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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON (for the period from 11 December 1979 to 12 June 1980)

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INTRODUCTION

1. The present report contains an account of developments relating to the functioning of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for the period from 11 December 1979 to 12 June 1980. Some of the information contained in this report was submitted to the Security Council in my special report on the incidents which occurred in, and adjacent to, the area of operation of UNIFIL during the month of April (S/13888 and Add.1.3). The purpose of the present report is to provide the Security Council with a comprehensive picture of the activities of UNIFIL in pursuance of the mandate laid down by the Council in its resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978), extended by resolutions 434 (1979), 444 (1979), 450 (1979) and 459 (1979), and reaffirmed by resolution 467 (1980). The mandate of UNIFIL was last extended by the Security Council in resolution 459 (1979) for a period of six months, until 19 June 1980.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

Composition

2. The composition of UNIFIL as of 12 June 1980 was as follows:

Infantry battalions	
Fiji	633
Ghana	788
Ireland	625
Netherlands	815
Nigeria	700
Norway	653
Senegal	577
Headquarters	camp command
Ghana	67
Ireland	47
Engineer company	
France	94
Logistic units	
Counce	574
Italy	34
Norway	291
Total 5,898	

3. In addition to the above personnel, UNIFIL is assisted by 74 military observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO).

4. The following unit adjustments were effected during the period covered by this report:

(a) The Nepalese battalion was recalled home temporarily; withdrawal of the battalion was completed on 20 May;

(b) The Ghanaian battalion was reinforced by 499, all ranks, to help assume the functions of the Nepalese battalion, and it became fully operational on 9 May;

(c) The French logistic component was reinforced by 50 personnel.

Command

5. Command of UNIFIL continues to be exercised by Major-General Emmanuel A. Erskine. Following the discontinuance last December of the post of Chief Co-ordinator of the United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East, the Chief of Staff of UNTSO, Major-General Erkki Rainer Kaira, performs general liaison functions regarding United Nations peace-keeping activities in the Middle East in addition to his normal tasks.

Rotation of contingents

6. During the present reporting period, French, Ghanaian, Irish, Italian, Nigerian, Norwegian and Senegalese contingents carried out full rotations. The Dutch and Fiji battalions are rotated at a frequency different from that of other battalions.

Casualties

7. During the period covered by this report, 5 members of UNIFIL were killed and ll wounded as a result of hostile actions. Three soldiers lost their lives, and ll were injured as a result of accidents. Two soldiers died of natural causes.

8. Since UNIFIL was established, 23 members of the Force have died in the course of operational duties. Sixteen others have lost their lives as a result of accidents and 3 have died of natural causes. Seventy-four members of the Force have been wounded in armed clashes.

Discipline

9. The discipline, understanding and steadfastness of the members of UNIFIL, who continue to work in difficult and often hazardous conditions, have been of a high order, reflecting credit on the soldiers and their commanders, as well as on the countries that contribute contingents to the Force.

B. Deployment

10. There have been some changes in the deployment of the Force since the presentation of my last report (S/13691). With the temporary departure of the Nepalese troops in May and the arrival of additional Ghanaian troops to help assume their functions, a redeployment was undertaken in the eastern sector of UNIFIL. This took the form of a joint Ghanaian-Norwegian command structure headed by the Norwegian battalion commanding officer.

11. Another change involved the manning of the UNTSO observation posts along the Israel-Lebanon demarcation line. UNTSO military observers continued to man OP Lab and, in addition, replaced members of the Dutch, Irish, Nigerian and Norwegian battalions at OP Ras, OP Hin, OP Mar and OP Khiam, respectively.

12. The present deployment of UNIFIL is as follows (see annexed map):

(a) The Force headquarters is located at Nagoura.

(b) The Senegalese battalion is deployed in the northern part of the western sector, with its headquarters at Marakah.

(c) The Fijian battalion is deployed in the southern part of the western sector, with its headquarters at Qana.

(d) The Nigerian battalion is deployed in the northern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Tayr Zibna.

(e) The Dutch battalion is deployed in the south-western part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Haris.

(f) The Irish battalion is deployed in the south-eastern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Tibnin.

(g) The Ghanaian battalion is deployed as follows:

- (i) Part of the battalion is located in the eastern part of the central sector, with its headquarters at Kafr Dunin;
- (ii) The remainder is located in the western part of the eastern sector and is integrated into a joint Ghanaian-Norwegian command structure (see para. 10).

