

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/12897
17 October 1978

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE
UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE

(for the period 25 October 1977 to 17 October 1978)

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INTRODUCTION

1. This report describes the activities of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) for the period 25 October 1977 to 17 October 1978. The purpose of the report is to provide the Security Council with a comprehensive account of the activities of UNEF in pursuance of the mandate laid down by the Council in its resolutions 340 (1973) and 341 (1973) of 25 and 27 October 1973 and extended by its resolutions 346 (1974) of 8 April 1974, 362 (1974) of 23 October 1974, 368 (1975) of 17 April 1975, 371 (1975) of 24 July 1975, 378 (1975) of 23 October 1975, 396 (1976) of 22 October 1976 and 416 (1977) of 21 October 1977.

2. Since my last report of 17 October 1977 (S/12416), the functions and responsibilities of UNEF have not changed. The situation in its area of operations has remained stable. The Force has continued efficiently to discharge its mandate and, with the co-operation of both parties, it has been able to contribute to the maintenance of the cease-fire called for by the Security Council in resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

3. As of 16 October 1978, the strength of the Force was as follows:

Australia	46
Canada	840
Finland	637
Ghana	595
Indonesia	509
Poland	917
Sweden	634

TOTAL 4,178

The strength figures for the Canadian and Polish logistics components assigned to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) are not included in the above table.

4. In addition to the above, UNEF is assisted by 120 military observers, members of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine (UNTSO). This group of observers, designated Observer Group Sinai, is made available by UNTSO within the context of the terms of reference of UNEF which provide for UNTSO co-operation with the Force. The observers are assigned special tasks entrusted to the Force and come under the operational control of the Force Commander.

5. In my report of 17 October 1977 (S/12416), I proposed reducing the operating strength of UNEF from 4,825 to the level of 4,215. During the period under review, this reduction has been implemented without seriously affecting the capacity of the Force to carry out its assigned tasks.

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6. Command of the Force continues to be exercised by Major-General Rais Abin. Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo continues as the Chief Co-ordinator of the United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East.

B. Deployment

7. During the period under review, there were only minor changes in the deployment of UNEF. The deployment of the Force as of 1 October 1978 (see attached map) was as follows:

(a) Swedish battalion: Base camp at Baluza. It mans 3 forward command posts and 17 positions in buffer zone 1 in a sector that stretches from the Mediterranean Sea to a line south-east of Ismailia.

(b) Ghanaian battalion: Base camp at Mitla. It mans 4 forward command posts and 18 positions in buffer zone 1 in a sector that stretches from the southern limit of the Swedish sector to a line south of Mitla.

(c) Indonesian battalion: Base camp at Wadi Reina. It mans 1 forward command post and 8 positions in buffer zone 1 and 1 forward command post and 8 positions in the southern area along the Gulf of Suez in a sector that stretches from the southern limit of the Ghanaian sector to a line south-east of Ras Sudr.

(d) Finnish battalion: Base camp at Abu Rudeis. It mans 3 forward command posts and 16 positions in the southern area along the Gulf of Suez and buffer zones 2-A and 2-B in a sector that stretches from the southern limit of the Indonesian sector to Abu Durba in the south. Checkpoints 33 and 42, owing to lack of activity, have been transformed into positions manned by the Finnish battalion.

(e) Canadian contingent: The Canadian contingent is based at El Gala Camp in Ismailia. A small group of about 20 personnel is deployed at the forward logistics base in El Tasa. It provides supply, maintenance, communications and air transport support to the Force and has supporting detachments spread throughout the UNEF area of operations.

(f) Polish contingent: The Polish contingent is also based at El Gala Camp in Ismailia. A group of about 165 personnel is deployed at the forward logistics base in El Tasa, and one engineering company is deployed in Suez. This company maintains small detachments in Abu Zenima (Finnish battalion area) and Checkpoint Mike (Ghanaian battalion area). The contingent provides maintenance and engineering, including mine-clearing, water, supply, construction, road maintenance and transport support. It also operates the UNEF hospital in Ismailia.

