

SECURITY COUNCIL



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Supplemental Information

- 1. The Acting Chief of Staff of UNTSO on 20 September 1967 has transmitted the following information concerning exchanges of fire between the armed forces of Israel and the United Arab Republic in the Suez Canal sector on the same date.
- 2. Firing broke out in the Port Tawfiq area at 0410 hours GMT. The United Nations observation post OP Blue (map reference 7677-8055) on the east side of the Suez Canal reported tank fire from a nearby Israel position, which was returned by United Arab Republic forces at 0420 hours. The firing ceased at 0435 hours.
- 3. A United Nations patrol on the west side of the Canal at Port Tawfiq reported that United Arab Republic forces opened anti-airacraft fire between Port Tawfiq and Suez at 0410 hours GMT. The firing stopped at 0414 hours.
- 4. At 0425 hours GMT, an unidentified aircraft was flying at low altitude from east to west approximately three kilometres to the north of Port Tawfiq. An air raid siren sounded in that port.
- 5. OP Blue later reported that firing recommenced at 0644 hours GMT from Israel tank and machine-guns located approximately 500 metres north of the OP and ceased at 0646 hours. The firing was not returned from the United Arab Republic side.
- 6. In connexion with the exchanges of fire in the Port Tawfiq area on the morning of 20 September, the Liaison Officer of the Israel Defence Forces informed UNTSO headquarters at 0750 hours GMT that the United Arab Republic had attempted to move ten boats, two of which were row boats, from Port Tawfiq, which is located inside the Suez Canal, to Port Ibrahim outside the Canal. He stated that Israel regarded this action as being in contravention of the agreement precluding the movement of craft in Canal waters. At 0815 hours the Liaison Officer reported to UNTSO headquarters that at 0644 hours two additional United Arab Republic boats had attempted to leave the Canal in the same area, that Israel had fired at these boats and that one of them had been seen sinking.

- 7. Subsequently, the United Arab Republic authorities, in a message to UNTSO headquarters, described as "completely unfounded" the announcement made by an Israel army spokesman on the morning of 20 September to the effect, according to the message, that "Egypt twice attempted to sail armed soldiers down the Suez Canal in violation of General Odi Bull's appeal of 27 July concerning the movement of boats in the Suez Canal" and that "Israel forces hit three Egyptian boats sinking two of them".
- 8. The United Nations Military Observers in this area were unable to confirm the allegation about the movements of the United Arab Republic boats.
- 9. At 1158 hours GMT, United Nations Military Observers at OP Blue heard light machine-gun fire from a location north-east of the OP but neither the origin of the firing nor its target could be observed. The firing ceased at 1201 hours. At 1202 hours GMT, further bursts of light machine-gun fire were heard by United Nations Military Observers from a north-east direction.
- 10. At 1209 hours GMT, Israel troops directed tank artillery fire from positions north and south of OP Blue at United Arab Republic positions on the west side of the Canal. The firing, which stopped at 1212 hours, was not returned from the United Arab Republic side.
- 11. At 1221 hours GMT, air alarms sounded at Port Tawfiq and Suez as Israel light reconnaissance aircraft flew over the east bank of the Canal from south to north. There was no firing.