(h) The Norwegian battalion is deployed in the eastern part of the eastern sector. Ebel es-Saqi serves as headquarters for the joint Ghanaian-Norwegian command.

(i) The headquarters camp command, composed of Ghanaian and Irish troops, is based in Naqoura.

- (j) The French logistic component is located at Naqoura.
- (k) The French engineer company is located at Al Hinniyah.
- (1) The Norwegian logistic component is deployed as follows:
 - (i) The maintenance company is located in the vicinity of Tibnin;
 - (ii) The medical company is located at Naqoura.
- (m) The Italian helicopter wing is based in Nagoura.

(n) UNTSO military observers, organized as Observer Group Lebanon (OGL) based at Naqoura, man all five UNTSO observation posts (Hin, Lab, Mar, Khiam and Ras).

(o) A composite guard detachment is stationed in Tyre barracks. This 45-man unit from one battalion continues to be drawn on a two-week rotation basis from all infantry battalions in the Force.

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13. The Lebanese national army battalion of 500, all ranks, continued to perform its duties in the UNIFIL area of operation. This unit is under the operational control of the Force Commander, and its members are involved in patrolling and in the manning of observation posts and check-points jointly with UNIFIL soldiers.

14. It is proposed to augment the size of the Lebanese battalion deployed in the UNIFIL area of operation. As a first step, Lebanese army units attached to UNIFIL battalions in the western and central sectors will each be increased from one to two platoons. Contacts are continuing with the Lebanese authorities in regard to this and related matters.

II. ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Accommodations

15. Despite damage caused by heavy shelling on one occasion during the period under review, substantial improvements have been made to accommodation facilities in Naqoura. Work has been completed to provide sleeping quarters for all military personnel, including those in transit. Additional storage facilities have been made available, with work proceeding on the construction of three warehouses and four walk-in freezers for the French logistic battalion. All office-space needs have been met with the erection of a fourth building, which is already in use. Two workshops for the transport section and a sports complex are currently under construction. Installation of a sewage system, a major undertaking at UNIFIL headquarters, is now approaching completion. Additionally, 10,000 square metres of hard surfacing and asphalting have been carried out.

16. In the field, work on the transfer of personnel from tents to prefabricated installations has continued, as well as on the erection of cook-houses and dining-halls at unit headquarters. During the period under review, 40 large and 40 small prefabricated installations were set up. More would have been accomplished had it not been for the periodic firing and shelling in the UNIFIL area of operation. The Dutch, Fijian and Norwegian battalions have completed their personnel-quarters programme and have no personnel living in tents. Other battalions are making efforts to complete their programmes. As in the past, most of the prefabricated buildings in the battalion areas have been erected by the battalion engineers on a self-help basis, with the French engineer company assisting as required. Lebanese contractors were responsible for the erection of three workshops, three warehouses and three ammunition stores.

B. Logistics

17. Logistic support for UNIFIL continues to be provided by a headquarters logistic branch, a French logistic component, a Norwegian maintenance unit, a Norwegian medical company and an Italian helicopter wing. During the present reporting period, one of the changes in the area was the deployment of 50 supplementary French logistic personnel. That was an important contribution towards alleviating the much over-worked logistic components of the Force. However, in the light of current plans to effect some degree of logistic deconcentration, additional personnel may become necessary when these plans are implemented.

18. Another change in the logistic structure will result from the decision of the Norwegian Government to withdraw its medical unit shortly after the expiration of the current mandate. Following consultations with the Security Council, I accepted the offer by the Government of Sweden to make a replacement unit available for service with UNIFIL (S/13916 and S/13917).

19. In my report of 14 December 1979, I informed the Security Council of efforts of UNIFIL to increase purchases of supplies from Lebanese sources or through Lebanon (S/13691, para. 15). During the present mandate, these efforts have been intensified; most of the supplies coming from abroad, including containers with dry rations from Cyprus, are now shipped to UNIFIL either through Beirut harbour or Beirut international airport. In addition, UNIFIL is making arrangements to have all the battalions obtain their supplies of fresh rations from Lebanon. As regards maintenance contracts, a number of Lebanese firms in Beirut, Saida and Tyre have been evaluated for future association with UNIFIL. All of the mail services of the Force have now been shifted to Beirut. Likewise, the procurement of service institute supplies for all contingents, with the exception of units in the Naqoura area, has been moved to the Lebanese capital. All petroleum products are now supplied by Lebanese sources.

