fall short of what is required and of what is provided for in the Protocol to the Agreement on Disengagement. Efforts are continuing to secure full acceptance of this important principle.

C. Personnel matters

18. The general discipline, performance and bearing of all members of UNDOF has been of high order, reflecting credit on the soldiers and their commanders, as well as on the countries contributing contingents to the Force.

19. During the period under review, the Force suffered two accidental fatalities, both from the Iranian contingent.

D. Maintenance of the cease-fire

20. The cease-fire has been maintained during the period under review. There were two Syrian complaints of Israeli small-arms fire, but the incidents concerned did not increase over-all tension in the area.

E. Supervision of the Agreement on Disengagement with regard to the areas of separation and limitation

Area of separation

21. UNDOF continues to supervise the area of separation to ensure, in accordance

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with its mandate, that there are no military forces within it. This activity is carried out by means of static posts, which are manned 24 hours a day, and by foot and mobile patrols operating on both random and pre-determined patterns.

22. UNDOF has continued to investigate complaints from both parties concerning alleged violations of the Agreement with regard to the area of separation and to draw to the attention of the parties any violations it has itself observed, with a view to having corrective action taken. There have been no significant violations during the period under review.

23. Syrian shepherds who graze their flocks close to the A line continue to be a matter of concern to UNDOF. With the co-operation of both parties, however, incidents of the kind that occurred on 14 October 1975 (see S/11883, para. 24) have been avoided.

24. Despite efforts by the Syrian authorities and the UNDOF mine-clearing team, there are still many unexploded shells and mines in the area of separation. Syrian civilians and livestock continue to suffer casualties from these devices. The UNDOF mine-clearing team has further expanded the area accessible to foot and vehicle patrols, and UNDOF is now able to patrol almost the full length of both the A and B lines as well as most of the tracks and paths within the area of separation.

25. UNDOF has continued to carry out its tasks within the area of separation in a manner which neither hampers the Syrian administration nor derogates from Syrian sovereignty. Good relations have been maintained between UNDOF and the civilian authorities, as well as with the civilian population in the area.

26. During the reporting period, UNDOF has facilitated and continues to supervise meetings between families separated as a result of the hostilities. The meetings, of which there have been six so far, take place near the village of Majdel Shams. Both parties have co-operated fully with UNDOF in making these meetings possible.

Areas of limitation

27. UNDOF has continued to carry out the inspection of the area of limitation of armaments and forces as provided for in the Agreement. The inspections are carried out with the assistance of liaison officers from the parties who accompany the UNDOF inspection teams in their respective areas. In accordance with the procedure agreed to by the parties, the results of the inspections are made available only to them. UNDOF lends its assistance and good offices in cases where one of the parties raises questions concerning the observance of the agreed limitation of armaments and forces. In carrying out this function, UNDOF has continued to receive the co-operation of the parties.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

28. As indicated in the Secretary-General's report of 19 November 1976 to the General Assembly (A/31/288, para. 23) on the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, the costs of UNDOF beyond 30 November 1976, should the Security Council renew its mandate beyond that date, would be of the order of \$1.4 million per month, assuming continuance of its existing strength and responsibilities.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

29. In deciding in its resolution 390 (1976) to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, the Security Council also called upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) and requested the Secretary-General to submit at the end of that period a report on developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement resolution 338 (1973).

30. The efforts made during the past year to promote an early resumption of the negotiations aimed at establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East, as called for in Security Council resolution 338 (1973), are described in detail in the report which the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly and the Security Council on 18 October 1976 (A/31/270-S/12210) in pursuance of Assembly resolution 3414 (XXX) on the situation in the Middle East.

