



UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/13350  
24 May 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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

(for the period 25 November 1978 to 24 May 1979)

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MAP: UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF MAY 1979

## INTRODUCTION

1. The present report describes the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period 25 November 1978 to 24 May 1979. 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, 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975, 390 (1976) of 28 May 1976, 398 (1976) of 30 November 1976, 408 (1977) of 26 May 1977, 420 (1977) of 30 November 1977, 429 (1978) of 31 May 1978 and 441 (1978) of 30 November 1978.

### I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

#### A. Composition and command

2. The composition of UNDOF as of 18 May 1979 was as follows:

Austria	523
Canada	171
Finland	151
Poland	89
United Nations military observers (detailed from UNTSO)	<u>91</u>
	1,025

The average strength of UNDOF is normally about 1,250 all ranks. The present temporary strength is due to the repatriation of the Iranian contingent and its partial temporary replacement by a reinforced company from the Finnish contingent of UNEF.

3. Major-General Hannes Philipp retained command of UNDOF until the end of his term of duty on 21 April 1979. With effect from 21 April 1979, Colonel Guenther G. Greindl of the Austrian contingent was designated Officer-in-Charge pending the appointment of a new Force Commander. Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo continues as the Chief Co-ordinator of United Nations Peace-Keeping Missions in the Middle East.

#### B. Deployment

4. UNDOF personnel remain deployed within or close to the area of separation, with base camps and logistic support units located nearby. UNDOF headquarters is located in Damascus. The UNDOF deployment as of May 1979 is shown on the attached map.

5. Until 10 March 1979, the Austrian battalion manned 18 positions and 7 outposts and mounted 19 daily patrols in the area of separation north of the Damascus-Quneitra road, and the Iranian battalion manned 15 positions and 3 outposts and mounted 16 daily patrols in the area of separation south of that road. Following the withdrawal of the Iranian battalion, all positions and outposts were manned on a reduced basis by the Austrian battalion during the period 11 to 15 March 1979.

6. Since the completion of the deployment of the reinforced Finnish company from UNEF on 16 March 1979, the Austrian battalion has manned 24 positions and 8 outposts and has been mounting 10 daily patrols in the area of separation north of the readjusted contingent boundary (see attached map). The reinforced Finnish company has manned 9 positions and 2 outposts and has been mounting 8 daily patrols in the area of separation south of the readjusted contingent boundary.

7. The Austrian base camp is located near the Wadi Faouar, 8 kilometres east of the area of separation. The reinforced Finnish company base camp is near the village of Ziouani, west of the area of separation. The Austrian battalion continues to share its base camp with the Polish logistic unit, and the reinforced Finnish company shares Camp Ziouani with the Canadian logistic unit. The Canadian signals unit has detachments at the two base camps, as well as in Damascus, Quneitra and Tiberias.

### C. Rotation

8. The Austrian battalion completed partial rotations on 29 November 1978 and 26 February 1979; a further partial rotation will be conducted during the period 21 to 28 May 1979. The Iranian battalion completed a full rotation on 29 November 1978 and was withdrawn from UNDOF on 15 March 1979. The Canadian logistic unit rotates in small groups; a partial rotation is in progress. The Polish logistic unit carried out a full rotation in November-December 1978, and a further full rotation, which began on 11 May 1979, is under way. The Finnish reinforced company carried out a partial rotation from 25 to 29 April 1979.

## II. ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS

### A. Accommodation

9. During the period under review a study of mission accommodation, including maintenance costs, has been completed. The expansion and improvement of living accommodations, in keeping with United Nations standards, at positions within the area of separation has been partly completed for all Austrian battalion positions north of the Quneitra road. Planning is under way for similar improvements at all remaining positions. Additionally, the forward UNDOF command headquarters in Quneitra and the medical shelter are nearing completion. The petrol, oil and lubricants station at Camp Faouar (Austrian-Polish base) has been completed.

10. Position 81 and the building at position 80, which were destroyed by fire, have now been reconstructed. Additional maintenance facilities have also been constructed for both the Canadian and Polish contingents, and a small warehouse has been erected within the Canadian base camp. The preliminary work for one further warehouse in the Canadian base (Camp Ziouani) has now been completed as have preparations for the installation of protective siding for all prefabricated buildings in both the area of separation and base camps.

11. On 26 April 1979 a fire destroyed a prefabricated building at the reinforced Finnish company headquarters at Camp Ziouani.

#### B. Logistic support

12. Logistic support to the Force continues to be provided by the Canadian and Polish logistic units, as outlined in the report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 25 to 27). Air support to UNDOF continues to be provided by the UNEF controlled Canadian air transport unit, with two Buffalo DHC-5 flights weekly to Tel Aviv and Damascus from Ismailia as well as special flights as required. The Canadian and Polish units have continued to provide second-line transport, including delivery of water, petrol, rations, mail and miscellaneous cargo, as well as equipment maintenance and vehicle repair. Limited third-line support to UNDOF continues to be provided from UNEF resources.

