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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED  
NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

(for the period 25 November 1975 to 24 May 1976)

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MAP: UNDOF DEPLOYMENT SITUATION AS OF MAY 1976

INTRODUCTION

1. The present report describes the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period 25 November 1975 to 24 May 1976. Its purpose is to provide the Security Council with an account of the activities of UNDOF in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to it by the Council in resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974 and extended by resolutions 363 (1974) of 29 November 1974, 369 (1975) of 28 May 1975 and 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975.

2. During the period covered by the present report, UNDOF has continued to supervise the area of separation and inspect the areas of limitation of armaments and forces in accordance with its mandate. With the co-operation of both parties, UNDOF has been able to contribute to the maintenance of the cease-fire called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

3. As of 24 May 1976, the composition of UNDOF was as follows:

Austria	515
Canada	126
Iran	391
Poland	84
United Nations military observers (detailed from UNTSO)	78
Total	<hr/> 1,194

4. Command of UNDOF continues to be exercised by Major-General Hannes Philipp.

B. Deployment

5. UNDOF personnel continue to be deployed within or close to the area of separation, with base camps and logistic support units situated close to the area.

6. The Austrian battalion mans positions in the area of separation north of the Damascus-Quneitra road. Its base camp is located near the Wadi Faouar, 8 kilometres east of the area of separation. The Iranian battalion is deployed south of the Damascus-Quneitra road, with its base camp near the village of Ziouani just west of the area of separation. The present deployment is shown on the attached map.

7. The Austrians continue to share their base camp with the Polish logistic unit, while the Iranians share theirs with the Canadian logistic unit. The Canadian signals troop has detachments at the two base camps and in Quneitra, Tiberias and Damascus. Military police detachments are located in Camp Ziouani and Damascus. The UNDOF military observers operate out of Tiberias and Damascus.

8. In December 1975, UNDOF took over responsibility from UNTSO for manning the communications relay station at Quneitra.

C. Rotation

9. The Austrian battalion carried out partial rotations in November 1975 and February/March 1976. The Iranian battalion rotated in April 1976. The Canadian units rotate in small groups at regular intervals. The Polish unit rotated in November/December 1975.

## II. ACCOMMODATIONS AND LOGISTICS

### A. Accommodations

10. During the recent winter, one building at Faouar base camp and two UNDOF positions were badly damaged or destroyed by fire. Plans are in hand for their repair or replacement.

11. With the completion of the covered washing and cooking facilities at all positions (S/11883, para. 12), the standard of accommodation in the field can now be regarded as satisfactory. Further minor improvements are envisaged, but, in the future, the main requirement will be for maintenance.

12. The programme to provide protective shelters at all base camps and positions, referred to in my last report (S/11883, para. 12), has also been completed.

### B. Logistic support

13. Logistic support for UNDOF continues to be provided by the Canadian and Polish logistic units as outlined in my report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 25-27). The Polish unit also provided a mine-clearing capability.

14. Work is in hand to expand storage and vehicle maintenance capability in Ziouani base camp. Plans are also being prepared for the completion of improved shelters at both Faouar and Ziouani base camps.

### III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

#### A. Functions and guidelines

15. The functions and guidelines of UNDOF, as well as its tasks, remain as outlined in my report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 8-10).

16. UNDOF has been able, with the co-operation of the parties, to carry out the tasks entrusted to it. This has been facilitated by the close contact maintained by the Force Commander and his staff with the military liaison staffs of Israel and Syria. In his capacity as Chief Co-ordinator of the United Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo has continued to take part in high-level contacts and, as occasion requires, in meetings between the Force Commander and military representatives of Israel and Syria concerning the functioning of the Force.

#### B. Freedom of movement

17. Despite the efforts made towards resolving the question of freedom of movement, the arrangements that have been worked out still fall short of what is required and of what is provided for in the Protocol to the Agreement on Disengagement. Efforts are continuing to secure full acceptance of this important principle.

#### C. Personnel matters

18. The general discipline, understanding and bearing of all members of UNDOF have been of a high order, reflecting credit on the soldiers and their commanders, as well as on the countries contributing contingents to the Force.

19. The Force has suffered no fatal casualties during the period under review.

#### D. Maintenance of the cease-fire

20. During the period under review, the cease-fire has been maintained. There were three complaints of small-arms fire, two by Syria and one by Israel. UNDOF confirmed firing activity in two cases. Neither incident could be regarded as serious, and no loss of life or injuries resulted.

#### E. Supervision of the Agreement on Disengagement with regard to the areas of separation and limitation

##### Area of separation

21. UNDOF has continued to supervise the area of separation to ensure that there

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are no military forces within it, in accordance with its mandate. It has carried out this function by means of static posts, which are manned 24 hours a day, and mobile patrols.

22. UNDOF has continued to carry out its task within the area of separation in a manner which neither hampers the Syrian administration nor derogates from Syrian sovereignty. Good relations have been maintained between UNDOF and the civilian authorities, as well as with the civilian population in the area.