(g) Australian contingent: The Australian contingent is located in Ismailia. It provides helicopter support to the Force.

(h) UNEF headquarters: The headquarters of the Force is located in Ismailia. In addition, liaison offices are maintained in Cairo and Suez. Other UNEF elements are located as follows:

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- (i) Movement control detachments in Ismailia, Cairo, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Damascus and Port Said.
- (ii) A ration depot in Cairo.
- (iii) Military police detachments in Cairo, Port Said, Suez, Rabah, Eilat, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.
- (iv) Ismailia airfield is the operating base for two Buffalo aircraft, a chartered Skyvan and four helicopters. In addition, a Fokker F-27 aircraft provided for UNTSO by the Government of Switzerland is used by the four peace-keeping missions in the Middle East. It operates normal and special flights from its base in Jerusalem to Cairo, Ismailia, Beirut and Damascus.
- (v) UNEF also provides some of the staff serving in the Office of the Chief Co-ordinator in Jerusalem. Other staff members in that office are drawn from UNTSO and UNDOF.

8. UNTSO military observers man seven checkpoints and observation posts, provide liaison with each of the battalions, serve in staff posts and carry out patrols. There are eight patrol teams deployed permanently. Observer Group Sinai is also tasked with the conduct of inspections of the limited forces and armament areas and missile restricted zones, as required by the Agreement between Egypt and Israel of 4 September 1975 (S/11818/Add.2). The group is led by a Chief Military Observer attached to UNEF headquarters in Ismailia. He has representatives located at offices in Cairo and Jerusalem.

9. From 23 March to 17 May 1978, a reinforced company of the Swedish contingent was temporarily detached to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Movement control and signals detachments from the Canadian logistic unit were also detailed to UNIFIL during the formative stage of that Force.

C. Rotation

10. With a few exceptions, UNEF personnel are on a six-month tour. The following personnel rotations took place during the period under review:

- (a) Canadian contingent: Personnel are rotated in small groups on a weekly basis.
- (b) Finnish contingent: Partial rotations of the contingent took place in February, May and August 1978.
- (c) Ghanaian contingent: The main body was rotated twice, in April and in October 1978. Rotations were preceded by an advance party of 100 men.
- (d) Indonesian contingent: The entire contingent was rotated in March/April 1978 and will rotate again in October/November 1978.

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(e) Polish contingent: The entire contingent was rotated twice, in November/December 1977 and in May/June 1978.

(f) Swedish contingent: The entire contingent was rotated twice, in December 1977 and in June 1978.

(g) Australian contingent: Personnel are rotated partially every six weeks.

II. ACCOMMODATIONS AND LOGISTICS

A. Accommodations

11. During the period under review, all but two of the prefabricated buildings procured during previous mandates were completed. A total of 40 prefabricated buildings purchased during the eighth mandate were delivered in September 1978 and have been distributed to various locations in the buffer zone and El Gala Camp in Ismailia. Most of these buildings are to be completed in November, and the rest are being held in reserve to meet emergencies. All troops are then expected to be quartered under hard cover.

12. The new base camp for the Indonesian battalion in Wadi Reina was completed in April 1978 and the contingent moved there from Suez. The Indonesian battalion has also evacuated a number of houses in Ras Sudr, which will be allocated to the Polish detachment presently located in Suez. These arrangements have enabled UNEF to release a number of buildings.

13. Improvement projects, such as distributions systems for water, sewage and electrical power, have been carried out in El Gala Camp (Ismailia). A new ration depot is being constructed in El Gala, with estimated completion in December. The new depot will replace the present one in Cairo, allowing more cost-effective use of transport and personnel.

14. In Ismailia, the Youth Centre put at the disposal of UNEF by the Egyptian Government is used by the Ghanaian battalion for rest, recreation and transit accommodation and by UNEF headquarters for transit and as a communications centre. The Service Institute warehouse has been moved into this centre from its previous location in Cairo.

