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

The Chief of Staff of UNTSO has submitted the following report on developments in the Israel-Lebanon sector during the period 23 to 29 December 1974:

1. The number of incidents in the sector during the period decreased to the lowest level since the first week of July 1974, when eight firing incidents were observed. Violations in the eastern part of the sector have consisted of sporadic artillery or mortar fire. No violations have been observed in the Hasbainya region, north of OP Khiam (AMR 2071-3025). 1/
2. Israel forces personnel continued to occupy during daylight hours three positions on the Lebanese side of the armistice demarcation line (ADL) near border pillars 11 (AMR 1799-2788), 19 (AMR 1907-2749) and 33 (AMR 2004-2904). Israel forces personnel were also observed on 27 and 28 December at a recently constructed position near border pillar 18 (AMR 1880-2740) (see S/11057/Add.558, para. 6 (a)).
3. There were 11 cases of firing across the ADL. These were reported as follows:
  - (a) OP Lab (AMR 1643-2772), south of the village of Labouna, reported small-arms fire by Israel forces on 26 and 27 December.
  - (b) OP Hin (AMR 1770-2790), east of the village of Marouahine, reported machine-gun fire by Israel forces on 28 December.
  - (c) OP Khiam, south of the village of El Khiam, reported artillery fire on 23 and 24 December, mortar fire on 24 December and flares on 29 December, all by Israel forces.
4. There were seven overflights reported during the period. Overflights by Israel forces jet aircraft were reported on 23 December (two overflights) and on 24, 25, 26 and 29 December (one each day). One overflight by an unidentified jet aircraft was reported on 29 December; United Nations military observers were unable to identify the aircraft owing to high altitude.

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1/ AMR - approximate map reference.

5. The Lebanese authorities submitted 25 complaints during the period under review as follows:

(a) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces fire had fallen on Lebanese territory. Four of these complaints were confirmed by United Nations observation, except for damage.

(b) Five complaints concerned Israel forces jet aircraft overflights. Four of these complaints were confirmed.

(c) Four complaints concerned Israel forces light aircraft or helicopter overflights. None of the complaints was confirmed.

(d) Two complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces naval vessels penetrated Lebanese territorial waters on 24 and 28 December. The complaints were not confirmed owing to darkness.

(e) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces patrols had daily penetrated Lebanese territory in the region of Chebaa (AMR 2200-3055) and Rmaich (AMR 1847-2760). Penetration in the Rmaich area was confirmed for five of the complaints. The remaining complaints were not confirmed; the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

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