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Supplemental Information

The following message was received from the Chief of Staff of UNTSO at 1300 hours New York time, 24 October 1967:

"1. Observation Post (OP) Mike at Port Taufiq reported that Israel Defence Forces initiated artillery fire at 1231 GMT 24 October at oil refinery southwest of Port Suez. Exchange of fire has spread to area north of OP Lima to include small arms, mortars and heavy artillery. However, main fire concentrated in Port Taufiq, Suez area. At 1235 GMT cease-fire proposal for 1330 GMT was made. UAR accepted at 1300 GMT, Israel stated communications were distorted and cannot confirm. At 1325 GMT Senior Israel Representative stated he received distorted message from Israel Defence Forces Headquarters that Israel would agree to cease-fire at 1530 GMT. At 1336 GMT Colonel Zion, Israel Defence Forces Liaison Officer, was contacted and he confirmed that Israel would agree to cease-fire at 1530 GMT. At 1343 GMT Senior UAR Liaison Officer asked for new cease-fire time. At 1355 GMT OPs Lima and Blue reported that fire continues in area with heavy artillery.

"2. At 1410 GMT again contacted Colonel Zion to hasten agreement to earlier cease-fire time. No change in Israel Defence Forces position on cease-fire. Will continue to press for earlier cease-fire agreement.

"3. Failing response from Israel to inquiry for acceptance of cease-fire earlier than 1530 GMT I instructed Officer-in-Charge Kantara to request cease-fire at 1445 GMT. Senior UAR Liaison Officer accepted but Israel did not respond.

"4. Further details to follow."

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