B. Logistics

15. The supply of goods and services to UNEF continues to be handicapped by the long procurement lead times inherent in the United Nations system of international tendering and procurement, although some improvement has been achieved. The supply company of the 73 Canadian Service Battalion carried out this year a complete inventory of stock.

16. UNEF has experienced problems with power supply to the contingents deployed in the buffer zone. In September 1978, 51 generators arrived in the mission area,

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and 40 more are expected to be delivered soon. Once they enter operation, power supply for UNEF installations in the buffer zone will be greatly improved.

17. A new water pipeline from Israel-controlled territory to El Tasa with a reservoir of 500 cubic metres has been installed. However, UNEF continues to have water supply problems in the buffer zone. Liaison is being maintained with Egyptian and Israeli authorities in an effort to improve the situation.

18. The Canadian logistic operations centre in El Gala continues a full 24-hours-a-day operation, and Polish and Canadian logistic resources can be requested as required through this centre. The Polish engineer company continues to perform mine and road clearance, water purification and building repair and construction. During the clearance operations, more than 48,000 mines, artillery shells, rockets and other pieces of explosive materials were destroyed.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Functions and guidelines

19. The functions and guidelines of the Force as outlined in my previous report remain unchanged, as well as the specific tasks entrusted to UNEF and to the Chief Co-ordinator of United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East by the Agreement between Egypt and Israel of 4 September 1975 and the Protocol thereto. The Chief Co-ordinator and the Force Commander have continued the practice of separate meetings with the military authorities of Egypt and Israel on matters concerning the Force. Relations with the parties have been most cordial and productive.

B. Freedom of movement

20. In spite of some improvement concerning the freedom of movement of certain contingents, the existing arrangements still fall short of what is required for the integrated and efficient operation of UNEF as a military unit. Efforts to achieve full freedom of movement for personnel of all contingents are being pursued.

C. Personnel matters

21. The general discipline, understanding and bearing of all members of UNEF continue to be exemplary, reflecting credit on the soldiers and their commanders, as well as on the countries contributing contingents.

22. During the period under review, two members of the Canadian contingent and one member each of the Indonesian, Polish and Swedish contingents died as a result of accidents or other causes.

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D. Observance of the cease-fire and implementation of the Agreement between Egypt and Israel of 4 September 1975 and of the Protocol of 22 September 1975

23. The Force has continued to supervise the observance of the cease-fire and has assisted in the implementation of the Agreement between Egypt and Israel of 4 September 1975 and the Protocol of 22 September 1975.
24. In buffer zone 1, in the northern area, the Force has continued to provide a physical separation of the limited forces and armaments areas of the two parties. This separation has been achieved by checkpoints, observation posts and air and land patrols within the buffer zone and along the E and J lines. Within this buffer zone, UNEF also provides escort to selected non-United Nations visitors and to members of the parties travelling to or from the early-warning-system stations. A further UNEF responsibility in the northern buffer zone relates to the control of the entry and exit of the Egyptian citizens residing in the zone. At latest count, there are an estimated 7,000 persons living in the northern part of buffer zone 1.
25. During the period under review, Egyptian army units removed an estimated 64,000 mines from buffer zone 1. Israeli mine-clearing teams are to commence operations later this month. UNEF escort parties are provided for all mine-clearing teams.
26. In the southern area, along the Gulf of Suez, the Force continues to supervise the agreement concerning the demilitarized area and buffer zones 2-A and 2-B. Under the agreement, no military or paramilitary forces of any kind, military fortification or military installations are permitted in the area. UNEF carries out its function by means of checkpoints and air and ground patrols. The common roads within the southern area are controlled by UNEF and escorts provided as required, in accordance with arrangements agreed to by the parties.
27. UNEF, in conjunction with the Chief Co-ordinator, continues to assist in conveying information concerning reconnaissance flights, as agreed to by the parties. Protests concerning overflights are passed by UNEF to the parties but can seldom be confirmed because of the high altitude of the offending aircraft and the Force's lack of technical detection capability.
28. The period under review has seen no major violations of the Agreement by either party. Minor incursions into the buffer zone by land or air have been reported to and acted upon by the parties in a satisfactory manner. Complaints by either party are relayed by the Chief Co-ordinator or the Force Commander to the party concerned. The co-operation of the parties with UNEF has been good.
29. The inspections of the limited forces and armaments areas and missile restricted zones, as provided in the Agreement of 4 September 1975, continue. The findings of the inspections are made available to the parties. Any questions or complaints raised by either party are normally resolved in conjunction with the Chief Co-ordinator and the Force Commander. Violations observed or confirmed by UNEF are protested to the party concerned.

