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SPECIAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE
UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON

Addendum

1. The Secretary-General would like to refer to his special report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (S/13888 and Add.1) and inform the Security Council of further developments in the area.
2. Early on 17 April 1980, armoured vehicles and personnel of the de facto forces appeared in the vicinity of OP Hin. At 1105 GMT, the de facto forces asked the United Nations personnel in OP Hin to leave the post. Shortly thereafter, an armoured vehicle of the de facto forces crashed through the gate of the observation post. Transmission from the post ceased at 1146 GMT. At 1220 GMT, the four UNTSO observers and four soldiers of the Dutch battalion present at the post were forced to leave at gun-point. The de facto forces threatened to blow up the post, which they had already stripped of all valuable equipment. Personal effects of the United Nations observers and soldiers were stolen and kerosene was poured into the water supply. This attack on the post was supervised by a senior member of the de facto forces who was present at the scene. No casualties were suffered by the United Nations during the incident, the observers and soldiers being able to return to UNIFIL headquarters and their battalion respectively.
3. During the morning of 17 April, OP Ras continued to be surrounded by the de facto forces. It was denied relief and resupply, as were OPs Mar and Khiam.
4. To remedy the situation, intensive efforts were made at all levels, including contacts at the highest level of the Israeli Government.
5. As a result of those efforts, OPs Khiam and Mar were relieved by UNTSO observers at 1300 and 1500 GMT. Further, the de facto forces left OP Ras at 1530 GMT. The Irish soldiers manning that post remained there, however, their relief being postponed till UNIFIL had had an opportunity to check the area for mines. As regards OP Hin, the de facto forces left at 1545 GMT. The post was immediately remanned by UNTSO observers.
6. At 1035 GMT on 18 April, another extremely serious incident occurred. Three soldiers of the Irish battalion were on their way to OP Ras. They were accompanied

by an Associated Press correspondent, the UNIFIL press officer and two UNTSO observers. Their vehicle was stopped by the de facto forces, including armed teenagers, east of the village of Bint Jubayl in the enclave. The Irish soldiers were separated from the group and one of them was taken to an adjoining field where he was shot in the abdomen and legs. The soldier was then brought to Bayt Yahun in the Irish area and evacuated by helicopter to Naqoura, where he is now being operated upon. The two other Irish soldiers are, at the time of reporting, still missing. Other members of the group have returned to Naqoura. Earlier in the day, two Field Service personnel of the United Nations, who were on a resupply mission, were also detained near Bint Jubayl village but later released.

7. It is relevant to mention in this connexion that, over the past days, the de facto forces have been demanding that the villagers of At-Tiri arrange the payment to them of 40,000 Lebanese pounds, ostensibly as compensation for the death of a militia soldier on 12 April. The de facto forces have stated that this demand would be waived if the bodies of two Irish soldiers were delivered to them.

8. As of the time of reporting, while the coastal road is open to UNIFIL traffic, roads in the enclave are still closed, except for selective relief and resupply of the observation posts. As will be noted, however, even this selective opening is fraught with danger. Every effort is being made, in contacts with all concerned, to ensure that the harassment of UNIFIL cease forthwith.

9. The Secretary-General would like to thank those Governments that are in a position to help for their many efforts to assist over the past days. He would particularly like to express appreciation to the Italian Government for speedily providing a replacement helicopter, which was used this morning to evacuate the wounded Irish soldier.
