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Further report on the status of the cease-fire
in the Middle East

The Chief of Staff of UNTSO has reported that, in addition to the recurrent incursions near border pillars 11, 19 and 33 (S/11057/Add.424, para. 2), the following developments took place in the Israel-Lebanon sector on 17 May 1974:

1. Reports on ground activity:

(a) OP Mar: 1/ Between 0205 2/ and 0212 mortar fire by Israel forces across the armistice demarcation line (ADL).

(b) Op Khiam: Between 0231 and 0257 artillery fire by Israel forces from Israel-occupied territory. Between 1514 and 1521 artillery fire by Israel forces from Israel-occupied territory.

(c) OP Hin: Between 1905 and 1924 artillery fire by Israel forces across the ADL. Between 1952 and 1954 machine-gun fire by unidentified forces and between 1953 and 1955 machine-gun fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). Between 2001 and 2009 artillery and mortar fire by Israel forces across the ADL. Between 2014 and 2016 mortar fire by Israel forces across the ADL. Between 2017 and 2018 machine-gun fire by unidentified forces. Between 2021 and 2031 machine-gun fire by Israel forces across the ADL. Between 2035 and 2039 mortar fire by Israel forces across the ADL. Between 2045 and 2051 and between 2107 and 2121 mortar fire by Israel forces across the ADL.

(d) OP Ras: Between 1912 and 1929 artillery fire by Israel forces across the ADL.

2. Reports on air activity:

(a) OP Mar: Between 0252 and 0421 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, was first observed over OP and last observed south of OP (nine overflights). Between 1033 and 1035 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south

1/ The locations of the observation posts are given in document S/11057.

2/ All times GMT.

to north, turning west and then south, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed it south-west of OP. Between 1044 and 1045 and between 1056 and 1057 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying north to south, were first observed north of OP and recrossed the ADL south of OP. Between 1103 and 1104 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and were last observed north-north-east of OP. Between 1225 and 1226 and between 1341 and 1342 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, were first observed over OP and last observed north of OP. Between 1355 and 1356 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, were first observed over OP and recrossed the ADL north-east of OP. Between 1521 and 1522 and between 1529 and 1530 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying north-north-west to south-east, were first observed north of OP and recrossed the ADL north-north-east of OP.

(b) OP Ras: Between 0629 and 0630 one Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south-west to north-east, crossed the ADL south-west of OP and recrossed it north-east of OP. Between 0637 and 0638 one Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning west crossed the ADL south of OP and was last observed west-north-west of OP. Between 0644 and 0645 one Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning west, crossed the ADL north-east of OP and was last observed west-north-west of OP. Between 1106 and 1107 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south-south-east to north-north-west, then turning east, crossed the ADL north-east of OP and were last observed north of OP. Between 1149 and 1151 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south-east to north-west, turning west then south, crossed the ADL north-east of OP and recrossed it south-west of OP. Between 1222 and 1223 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and were last observed north-north-east of OP.

(c) Op Khiam: Between 0637 and 0645 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, turning west then south, crossed the ADL south of OP and were last observed west of OP. Between 0654 and 0700 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, turning west then south, crossed the ADL south of OP and were last observed south-west of OP.

(d) Op Hin: Between 0651 and 0653 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south-south-west to north-north-east, crossed the ADL south-east of OP and were last observed north-north-east of OP.

(e) Outstation Naqoura: Between 1240 and 1241 four unidentified jet aircraft, flying north to south, were first observed over the Outstation and crossed the ADL south of the Outstation (United Nations military observers were unable to identify nationality of aircraft due to high speed). Between 1409 and 1411 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying north to south, then turning east, were first observed north of the Outstation and last observed south-east of the Outstation. Between 1630 and 1644 one Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south-south-west to north-north-east, then turning east, was first observed west-north-west of the Outstation and last observed north of the Outstation.

3. Complaints by the parties:

Complaints have been received from Lebanon alleging that on 16 May:

- (i) Between 1735 and 2000 an Israel warship penetrated Lebanese territorial waters on several occasions up to Naqoura (AMR 1629-2805) ^{3/} to a distance approximately two to five kilometres from the coast firing several automatic weapons bursts towards Naqoura.

During the night of 16/17 May:

- (ii) Artillery and automatic weapons fire from Israel territory fell in the vicinity of Labbouna (AMR 1644-2778), Aalma Ech Chaab (AMR 1675-2786), Tair Harfa (AMR 1705-2811), Chamaa (AMR 1700-2833), El Jibbain (AMR 1724-2806), Chihine (AMR 1744-2811), El Taire (AMR 1880-2827), Houra (AMR 2020-2995), Kfar Kela (AMR 2020-2980), El Kherbe (AMR 2030-3030), El Khraibe (AMR 2104-3047), El Marj (AMR 2040-3005), El Majidiye (AMR 2117-2987), Tell Sneiber (AMR 2112-3072), Rachaiya El Foukhar (AMR 2127-3065) and Hasbaiya (AMR 2147-3115). Material damage was reported.

