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

1. Since my last progress report on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/11310), the Force has continued to carry out the tasks entrusted to it in the process of disengagement of forces between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic (see S/11302/Add.1 and 2). The interim Force Commander, Brigadier-General Gonzalo Briceño, and his staff, and forward headquarters, continue to maintain contact with the authorities on both sides.

Composition

2. The composition of UNDOF, including headquarters, on 16 June was as follows:

Austria . . . . .	508
Peru . . . . .	345
Canada . . . . .	172
Poland . . . . .	88
UNDOF military observers (transferred from UNTSO) . . . .	89
Headquarters staff on detachment from UNEF . . . . .	15
Headquarters staff on detachment from UNTSO . . . . .	<u>1</u>
Total	1,218

3. The transfer of the Austrian and Peruvian battalions from the UNEF area of operations to the Israeli/Syrian sector has been practically completed, and only small parties of these battalions still remain in the Suez Canal sector guarding equipment.

4. With the exception of the initial reconnaissance parties (S/11310, para. 6), the elements of the Force moved from UNEF to the UNDOF area of operations by road convoy. Israeli and Syrian authorities facilitated the passage of the convoys through the areas under their control.

#### Deployment and activities

5. The Austrian battalion is stationed between Israeli and Syrian forces in the Saassa salient area. In the first stage of the process of disengagement it was given the task of manning areas based on the existing patrol bases of UNTSO, from where patrols were carried out. The Peruvian battalion is deployed in the area between the Israeli and Syrian positions from Quneitra to the south. It also mans areas based on existing UNTSO observation posts. The observers assigned from UNTSO to UNDOF have continued to occupy selected observation posts and patrol bases throughout the area.

6. On 14 June at 1300 GMT, the Israeli forces handed over to UNDOF the area covered by the first phase of separation of forces, approximately 90 square kilometres to the south of Saassa. On 15 June, at 0500 GMT, Syrian forces commenced to redeploy in that area, and UNDOF established the new buffer zone south-west of the town of Saassa approximately 15 kilometres long from north to south.

7. The next stage of disengagement is planned to commence on the evening of 18 June, when Israeli forces will hand over the new area to UNDOF, which will then move its troops to the new buffer zone. On the morning of 19 June, the Syrian forces will redeploy in the area handed over the evening before.

8. The forward headquarters of UNDOF has been set up on the main Saassa/Quneitra road, a few miles south of Saassa. At this forward headquarters military representatives from Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic have been meeting separately with UNDOF staff officers and working out daily details for the implementation of the disengagement process.

9. In accordance with the statement of 5 June 1974 by the chairman of the Military Working Group of the Geneva Peace Conference, as agreed by the parties (S/11302/Add.2, para. 3), UNDOF conducted on 16 June an inspection of the thinning out of Israeli and Syrian forces in the southern sectors of the area of limitation. The findings of this inspection, which was carried out by UNDOF observers, were communicated to both parties.

#### Facilities and administration

10. The headquarters of UNDOF is at present located in the building of the Israel-Syria Mixed Armistice Commission in Damascus, and more adequate premises are being sought, with the co-operation of the Syrian authorities.

11. The forward headquarters is composed of officers on detachment from UNEF, assisted by some officers from UNDOF headquarters.

12. The Peruvian battalion base camp is located a few miles south of Quneitra in Israeli-controlled territory. The Canadian logistics company and signals element are in Quneitra. The base camp of the Austrian battalion and of the Polish transport and engineering elements is in a camp in Kanakir, near Saassa, in Syria.

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Assessment of the situation

13. Since the signing of the disengagement agreement, the military situation between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic has remained very calm, and the implementation of the agreement has been proceeding smoothly.

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