13. During the period under review, the Polish mine-clearing teams have cleared 21,090 metres of patrol paths and 1,600 metres of roads and trails, as well as 33,000 square metres of ground at positions within the area of separation. In this process, two anti-personnel mines, 11 anti-tank mines and 12 artillery projectiles were destroyed. Road improvements, primarily within the northern sector of the area of separation, have been carried out with emphasis on access roads to UNTSO positions and snow removal operations.

### III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

#### A. Functions and guidelines

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

15. UNDOF has continued, with the co-operation of the parties, to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it. This has been facilitated by the close contact maintained by the Force Commander/Officer-in-Charge and his staff with the military liaison staffs of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic.

#### B. Freedom of movement

16. The Protocol of the Agreement on Disengagement provides for all contingents to operate with full freedom of movement. However, restrictions on the freedom of movement still exist and efforts to correct the situation are continuing.

### C. Personnel matters

17. The general discipline, conduct and bearing of all members of the Force continue to be of a high order reflecting credit on the soldiers and their commanders, as well as on the countries contributing contingents.

### D. Maintenance of the cease-fire

18. UNDOF continues to supervise the observance of the cease-fire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic. The cease-fire has been maintained during the period under review. No complaints referring to the UNDOF area of operations have been lodged by either party in this regard.

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

19. UNDOF continues to supervise the area of separation to ensure, in accordance with its mandate, that there are no military forces within it. This is carried out by means of static positions and observation posts, which are manned 24 hours a day, and by foot and mobile patrols operating at irregular intervals on predetermined routes. UNDOF observation functions have been made more effective by the introduction of some new equipment. UNDOF has continued to meet all assigned operational commitments by considerably reducing leave and recreation and by working overtime. In addition, it has been necessary to temporarily reduce the operational strength on some positions and decrease the number of daily patrols within the area of separation.

20. The safety of Syrian shepherds who graze their flocks close to and west of the A line, continues to be of concern to UNDOF. The establishment of new mine-cleared patrol paths and, from time to time, of standing patrols in these areas has helped to prevent incidents.

21. UNDOF has continued to facilitate and supervise the fortnightly meetings of Druse families living on both sides of the A line. Thirteen family meetings have been held during the period under review. Both parties continue to show good co-operation in making the family meetings possible in accord with the agreed procedures.

22. Mines within the area of separation continue to cause danger to members of UNDOF, as well as to the civilian population. During the period under review, several civilians have been seriously injured or killed by mine explosions.

23. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement on Disengagement, UNDOF continues to conduct bi-weekly inspections of the areas of limitation in armament and forces. The inspections are conducted with the assistance of liaison officers from the parties, who accompany the UNDOF inspection teams to their respective areas. UNDOF lends its assistance and good offices in cases where one of the parties raises questions concerning the observance of the agreed limitations of

armament and forces. In carrying out these functions, UNDOF has continued to receive the co-operation of the parties, although restrictions of movement and inspection are sometimes placed upon UNDOF teams during inspections in certain areas on both sides of the area of separation. UNDOF has sought the lifting of those restrictions so as to guarantee its freedom of access to all locations on both sides.

#### IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

24. By its resolution 33/13 D of 8 December 1978, 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 \$1,682,833 gross (\$1,666,000 net) per month for the period from 1 June to 24 October 1979 inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 441 (1978) of 30 November 1978. Accordingly, should the Security Council renew the UNDOF mandate beyond 31 May 1979, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining UNDOF up to 24 October 1979 will be within the level of the authorization to enter into commitments provided by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/13 D, assuming continuance of its existing strength and responsibilities. Appropriate financial provision will need to be made by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session in respect of periods after 24 October 1979, if the period of extension determined by the Security Council goes beyond that date.

#### V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

25. In deciding in its resolution 441 (1978) to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, 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 developments in the situation and the steps taken to implement that resolution.

26. 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 submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 32/30 of 25 November 1977. Since the submission of that report, the Secretary-General has maintained contacts on this matter with the parties and interested Governments.