20. The diverting of most of the UNIFIL procurement requirements to Lebanon has made it necessary to expand the facilities of the Force in Beirut. In this connexion, movement control and procurement personnel, military as well as civilian, now total 32 in the Lebanese capital. Increased purchasing in Lebanon may make it necessary to further strengthen this staff.

21. UNIFIL hospital at Naqoura provided, as in the past, health services to Force personnel. In conjunction with the battalions' medical centres, it continued to treat the local population as required. The hospital is well equipped on the surgical side but short of equivalent laboratory and X-ray facilities. It is of interest to note that for the period extending from 20 April 1978 to 20 May 1980, the Naqoura hospital treated 17,752 out-patients, both United Nations personnel and Lebanese civilians. During the present reporting period, it treated 2,525 United Nations personnel and 2,128 Lebanese civilians.

22. The battalions' medical centres are each treating 20 to 30 civilians a day. The four dispensaries at Qana, Marakah, Et-Taibe and Shabaa, established by UNICEF in co-operation with the Lebanese Government and UNIFIL, each treat an additional 30 to 50 civilians a day.

23. It is intended that the Lebanese Government take over these centres as soon as qualified personnel becomes available. In a related development, repair work is under way to reactivate the hospital at Tibnin, once the largest in the area. A joint Ministry of Health-UNICEF-UNIFIL vaccination programme for children in southern Lebanon got under way during the period under review; this activity has so far covered the Dutch, Ghanaian and Senegalese sectors.

24. UNIFIL personnel or Lebanese civilians wounded in the area as a result of accidents or shelling were evacuated by United Nations helicopter to the hospital at Naqoura. There were 32 air medical evacuations during the period under review. In emergency cases which could not be treated at the UNIFIL hospital, the severely wounded were, as on past occasions, evacuated by helicopter to Rambam Hospital in Haifa. In this connexion, appreciation should be expressed to the Israeli Government for the assistance provided by Israeli health authorities in the treatment of wounded UNIFIL personnel, especially at Rambam Hospital and also for expediting the entry and administrative processing of shipments consigned to the Force in transit through the port of Haifa.

III. FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Guidelines and terms of reference

25. During the period of its mandate covered by the present report, UNIFIL continued to operate in accordance with the guidelines set out in my report of 19 March 1978 on the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) (S/12611), which was approved by the Council in its resolution 426 (1978). According to that report, UNIFIL was envisaged as a two-stage operation. In the first stage, the Force was to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory to the international border. Once that was achieved, UNIFIL was to establish and maintain an area of operation. In that connexion, the Force was to supervise the cessation of hostilities, ensure the peaceful character of the area of operation, control movement and take all measures deemed necessary to ensure the effective restoration of Lebanese sovereignty in the area.

B. Co-operation with UNTSO

26. Military observers of UNTSO, organized as Observer Group Lebanon (OGL), continued to assist and co-operate with UNIFIL in the performance of its tasks under the institutional arrangements described in my report of 12 January 1979 (S/13026, para. 14).

27. During the period under review, there have been some changes in the operational assignments linking UNTSO and UNIFIL. As already mentioned (see para. 11), the observation posts at Hin, Khiam, Mar and Ras were re-manned by UNTSO observers (prior to the establishment of UNIFIL, all these posts had been manned by UNTSO observers). Each observation post is manned by four observers. This arrangement was made possible by an increase to 74 in the number of military observers assigned to OGL (see para. 3).

28. It is relevant to mention here the efforts made towards the restoration of the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission (ILMAC). In resolution 467 (1980) of 24 April 1980, the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of ILMAC at an appropriate level, to agree on precise recommendations and further to reactivate the General Armistice Agreement, conducive to the restoration of Lebanon's sovereignty over all its territory up to the internationally recognized boundaries. In pursuance of that resolution and upon my instructions, the Chief of Staff of UNTSO, on 29 May, contacted the competent Israeli and Lebanese authorities, with a view to convening at an early date a meeting of ILMAC. On the same day, I addressed messages to the two Governments concerned, in which I drew their attention to the resolution of the Security Council and expressed the hope that both Governments would accept without delay or pre-conditions the proposal of the Chief of Staff for an early meeting of ILMAC. The Chief of Staff of UNTSO is continuing his contacts with both parties with this objective in mind.