VI. OBSERVATIONS

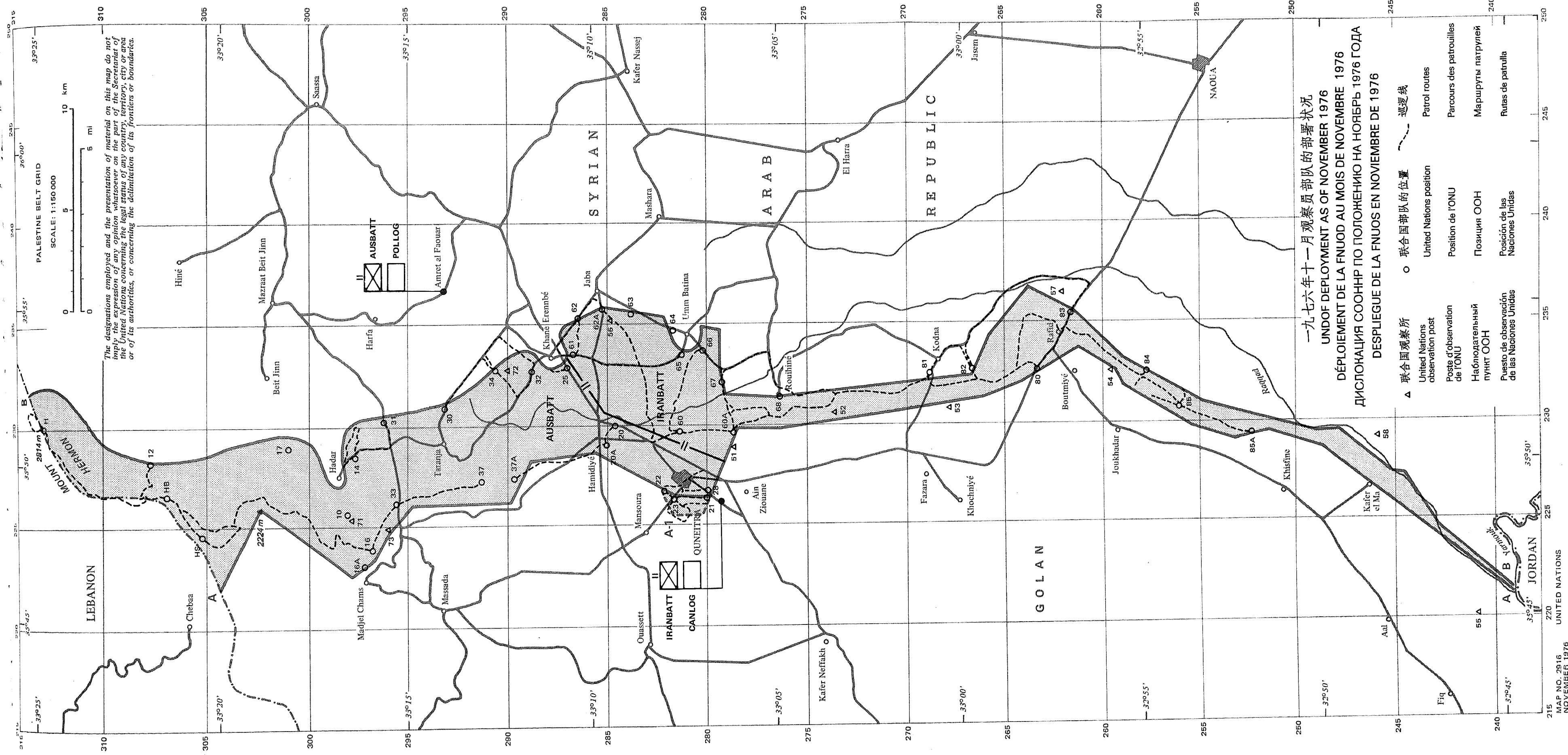
31. The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the cease-fire called for by the Security Council and the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces, has continued to perform its functions effectively with the co-operation of the parties. During the period under review, the situation in the area has remained quiet, and there have been no incidents of a serious nature.

32. Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, there can be no question that the situation in the Middle East will remain unstable and potentially dangerous unless real progress can be made towards a just and lasting settlement of the problem in all its aspects. The disengagement agreement, as specifically indicated in its paragraph H, is not a peace agreement but only a step forward towards a just and durable peace on the basis of Security Council resolution 338 (1973). It is obviously important, therefore, that renewed efforts be made to resume the negotiating process.

33. Taking into account all the factors involved, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months until 31 May 1977. The Government of the Arab Republic of Syria has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

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34. In concluding this report, I wish to express my appreciation to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and those which provided UNTSO Military Observers assigned to the Force. I wish also to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Commander of UNDOF, Major-General Hannes Philipp, to the officers and men of the Force and its civilian staff, as well as to UNTSO Military Observers assigned to UNDOF. All of them have performed with exemplary devotion and efficiency the important and difficult tasks assigned to them by the Security Council.



一九七六年十一月观察员部队的部署状况
UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF NOVEMBER 1976
DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FNUOD AU MOIS DE NOVEMBRE 1976
ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ СООБНПР ПО ПОЛОЖЕНИЮ НА НОЯБРЬ 1976 ГОДА
DESPLIEGUE DE LA FNUOS EN NOVEMBRE DE 1976

- △ 联合国观察所 United Nations observation post
- 联合国部队的位置 United Nations position
- 巡逻线 Patrol routes
- Poste d'observation de l'ONU Position de l'ONU
- Наблюдательный пункт ООН Паршруты патрулей
- Puesto de observación de las Naciones Unidas Posición de las Naciones Unidas