#### VI. OBSERVATIONS

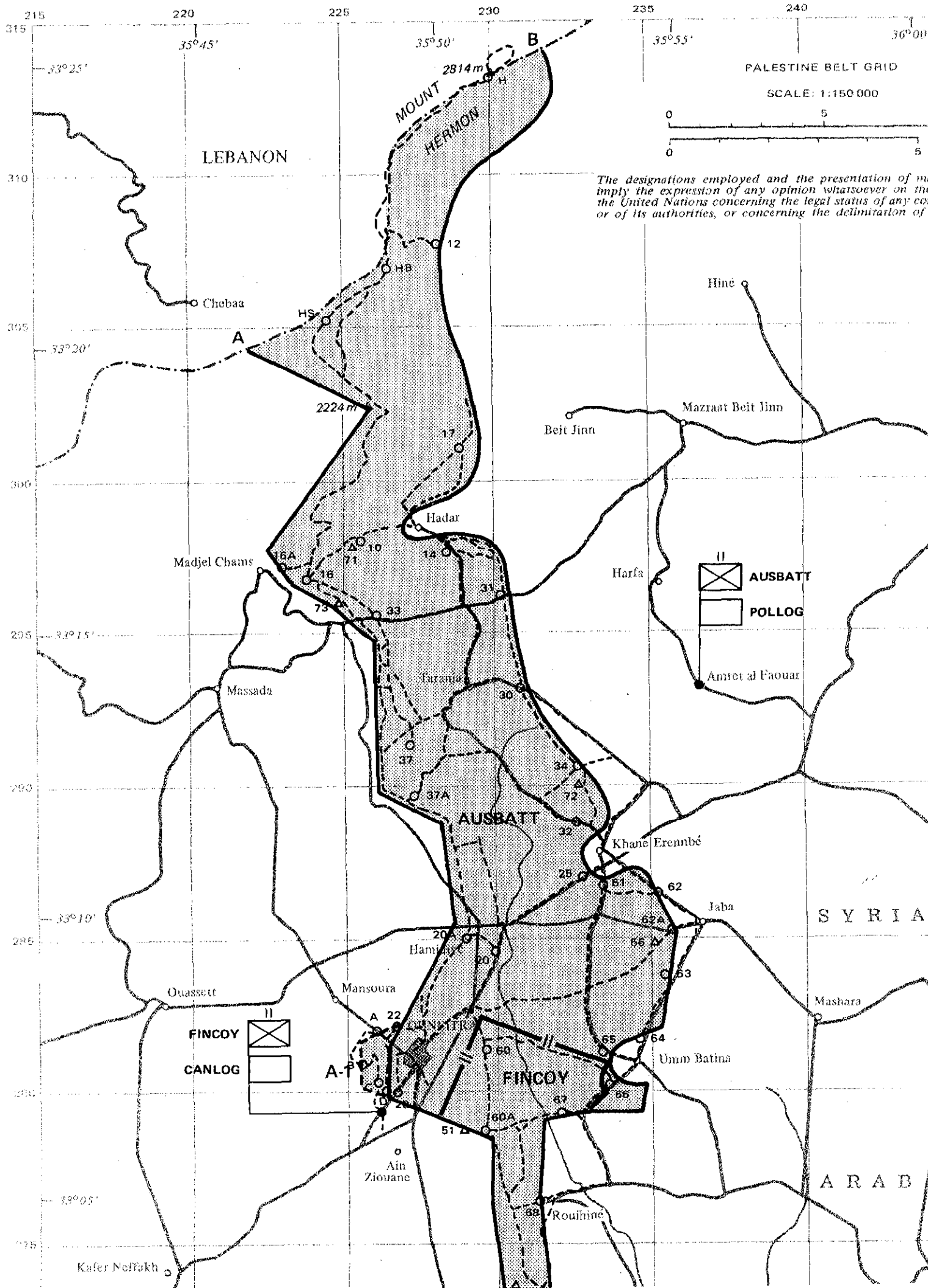
27. The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the cease-fire called for by the Security Council and the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces of 31 May 1974, has continued to perform its functions effectively, with the co-operation of the

parties. During the period under review, the situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained quiet, and there have been no serious incidents.

28. Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be 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. I continue to hope that determined efforts will be made by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

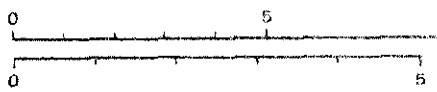
29. In the prevailing circumstances, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 30 November 1979. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

30. In concluding this report, I wish once again to express my gratitude to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and to those which provide UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to General Philipp, who was the Commander of UNDOF until 21 April 1979, and to Colonel Greindl, who has assumed command of the Force as Officer-in-Charge since that date, to the officers and men of the Force and its civilian staff, as well as to the UNTSO military observers assigned to UNDOF. They have performed with exemplary efficiency and devotion to duty the important and difficult tasks assigned to them by the Security Council. I also wish to express my appreciation for the dedicated service rendered by the Iranian battalion from September 1975 to March 1979.



PALESTINE BELT GRID

SCALE: 1:150 000



The designations employed and the presentation of the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country or territory, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers.