C. Contacts with the parties

29. Contacts with the parties concerned have been maintained both at United Nations Headquarters and in the area, with a view to further implementing the UNIFIL mandate. To that end, Mr. Brian E. Urquhart, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, visited the region on my behalf from 15 to 20 March 1980. During that visit, he had discussions with the members of the Governments of Lebanon and Israel, as well as with the Commander of UNIFIL and the Chief of Staff of UNTSO. He also met with the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). In addition, UNIFIL remained in touch with Mr. Iqbal A. Akhund, Co-ordinator of Assistance for Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon. Co-operation between Mr. Akhund's office, the Governor of South Lebanon and UNIFIL is being strengthened, particularly in regard to the implementation of projects aimed at assisting the population of southern Lebanon. As in the past, the headquarters of ILMAC in Beirut functioned as a liaison office for UNIFIL and provided valuable assistance to the Force.

30. General Erskine has been in continuous contact with the parties on matters concerning the deployment and functioning of the Force. In the area of operation, negotiations and consultations were held by members of UNIFIL with the various armed groups, as required, to ensure the smooth functioning of the Force and to reduce the risks of confrontation and armed clashes. That was generally done by UNIFIL headquarters staff, through OGL military observer teams and through contacts by the battalion commanders. The battalion commanders investigated local violations of the cease-fire and all other situations involving incidents which might have led to hostile activities within the UNIFIL area of operation. UNIFIL continued to maintain regular contacts with the Governor of South Lebanon on questions relating to the restoration of Lebanese civilian administrative presence in the area and the provision of humanitarian assistance to the local population. Similar contacts were maintained with civilian and gendarmerie authorities in Tyre, as well as in the UNIFIL area of deployment, and with the local population in general. The Chief of Staff of UNTSO has maintained contact with the Israeli authorities as necessary on matters pertaining to UNIFIL.

D. Situation in southern Lebanon and activities of UNIFIL

31. The situation as of 10 December 1979 was described in my last periodic report (S/13691). After considering that report, the Security Council, on 19 December 1979, adopted resolution 459 (1979), in which it renewed the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of six months and reaffirmed the objectives of resolutions 425 (1978) and 450 (1979), Despite the intensive efforts made both at United Nations Headquarters and in the field to fulfil the mandate of UNIFIL, grave difficulties prevented progress during the period under review. After a few weeks of relative calm following the adoption of resolution 459 (1979), the situation in southern Lebanon grew increasingly tense, culminating in the violence of April 1980. Some of the more serious incidents which took place during the period under review are described below.

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Situation in January 1980

32. There was a general hardening of attitudes from mid-January. The <u>de facto</u> forces (Christian and associated militias) closed all roads in the enclave to UNIFIL personnel and vehicles on 12 and 13 January and again on 22 and 23 January. During the month, those forces also fired into the UNIFIL area of deployment; in 36 instances there were firings close to UNIFIL positions.

33. As regards the armed elements (mainly PLO and the Lebanese National Movement), attempts continued to be made by them to infiltrate the UNIFIL area of deployment. UNIFIL intercepted 25 such groups, involving 99 persons. On 18 January, a UNIFIL helicopter engaged in an aerial surveillance of the power transmission line between Nabatiyeh and Marjayoun came under fire from PLO positions in the vicinity of Nabatiyeh. The surveillance mission, which was undertaken in co-operation with the Lebanese authorities, had been cleared in advance with all the parties in the area.

34. The <u>de facto</u> forces shelled the Tyre area on 22, 27 and 28 January. There were also increasingly frequent exchanges of fire between the <u>de facto</u> forces and the armed elements over the UNIFIL area of deployment, particularly between Marjayoun and the Chateau de Beaufort. UNIFIL was generally able to arrange cease-fires.

35. During the month, UNIFIL observed 117 violations of Lebanese territory by the Israeli forces (IDF). These included 40 ground violations, 51 violations of Lebanese air space and 26 violations of Lebanese territorial waters.

Situation in February 1980

36. The <u>de facto</u> forces continued close firings at UNIFIL positions, 32 instances being reported. In one such incident, a Nepalese soldier was wounded.

37. Various armed elements continued infiltration attempts into the UNIFIL area of deployment; 34 such groups involving 99 persons were intercepted. The <u>de facto</u> forces complained that several houses in the enclave had been destroyed by armed elements and casualties inflicted; that increased tension in the area.

38. As regards Tyre, the town received direct hits on two occasions as a result of shelling by the <u>de facto</u> forces. In addition, on ll February, there was a serious exchange of fire between <u>de facto</u> forces and armed elements in the Marjayoun-Chateau de Beaufort-Nabatiyeh area, with civilian casualties on both sides.