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IV. HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)

30. UNEF has continued to assist the ICRC representatives with facilities for family reunions and student exchanges, which have taken place in buffer zone 1. During the period under review, 4,785 persons crossed from Egypt to Israeli-occupied territory, and 3,704 crossed from Israeli-occupied territory to Egypt.

31. During the period under review, the remains of 17 Egyptian and 5 Israeli soldiers were found in the buffer zone and returned to Egypt and Israel, respectively. Five unidentified bodies were also found in the buffer zone.

V. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

32. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of UNEF, for a period of 12 months beyond 24 October 1978 the cost of maintaining the Force for that period would be of the order of \$80 million, based on the manpower requirements indicated earlier in this report and continuance of its existing responsibilities. This figure compares to the amount of \$76,321,000 appropriated for the present mandate. In implementing the budget for the present mandate, I have been mindful of the necessity of exercising the utmost economy consistent with efficient performance.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

33. In deciding in its resolution 416 (1977) to renew the mandate of UNEF for a further period of one year until 24 October 1977, the Security Council also called upon all the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) and requested the Secretary-General to submit at the end of the extended period a report on the developments in the situation and the steps taken to implement that resolution.

34. The search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and, in particular, the efforts undertaken at various levels to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973) have been dealt with in the comprehensive report on the Middle East problem (A/33/311, S/12896) which the Secretary-General has submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 32/20.

VII. OBSERVATIONS

35. During the period under review, the situation in the Egypt-Israel sector remained quiet. There were no incidents of a serious nature. The presence of the United Nations Emergency Force has undoubtedly been an important factor in the maintenance of the cease-fire called for by the Security Council and reaffirmed by the Agreement between Egypt and Israel of 4 September 1975. The Force not only