23. UNDOF has continued to investigate complaints from both parties concerning alleged violations of the Agreement with regard to the area of separation and to draw the attention of the parties to any violations it has itself observed, with a view to having corrective action taken. As noted in paragraph 20 above, two complaints of firing incidents were received from Syria and one from Israel.

24. Syrian shepherds who graze their flocks close to the A line have been a matter of concern to UNDOF, as this may lead to incidents like the one that occurred on 14 October 1975 (see S/11883, para. 24). With the co-operation of both parties it has been possible to avoid a recurrence of such incidents.

25. Despite efforts by Syrian civilian authorities and the UNDOF mine-clearing team, there are still many unexploded shells and mines in the area of separation. Syrian civilians continue to suffer casualties from mines and, during the period under review, two UNDOF personnel sustained minor injuries as a result of explosions. The UNDOF mine-clearing team has further increased the area accessible to foot and vehicle patrols.

26. UNDOF is continuing its work on making the A line more easily identifiable on the ground.

#### Areas of limitation

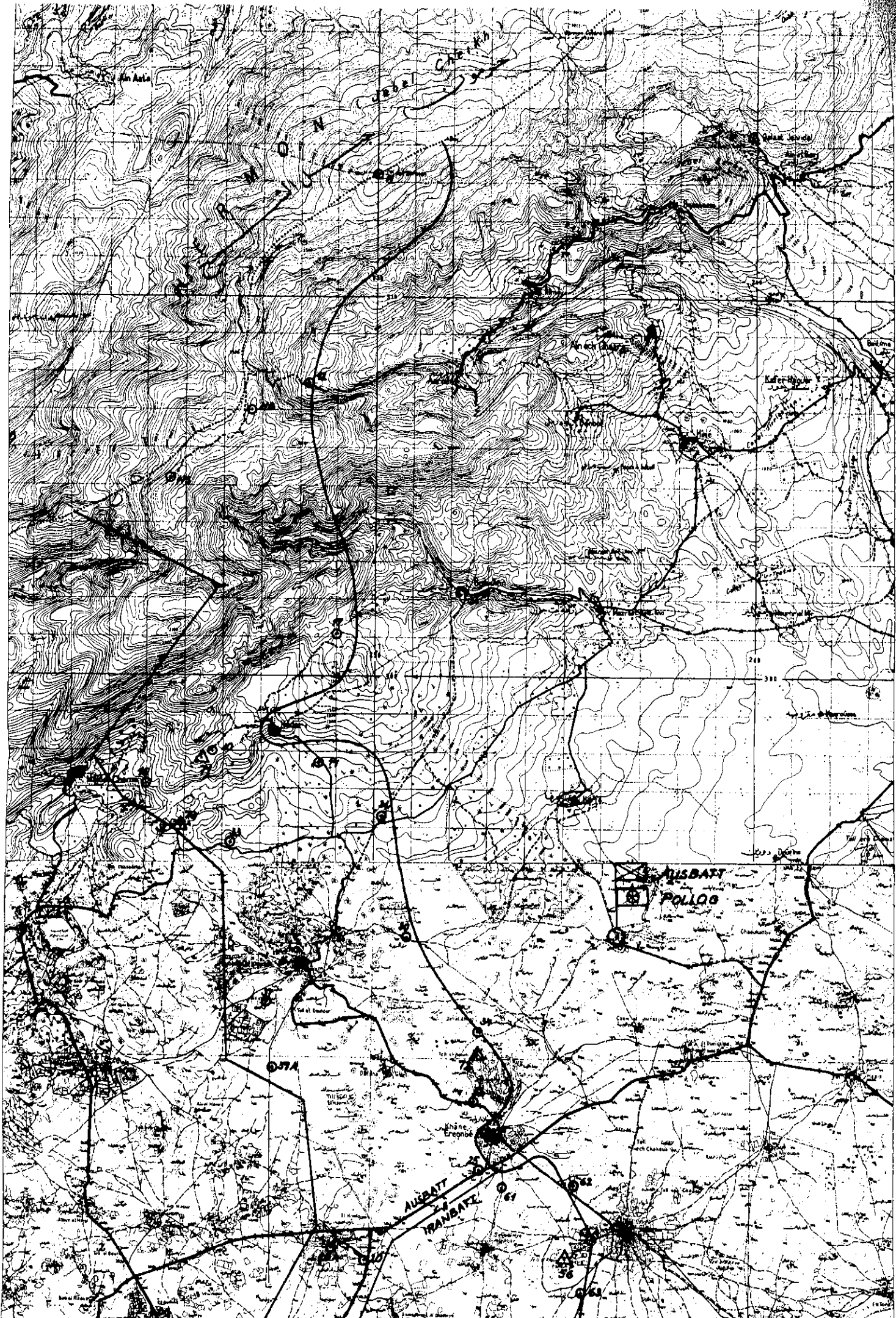
27. UNDOF has continued to carry out the inspection of the areas of limitation of armaments and forces as provided for in the Agreement. The inspections are carried out with the assistance of liaison officers from the parties who accompany the UNDOF inspection teams in their respective areas. In accordance with the procedure agreed to by the parties, the findings of the inspections are made available only to them. UNDOF lends its assistance and good offices in cases where one of the parties raises questions concerning the observance of the agreed limitation of armaments and forces. In carrying out this function, UNDOF has continued to receive the full co-operation of both parties.

#### IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

28. By its resolution 3374 C (XXX) of 2 December 1975, the General Assembly, inter alia, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force at a rate not to exceed \$1,288,636 per month for the period from 1 June to 31 October 1976 inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975. Accordingly, should the Security Council renew the UNDOF mandate beyond 31 May 1976, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining UNDOF up to 31 October 1976 will be within the level of the authorization to enter into commitments provided by the General Assembly in its resolution 3374 C (XXX), assuming continuance of its existing strength and responsibilities. Appropriate financial provision will need to be made by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session in respect of periods after 31 October 1976, if the period of extension determined by the Security Council goes beyond that date.

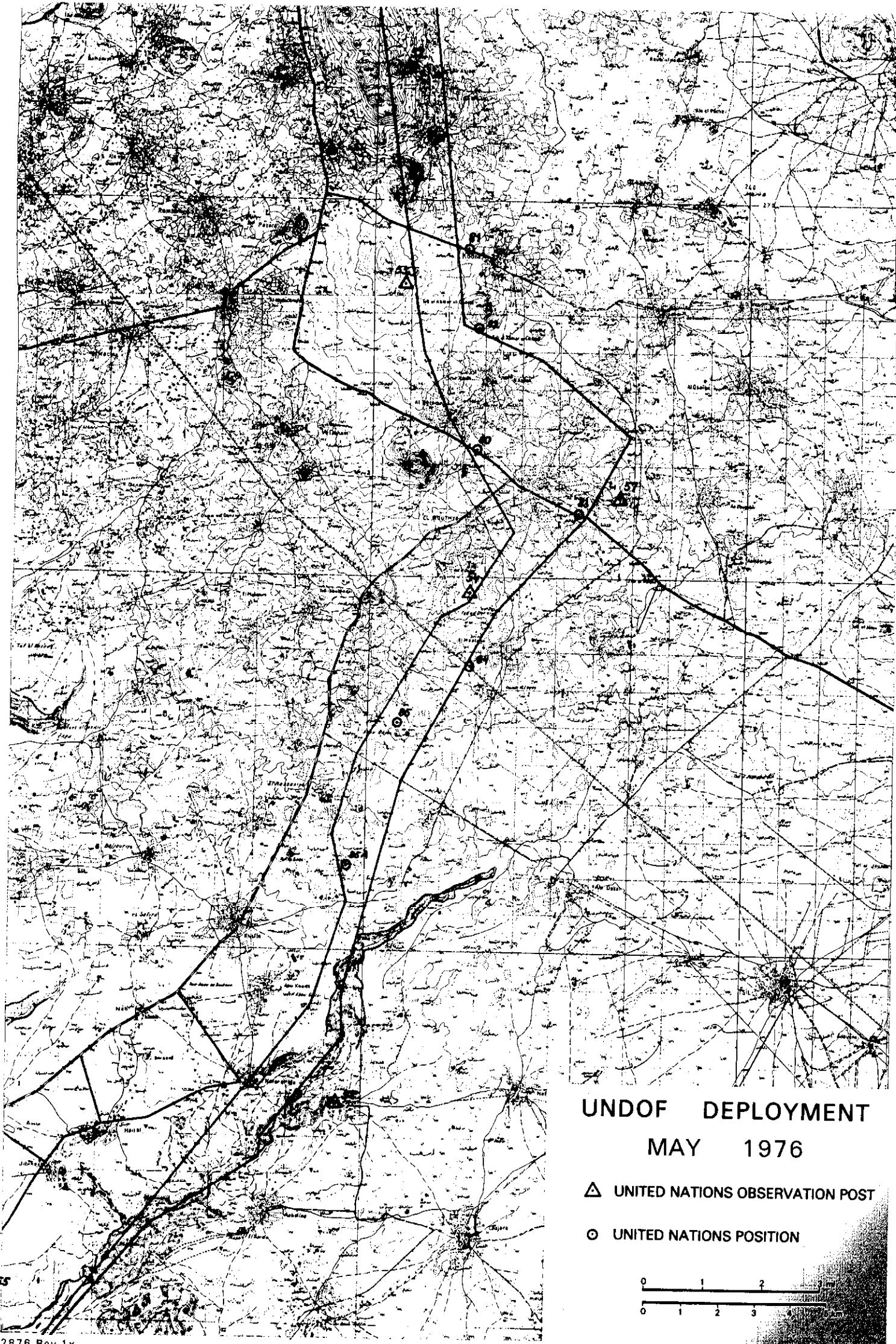
#### V. OBSERVATIONS

29. In view of the Secretary-General's visit to Damascus, his observations in connexion with this report will be issued later.









**UNDOF DEPLOYMENT  
MAY 1976**

- △ UNITED NATIONS OBSERVATION POST**
- UNITED NATIONS POSITION**