39. UNIFIL observed 136 violations of Lebanese territory by IDF personnel. These included 68 ground violations, 36 violations of Lebanese air space and 32 violations of Lebanese territorial waters.

Situation in March 1980

40. Following the decision to re-man five United Nations observation posts along the Israel-Lebanon demarcation line with UNTSO observers (paras. 11-12 above), there was intense harassment of those posts, especially OPs Mar and Khiam, by the

<u>de facto</u> forces. The posts were frequently raided, equipment was destroyed and there was firing over the heads of the unarmed observers, which prevented them from functioning normally (see S/13888). Additionally, there was increased firing by the <u>de facto</u> forces into the UNIFIL area of deployment; in 49 instances there was close firing at UNIFIL positions.

41. Attempts by armed elements to infiltrate the UNIFIL area of deployment continued; 36 attempts were recorded, involving 116 persons. On one such occasion, armed elements, trying to cross the Litani river, clashed with troops of the Nigerian battalion which intercepted them. There were eight close firings on UNIFIL positions by armed elements.

42. There were recurrent exchanges of fire in the north-eastern sector between the <u>de facto</u> forces and armed elements. Additionally, Tyre was shelled by the <u>de facto</u> forces and IDF; the coastal city of Saida came under long-range artillery fire from the enclave. Exchanges of fire were particularly intense on 20 and 21 March. UNIFIL made all possible efforts to restore and maintain the cease-fire, and in a statement issued on 21 March, I appealed to all concerned to act with the utmost restraint and to co-operate fully with UNIFIL.

43. In the course of the month, UNIFIL observed 88 violations of Lebanese territory by IDF personnel. These included 17 ground violations, 43 violations of Lebanese air space, and 28 violations of Lebanese territorial waters.

Situation in April 1980

44. As indicated earlier, the situation escalated dangerously during April, with UNIFIL subjected to intense harassment and violence. Those developments were recounted fully in my special report to the Security Council (S/13888 and Add.1-3) and in my statements to the Council of 13 and 14 April (S/PV.2212 and 2213).

45. Starting on 6 April, the <u>de facto</u> forces attempted to establish a permanent position in the village of At Tiri in the Irish sector of UNIFIL. The attempt was resisted by Irish troops, who were later reinforced by other members of the Force. While UNIFIL was attempting to resolve the situation by negotiation, the <u>de facto</u> forces opened fire on Irish positions in the afternoon of 6 April and again during the morning of the 7th, seriously wounding one Irish soldier, who later died. Following that incident, the Force Commander gave permission to UNIFIL troops to return controlled fire.

46. On the morning of 8 April, the <u>de facto</u> forces fired again on Irish troops, wounding two soldiers. On 10 April they fired at the village of Brashit in the Irish sector. On 12 April an exchange of fire between UNIFIL troops and <u>de facto</u> forces, initiated by the latter, took place in the At Tiri area. During that exchange of fire, a Fijian soldier was injured and later died; one member of the <u>de facto</u> forces died, three were wounded and four others captured. During the same afternoon, the <u>de facto</u> forces opened heavy fire on UNIFIL headquarters at Nagoura, causing extensive damage to its installations and equipment, including the Force hospital and four helicopters.

47. On the morning of 18 April, three soldiers of the Irish battalion on the way to OP Ras in the enclave were stopped by the <u>de facto</u> forces, who shot and badly wounded one soldier and took the other two away. Despite every effort made by UNIFIL to obtain the release of the two captured soldiers, they were murdered. I immediately expressed my shock and deep concern at this tragedy and appealed for an end to violence.

48. The Security Council met as a matter of urgency on several occasions and took action to support the efforts of UNIFIL, including a statement by the President of the Council on 18 April (S/PV.2217) and the adoption of resolution 467 (1980) of 24 April.

49. Following the developments mentioned above, a meeting of UNIFIL troopcontributing countries took place in Dublin on 2 May. At the conclusion of that meeting, a communiqué was issued, the text of which was circulated as a Security Council document (S/13921).

50. In the course of the incidents described above, the <u>de facto</u> forces closed all roads in the enclave to UNIFIL traffic. In late April the restrictions were partially lifted, members of the Irish and Senegalese contigents, however, being denied the use of the roads in the enclave.