On 17 May:

- (iii) Between 0510 and 1600 two Israel forces mechanized patrols penetrated Lebanese territory in the vicinity of Chebaa (AMR 2200-3055) and occupied position at AMR 2185-3040 by first patrol and position at AMR 2198-3052 by second patrol.
- (iv) Between 0650 and 0655 two Israel forces jet aircraft overflew the Lebanese regions of Al Arkoub (south-west of Mount Hermon), Jezzine (24 kilometres north-north-west of OP Khiam), Saida, Nabatiye (AMR 1958-3090) and Ettaibe (AMR 1988-2977).
- (v) Between 1045 and 1100 the Lebanese villages of Mimes (AMR 2170-3135), Marj Ez Zhour (AMR 2197-3188) and Kfar Ez Zait (AMR 2192-3145) came under rocket and bomb attacks by Israel forces jet aircraft causing destruction to one house, one clinic and blast effect to several others including various material damages.
- (vi) Between 1045 and 1420 Israel forces jet aircraft overflew Lebanese territory in several passes, in different regions and in formation of two to six aircraft per flight.
- (vii) Between 1355 and 1515 artillery fire from Israel territory fell in the vicinity of Chebaa (AMR 2200-3055) and Mrah Biri (AMR 2183-3086). Material damage was reported.

Complaints (iv) and (vi) were confirmed by United Nations observation (see paragraphs 2 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) above). Complaint (ii) was confirmed by

^{3/} AMR - approximate map reference.

United Nations observation except for damages for that portion within the observation range of OP Mar, OP Khiam and OP Hin (see paragraphs 1 (a), (b) and (c) above). Complaint (i) was not confirmed by United Nations observation due to darkness. The other complaints were not confirmed by United Nations observation; the areas of the alleged incidents were not within the observation range of OPs.

4. Summary of inquiry:

An inquiry was conducted by United Nations military observers into the Lebanese complaint set forth in S/11057/Add.475, paragraph 3 (iii). The inquiry took place on 16 May between 1400 and 1720 in the village of Maaroufie (7 kilometres south-south-east of Beirut) and on 17 May between 0520 and 0800 in Ain El Hilou (AMR 1874-3283), between 0540 and 0607 in El Khraibe (AMR 2104-3047), between 0622 and 0727 in Rachaiya El Foukhar (AMR 2127-3065), between 0900 and 1000 in Mahrouma (AMR 1825-2914) and between 0950 and 1020 in Nabatiye (AMR 1956-3090). Inquiries in all areas except Maaroufie were postponed until 17 May at the request of the Lebanese authorities. Representatives of the Senior Lebanese Delegate accompanied the inquiry teams.

The United Nations military observers conducting the inquiry interviewed witnesses and examined the evidence presented to them.

The results of the inquiry are as follows:

(a) Maaroufie: Witnesses in the area stated that on 16 May in the afternoon Israel forces aircraft attacked the area with bombs and rockets. A village doctor stated that 11 persons were injured as a result of the air attack. Military observers saw one house destroyed, two houses severely damaged, many houses with windows broken, one vehicle destroyed and one vehicle severely damaged by bomb and rocket explosions. Approximately 12 bomb craters were observed in the village. The estimated size of the bombs was 250 lbs.

(b) Ain El Hilou: Witnesses in the area stated that on 16 May between 1300 and 1330 approximately 12 Israel forces jet aircraft attacked the area with four bombs and numerous rockets. Military observers saw two large apartment houses destroyed and one severely damaged. They also saw six houses, one store, three vehicles destroyed and one small school and one workshop severely damaged. Three bomb craters and 15 rocket impact areas were observed with fragments. They also saw 11 bodies and 34 wounded persons of all ages.

(c) El Khraibe: Witnesses in the area stated that on 16 May in the afternoon Israel forces aircraft attacked the area with bombs and rockets. Military observers saw bomb craters and fragments, rocket impact areas and approximately 100 olive trees destroyed. They also saw approximately 200 metres of electrical and telephone wire leading to the village destroyed. No casualties were observed.

(d) Rachaiya El Foukhar: Witnesses in the area stated that on 16 May between 1300 and 1330 Israel forces aircraft attacked the area with bombs and rockets. Military observers saw two military vehicles and miscellaneous military equipment

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and ammunition destroyed. They also saw two houses and one school severely damaged and many houses with broken windows caused by bomb or rocket explosions. Three persons were observed being treated in a nearby hospital for wounds allegedly received during the air attack.

(e) Mahrouna: Witnesses stated that on 16 May at approximately 1530 four Israel forces jet aircraft attacked with bombs and rockets an area approximately 500 metres south-south-east of the village. They also stated that two persons were killed and one wounded as a result of the attack. Military observers saw bomb craters, rocket impact areas and bomb and rocket fragments in the area 500 metres south-south-east of the village. They also saw one blood-stained hat in the area. No casualties were observed.

(f) Nabatiye: Witnesses stated that on 16 May in the afternoon Israel forces aircraft attacked the area with bombs and rockets. Military observers saw approximately half of the houses in the refugee camp in the area destroyed and the remaining houses severely damaged by bombs and rockets. Casualty recovery operation was in progress in the area. They observed four bodies of children age three to six years. They also saw ten burial ceremonies in progress at the refugee camp cemetery.

Based on the above inquiry, the complaint is confirmed in so far as bomb and rocket attacks, casualties seen by military observers and damage to houses and property in the areas are concerned.