	<b>AUSBATT</b>
	<b>POLLOG</b>

<b>FINCOY</b>	
<b>CANLOG</b>	

SYRIA

ARAB

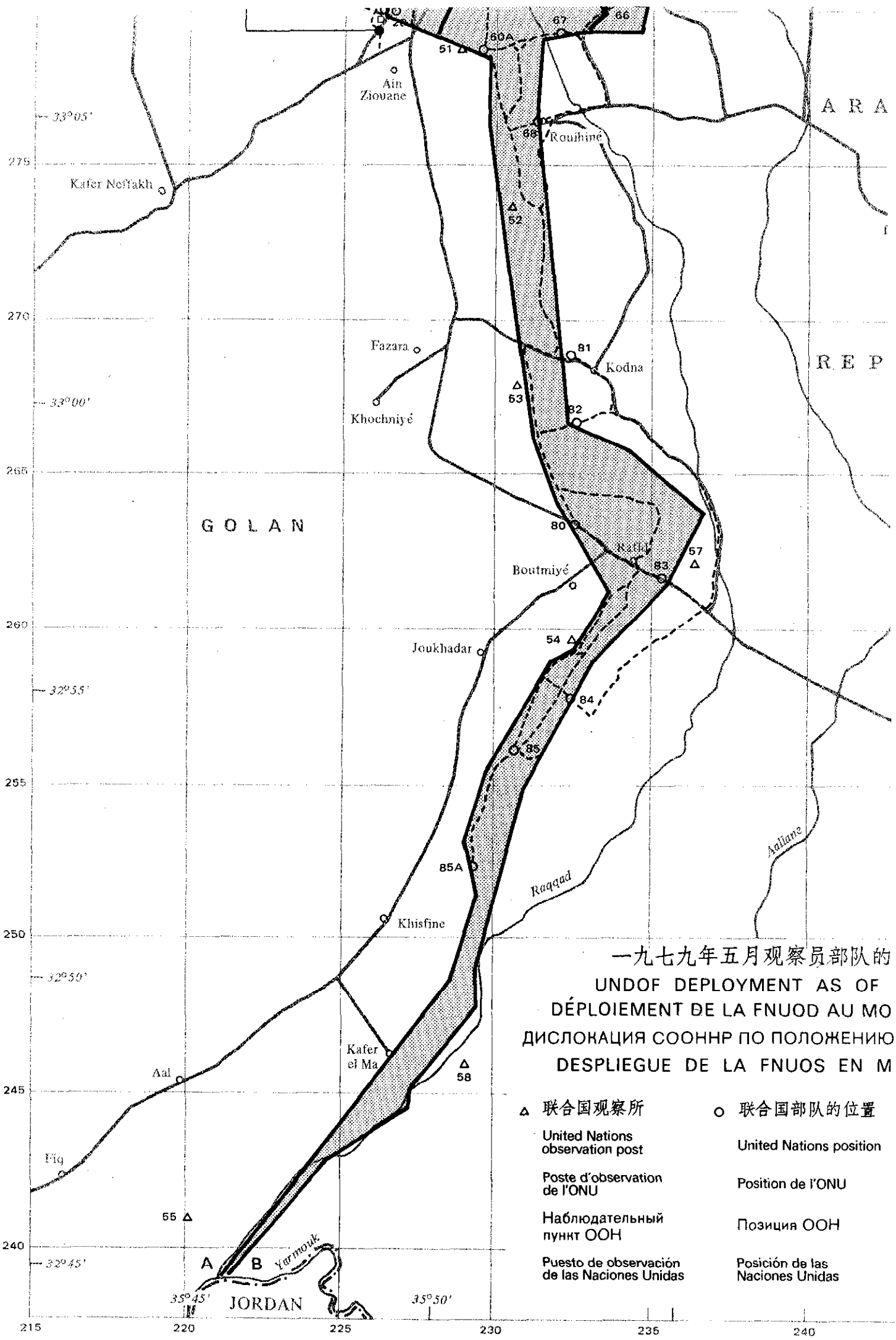
MOUNT  
HERMON

AUSBATT

FINCOY

LEBANON





一九七九年五月观察员部队的  
 UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF  
 DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FNUOD AU MO  
 ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ СООННР ПО ПОЛОЖЕНИЮ  
 DESPLIEGUE DE LA FNUOS EN M

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| △ 联合国观察所                                     | ○ 联合国部队的位置                      |
| United Nations observation post              | United Nations position         |
| Poste d'observation de l'ONU                 | Position de l'ONU               |
| Наблюдательный пункт ООН                     | Позиция ООН                     |
| Puesto de observación de las Naciones Unidas | Posición de las Naciones Unidas |