51. During the month of April, UNIFIL observed 118 violations of Lebanese territory by IDF personnel. Those included 58 ground violations, as well as 38 violations of Lebanese air space and 22 violations of Lebanese territorial waters. The most serious incursion was described in my special report (S/13888). On the night of 6-7 April, an attack on the Israeli kibbutz of Misgav Am, for which a Palestinian group claimed responsibility, resulted in three Israelis being killed and 16 wounded, in addition to the death of five infiltrators. From the afternoon of 8 April, IDF, with an estimated strength of a reduced battalion, crossed into Lebanese territory, establishing positions in and adjoining the UNIFIL area of deployment. On 10 April, I sent an urgent message to Prime Minister Begin, urging Israel to withdraw its troops from Lebanon. The next day General Erskine met the Israeli Chief of Staff, General Eitan, who stated that IDF would start withdrawing from Lebanese territory later in the same day and that withdrawal would be completed shortly. UNIFIL was unable to confirm the completion of withdrawal since freedom of movement was denied within the enclave.

52. Throughout April the armed elements were relatively restrained. UNIFIL prevented 18 infiltration attempts involving 79 persons as against 36 attempts involving 116 persons in the preceding month. There was also a marked decrease in the number of artillery, mortar and tank rounds fired by the armed elements.

Situation in May

53. In the aftermath of the violence of April, the situation remained strained. Serious incidents in the West Bank, which caused casualties, and Israeli raids along the coastal area north of the Litani added to the tension.

54. The <u>de facto</u> forces continued to harass the observation posts along the Israel-Lebanon border, particularly OP Hin. That post was frequently broken into, equipment was destroyed or stolen and the observers were prevented from performing their duties. On one occasion, a military observer was abducted but later released unhurt. Restriction of the freedom of movement of UNIFIL in the enclave continued, particularly in relation to the Irish and Senegalese contingents.

55. While the number of infiltration attempts by the armed elements did not increase, there were more intensive efforts by them to bring weapons into the UNIFIL area. More frequently than in the past, armed elements resisted being checked by UNIFIL at points of entry into the area. On 6 May, there was an attempt to smuggle rocket-launchers through UNIFIL lines. On 21 May, 30 armed elements of the Lebanese National Movement tried to cross the Akhiya Bridge with the intention of establishing positions in the UNIFIL area. That move was blocked. On 23 May, a confrontation developed at the Fijian check-point at Al Bazuriyah, when 30 armed elements of the Lebanese National Movement forced their way through the check-point. The group was intercepted by the Senegalese battalion and made to leave the UNIFIL area. During May, the armed elements were responsible for six close firings at UNIFIL positions.

56. In the course of May, UNIFIL recorded 95 violations of Lebanese territory by IDF personnel. They included 42 ground violations, 30 violations of Lebanese air space and 23 violations of Lebanese territorial waters. On 30 May, IDF intruded into the Irish battalion area, abducting two civilians from the village of Brashit. Following protests by UNIFIL, the two villagers were released.

Situation between 1 and 12 June 1980

57. In the first days of June there was a relative lull in the shelling. However, the <u>de facto</u> forces continued to fire close to UNIFIL positions; 26 such cases were recorded as of the time of reporting. That close firing concentrated on Dutch and Norwegian positions. A serious incident occurred on 6 June; the <u>de facto</u> forces shelled three villages in the Irish battalion area with heavy mortar, rounds impacting dangerously close to Irish positions. The <u>de facto</u> forces claimed that their shelling was retaliatory after a civilian vehicle had blown up on a mine placed in the enclave by armed elements. On 8 June, the <u>de facto</u> forces fired artillery rounds into the Tyre area, two of which impacted within the Tyre barracks manned by UNIFIL troops.

58. Restriction on the freedom of movement of UNIFIL in the enclave continued, particularly in relation to the Irish and Senegalese battalions, which, since the incidents of April, have been denied access by road to Nagoura.

59. As regards the armed elements, insistent attempts by some groups to seek entry into the UNIFIL area continued to cause concern. In the first 12 days of June, UNIFIL prevented 38 armed elements from entering its area.

60. On 2 June, a unit of the Israeli forces made an incursion into the area of the Dutch battalion, stating that they were in search of infiltrators. UNIFIL troops were deployed to block the incursion, the Israeli soldiers withdrawing after some

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five hours. Between 1 and 12 June, UNIFIL observed 45 violations of Lebanese territory by IDF personnel. They included 5 ground violations, 24 violations of Lebanese air space and 16 violations of Lebanese territorial waters.