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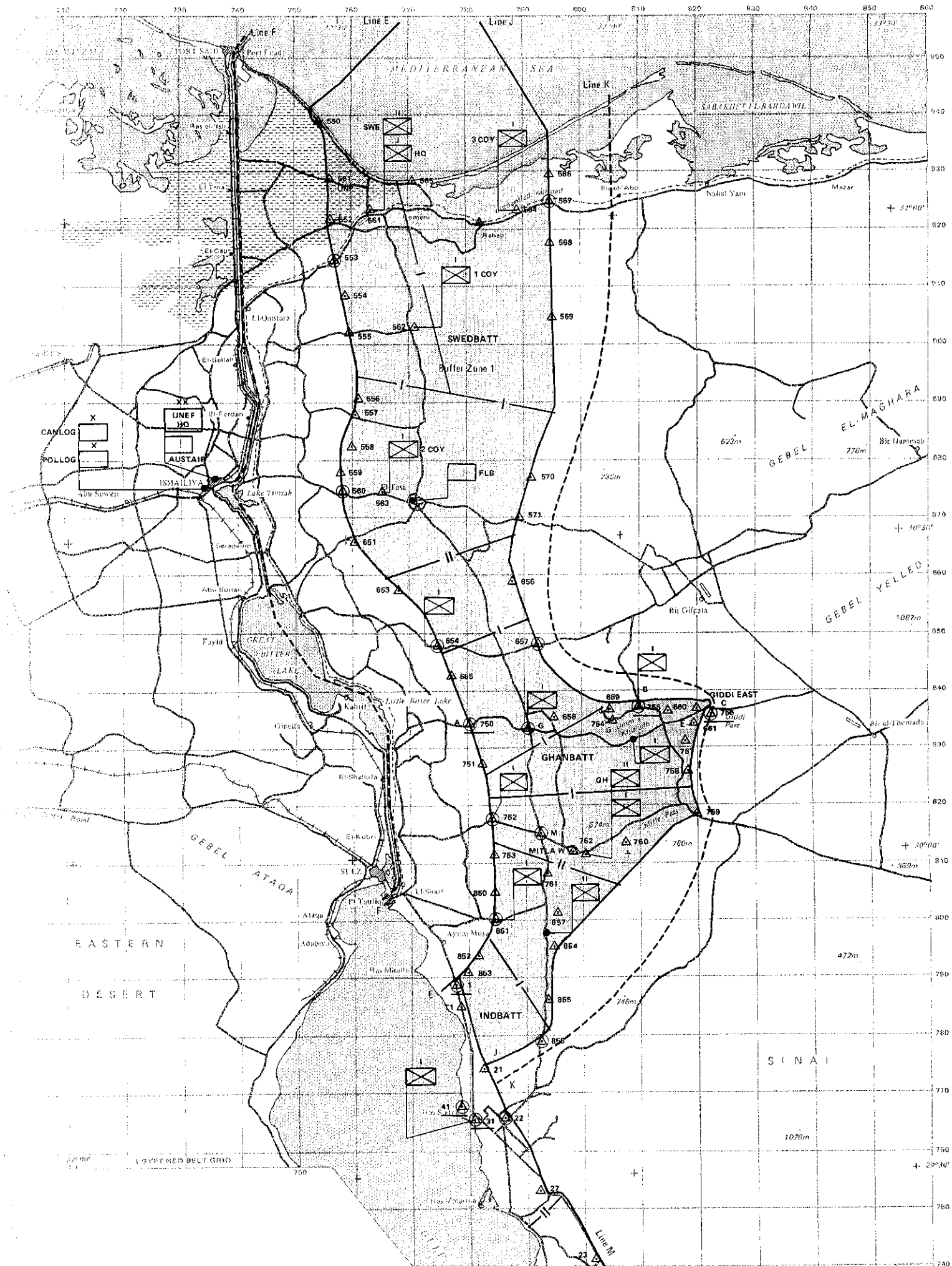
fulfils a buffer function between the Egyptian and Israeli forces but also provides its good offices to the parties in dealing with a variety of problems on the ground.

36. Despite the present quiet in the Egypt-Israel sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be unstable and potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. It is my earnest hope that urgent efforts will be pursued by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view both to maintaining quiet in the region and to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

37. Taking into account all the factors involved and after consultations with the Governments of Egypt and Israel, I recommend the extension of the mandate of UNEF for a further period of one year.