E. Humanitarian activities

61. During the period under review, UNIFIL continued to carry out its humanitarian activities in close collaboration with the Governor of southern Lebanon and the United Nations Co-ordinator of Assistance for Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon. UNIFIL also continued its co-operation with United Nations programmes, particularly UNICEF, in efforts aimed at assisting the Lebanese Government in the normalization of socio-economic conditions in southern Lebanon. Through its humanitarian section, the Force continued to participate in the implementation of projects involving restoration of water, electricity and health services, distribution of supplementary food supplies, rebuilding and repair of houses, schools and roads, and providing help, as required, in resolving cases of kidnaping. Of particular significance were the completion of repair work on the Nabatiyeh-Marjayoun power transmission line and the establishment of four dispensaries.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

62. By its resolution 34/9 B of 17 December 1979, the General Assembly, among other things, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNIFIL at a rate not to exceed \$10,767,166 gross (\$10,676,666 net) per month for the period from 19 December 1979 to 18 December 1980, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 450 (1979) of 14 June 1979. Accordingly, should the Security Council renew the UNIFIL mandate beyond 19 June 1980, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining UNIFIL up to 18 December 1980 will be within the commitment authority provided by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/9 B, assuming continuance of the Force's existing strength and responsibilities. Appropriate financial provision will need to be made by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session in respect of periods after 18 December 1980, if the period of extension determined by the Security Council goes beyond that date.

V. OBSERVATIONS

63. From the foregoing account it will be seen that in spite of strenuous efforts at all levels, including those of the Security Council itself, the fifth mandate of UNIFIL has come to an end without significant progress being achieved in implementing fully the objectives of resolution 425 (1978).

64. When UNIFIL was established it was widely felt that the progressive achievement of those objectives would be in the interest of all concerned and would be conducive to the return of peace and normality to southern Lebanon and the restoration of full Lebanese sovereignty and authority in the area. It was therefore assumed that UNIFIL would have the co-operation of all concerned in fulfilling its mandate. This assumption remains unrealized. Not only has UNIFIL been denied the co-operation required, but it has even on occasion been actively opposed or attacked in trying to perform its duties.

65. In the period under review, the most serious problems have been with the de facto forces. They have not only prevented a further deployment of UNIFIL in the enclave, but they have maintained four positions previously established in the UNIFIL area and have attempted to establish additional encroachments. These attempts, which have been firmly resisted by UNIFIL, have led to serious confrontations resulting in the death of UNIFIL soldiers, including the murder of two soldiers. The de facto forces have systematically tried to obstruct the remanning of observation posts along the international frontier by UNTSO observers. They have not hesitated to heress UMIFIL positions and, on one occasion, have subjected UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura to heavy bombardment. Time and again, they have restricted UNIFIL freedom of movement to the enclave, particularly along the coastal road; they have attempted to discriminate against certain contingents and have deliberately sought to disregard the integrated nature of the Force. These activities have been accompanied by threats and a well-orchestrated campaign of misinformation.

66. The relationship of the <u>de facto</u> forces to the Israeli forces is well known, and it is no secret that the <u>de facto</u> forces are dependent on the latter. On many occasions, therefore, the intercession of the Israeli authorities has been sought in order to curb the activities of the <u>de facto</u> forces and to restrain hostile acts against UNIFIL or against the civilian population in the UNIFIL area. On occasion, Israeli intervention has resolved specific difficulties. However, the Israeli authorities have continued their support of the <u>de facto</u> forces, citing reasons of national security; for the same stated reasons, Israeli forces have, on occasion, made incursions into Lebanese territory and have maintained a number of positions in the enclave. These have been a source of concern to UNIFIL, which has taken up the matter with the Israeli authorities.

67. While the leadership of PLO has renewed its assurances of co-operation with UNIFIL, the Force has continued to be subjected to attempts by armed elements to infiltrate personnel and weapons into its area of operations. Such attempts inevitably create tensions and difficulties and sometimes confrontations. In recent weeks, sizable groups of the Lebanese National Movement have attempted to force their way into the UNIFIL area. UNIFIL has made every effort to prevent infiltration and has repeatedly requested PLO and others concerned to put an end to such attempts.

68. In spite of the difficulties mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, UNIFIL has continued in its endeavour to consolidate its position and, in co-operation with the Lebanese Government, to increase and make more effective the Lebanese presence, both civilian and military, in its area of operations. The inability of the Force to control and operate in its entire area of operations up to the international frontier, and the internal situation in Lebanon itself, have, for the time being, limited the ability of the Lebanese Government significantly to increase its military and civilian presence in the south.