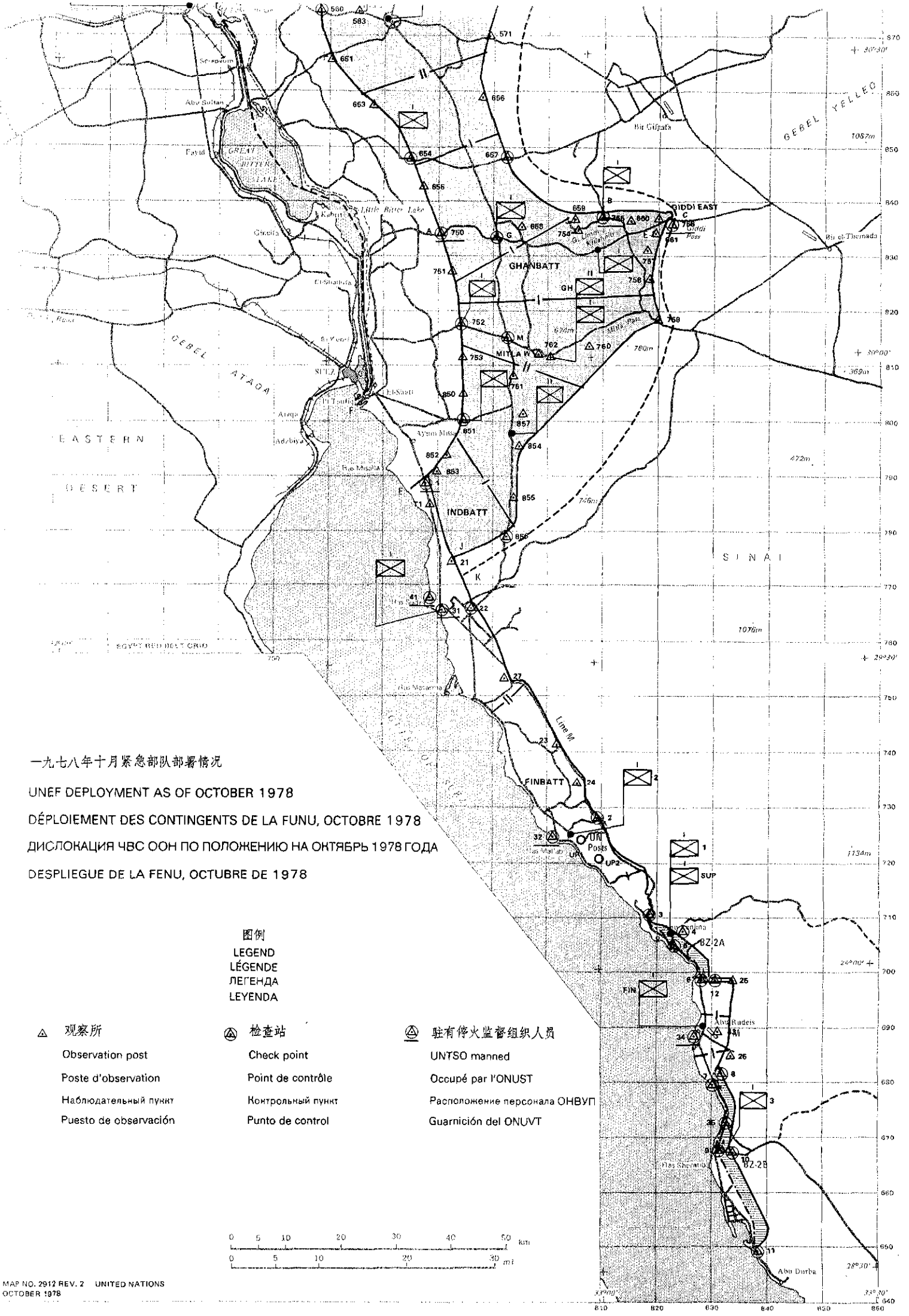
38. In concluding this report, I wish once again to express my gratitude to the Governments contributing troops to the United Nations Emergency Force. I also take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Chief Co-ordinator of the United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo; to the Commander of UNEF, Major-General Rais Abin; to the officers and men of the Force and its civilian staff, as well as to the military observers of UNTSO assigned to assist UNEF in the fulfilment of its responsibilities. All of them have performed with efficiency and dedication the important and difficult tasks entrusted to them by the Security Council.

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一九七八年十月紧急部队部署情况

UNEF DEPLOYMENT AS OF OCTOBER 1978



一九七八年十月紧急部队部署情况

UNEF DEPLOYMENT AS OF OCTOBER 1978

DÉPLOIEMENT DES CONTINGENTS DE LA FENU, OCTOBRE 1978

ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ ЧВС ООН ПО ПОЛОЖЕНИЮ НА ОКТЯБРЬ 1978 ГОДА

DESPLIEGUE DE LA FENU, OCTUBRE DE 1978

图例

LEGEND
LÉGENDE
ЛЕГЕНДА
LEYENDA

△ 观察所

Observation post

Poste d'observation

Наблюдательный пункт

Puesto de observación

⊙ 检查站

Check point

Point de contrôle

Контрольный пункт

Punto de control

⊕ 驻有停火监督组织人员

UNTSO manned

Occupé par l'ONUST

Расположение персонала ОНВУП

Guarnición del ONUVT