69. Following the serious incidents of April 1980, the Security Council, in its resolution 467 of 24 April, commended UNIFIL for its great restraint in carrying out its duties and also called attention to the provisions in its mandate that would allow the Force to use its right to self-defence. I have reviewed this question very carefully with the Force Commander and am examining new measures to reinforce the defence capability of UNIFIL, in particular with a view to improving the security of its personnel and to making the Force headquarters in Naqoura less vulnerable. Measures are also being considered to enable the contingents of UNIFIL to react firmly and consistently to threats or actions designed to interfere with the discharge of the duties of the Force. I shall, of course, keep the Security Council informed in this regard. In this connexion, I should, however, like to state that the use of force in self-defence will not by itself achieve significant progress in the implementation of the UNIFIL mandate. A peace-keeping operation must achieve its major objectives through means other than the use of force, and this consideration certainly applies to UNIFIL. While consolidating UNIFIL and taking the necessary steps to render its position as strong as possible, I believe that the main road to full implementation of the UNIFIL mandate lies in political and diplomatic efforts. These efforts must secure genuine co-operation with the Force and implant the conviction that such co-operation represents, in the long term, the best guarantee of security and normality for all concerned. In this

connexion, I appreciate the diplomatic support that I have received from Member States, particularly the troop-contributing countries.

70. In adopting resolution 467 (1980), the Council also requested me to convene a meeting, at an appropriate level, of the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission. As indicated earlier in this report, I have approached both the parties to the Israel-Lebanon Armistice Agreement in this regard and shall keep the Council informed of developments.

In reporting in detail on the difficulties faced by UNIFIL and on the extremely 71. complex situation in which it operates, there is a danger of appearing to question the value of presence of the Force in southern Lebanon. I wish, therefore, to underline my conviction that UNIFIL is performing an indispensable service to peace, not only in Lebanon but in the Middle East as a whole. While continuing to strive to fulfil all the terms of its mandate, UNIFIL provides a vital mechanism for conflict control in an extremely volatile situation which, without it, would almost certainly escalate very quickly into a far wider conflagration. I believe that the Security Council is fully aware of this. It is also because of the critical importance of the task being performed that the troop-contributing countries, in spite of all the difficulties and risks involved, have continued to make contingents available to UNIFIL. I am convinced that if the functioning of UNIFIL were to be seriously eroded or if the Force were to be withdrawn, we should very rapidly face in southern Lebanon a resumption and a widening of hostilities, with grave consequences far beyond the borders of Lebanon. In this connexion, it bears repeating that the very complex situation in southern Lebanon is interrelated with the wider problem of the Middle East, which still awaits a just and comprehensive settlement.

72. For these reasons I feel obliged once again to recommend to the Security Council that the mandate of UNIFIL be extended for another period of six months. The Lebanese Government has informed me of its full agreement with this recommendation.

In making this recommendation, I am very much aware of the unsatisfactory 73. nature of the present situation in the area. It is absolutely essential that all concerned co-operate fully with the Force. Every effort should be made to prevent confrontations and incidents of the kind which have resulted in grievous loss of life and consumed far too much of the Force's time and energy in the present reporting period. I hope most earnestly that all concerned will agree to establish conditions which will enable UNIFIL to operate effectively and with an acceptable degree of security for all its personnel. Freedom of movement in the enclave, particularly along the coastal road, is vitally important to the Force as a whole and must be ensured. Attacks and harassment, whether physical or verbal, must cease, and the Force must be accorded the facilities and co-operation essential to the fulfilment of its peaceful mission within the terms of the mandate and the guidelines laid down by the Security Council. In this connexion, I wish to express once again my appreciation to the Government of Lebanon for its support and assistance in very difficult circumstances and to express my hope that its efforts, in co-operating with UNIFIL, will, in the months to come, result in significant

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progress towards meeting the objectives set out by the Security Council. In this connexion, every effort is being made, in co-operation with the Lebanese authorities, to increase the role of the Lebanese army, as well as of the Lebanese civilian authorities, in the implementation of resolution 425 (1978).

74. In concluding this report, I should like to pay tribute to the Commander of UNIFIL, Major-General Erskine, and his staff, both civilian and military, to the officers and men of the contingents of UNIFIL and to the UNTSO military observers assigned to the area. Their courage and dedication, often in the face of very difficult and hazardous circumstances, has been exemplary. I wish also to express my gratitude to the Governments who are providing contingents and other forms of support to UNIFIL. Finally, I pay tribute to the memory of those soldiers of UNIFIL who have given their lives for peace. In so doing, I would hope that future developments will prove that their sacrifice has not been in vain.

