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

(for the period 18 October 1978 to 19 July 1979)

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Annex. Map of UNEF deployment as of July 1979

INTRODUCTION

1. This report describes the activities of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) for the period 18 October 1978 to 19 July 1979. The purpose of the report is to provide the Security Council with a comprehensive account of the activities of UNEF during this period 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, 416 (1977) of 21 October 1977 and 438 (1978) of 23 October 1978.

2. Since my last report of 17 October 1978 (S/12897), the situation in the UNEF area of operation has remained stable and the Force has continued to discharge its functions and responsibilities in accordance with its mandate. With the co-operation of both parties, it has been able to contribute to the maintenance of the cease-fire called for by Security Council resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973. On 25 April 1979 a treaty of peace between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Israel entered into force.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

3. As of 16 July 1979, the strength of the Force was as follows:

Australia	46
Canada	844
Finland	522
Ghana	595
Indonesia	510
Poland	923
Sweden	591
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TOTAL	4,031

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. A reinforced company of the Finnish contingent was temporarily detached to the UNDOF on 15 March 1979. Thus, the Finnish contingent is below its regular strength.

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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. 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

6. During the period under review, there were only minor changes in the deployment of the Force. As of 16 July 1979 UNEF was deployed as follows (see attached map):

(a) Swedish battalion: Base camp at Baluza. It mans three forward command posts and 18 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 four 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 one forward command post and eight positions in buffer zone 1 and one forward command post and eight positions 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 three forward command posts and 14 positions along the Gulf of Suez and in buffer zones 2A and 2B in a sector that stretches from the southern limit of the Indonesian sector to Abu Durba in the south. Two checkpoints were closed in March 1979 following the dispatch of 151 men to UNDOF. The tasks assigned to these checkpoints are being carried out by other checkpoints in the vicinity.

(e) Canadian contingent: The Canadian contingent is based at El Gala camp in Ismailia. It provides supply, maintenance, communications, movement control, postal services and air transport support to the Force and has supporting detachments spread throughout the UNEF area of operation, including a small group of about 30 personnel deployed at the forward logistics base in El Tasa.

(f) Polish contingent: The Polish contingent is also based at El Gala camp in Ismailia. A group of about 115 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 and purification, 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:

- (i) Movement control detachments in Ismailia, Cairo, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Damascus and Port Said.
- (ii) Military Police detachments in Cairo, Port Said, Suez, Rabah, Eilat, Ofira, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.
- (iii) Ismailia Airfield is the operating base for two Buffalo aircraft, a Skyvan and four Huey Iroquois helicopters. In addition, UNEF has the limited use of a Fokker F-27 aircraft, provided for UNTSO by the Government of Switzerland.

7. UNTSO military observers man six checkpoints and observations posts, provide liaison with each of the battalions, serve in staff posts and carry out patrols. There are six patrol teams deployed permanently. Observer Group Sinai is also charged with conducting inspections of the areas of limited forces and armaments and the missile restricted zones, as required by the Agreement between Egypt and Israel of 4 September 1975 (S/11818/Add.1). Observer Group Sinai is led by a Chief Military Observer attached to UNEF headquarters in Ismailia. He has representatives located at offices in Cairo and Jerusalem.

C. Rotation

8. 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 November 1978, and in January, February and May 1979.

(c) Ghanaian contingent: The main body was rotated twice, in October 1978 and in April 1979.

(d) Indonesian contingent: The entire contingent was rotated in November 1978 and again in May 1979.

(e) Polish contingent: The entire contingent was rotated twice, in November/December 1978 and in May/June 1979.

(f) Swedish contingent: The entire contingent was rotated twice, in December 1978 and in June 1979.

(g) Australian contingent: Personnel are rotated in small groups every six weeks.

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II. ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Accommodation

9. During the period under review, efforts were directed at improving the standard of accommodation at unit and subunit locations. The new UNEF ration depot in Ismailia was completed in February 1979 and is now fully operational.

B. Logistics

10. Procurement lead times have been considerably reduced in respect of rations by the introduction of long-term contractual provision systems. Steps are being taken to widen the applicability of these systems to cover other areas of recurring requirements. The difficulties with power supply mentioned in my last report (S/12897, para. 16) have been greatly reduced; generators have been installed and shelters constructed for them throughout the UNEF area.

11. Vehicle holdings and establishments have been reduced during the period covered by this report. The rate of vehicles kept off the road for maintenance has been high due to the age of the fleet and delays in the delivery of new vehicles.

12. With the opening of the new ration depot (para. 9 above), the distribution of and accounting system for rations improved considerably.

13. Water supply to buffer zone 1 has continued to be a problem. Since April 1979, the pipeline supply has been unreliable. Liaison is being maintained regularly with both the Egyptian and Israeli authorities in an effort to improve the situation. So far, delivery of water by truck has made it possible to maintain supplies to the units when the pipelines failed.

14. 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. In the course of clearance operations, more than 21,000 mines, artillery shells, rockets and other pieces of explosive materials were destroyed.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Functions and guidelines

15. UNEF has continued to operate under the functions and guidelines of the Force outlined in my report to the Security Council of 27 October 1973 (S/11052/Rev.1) and it has continued to discharge 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.

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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.

B. Freedom of movement

16. The existing arrangements concerning the freedom of movement of certain contingents still fall short of what is required for the integrated and efficient operation of UNEF as a military unit and efforts have been continued to achieve full freedom of movement for personnel of all contingents.

C. Personnel matters

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

18. During the period under review, three members of the Indonesian contingent and one member of the Canadian contingent died as a result of accidents. Two members of the Finnish contingent, one member of the Polish contingent and one member of the Swedish contingent died from other causes.

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

19. 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.

20. On 25 May, in pursuance of an agreement reached by Egypt and Israel as part of a peace treaty, Israeli forces withdrew from the northern Sinai to the east of El Arish and the Egyptian authorities took over control of that area. UNEF was not involved in this move except by permitting access of Egyptian personnel to the buffer zone and the areas of limited forces and armaments and by providing escorts to the parties within these areas as the Israeli withdrawal was being carried out.

21. In buffer zone 1, except for that part of it where Egyptian forces have now been deployed, UNEF has continued to provide a physical separation of the areas of limited forces and armaments. UNEF has also provided escorts to authorized non-United Nations visitors and to personnel of the parties travelling to and from the early-warning-system stations.

22. During the period under review, Israeli mine-clearing teams under UNEF escort removed an estimated 37,000 mines from the southern portion of buffer zone 1.

23. In the southern area, along the Gulf of Suez, the Force has continued to supervise the Agreement in the demilitarized area and buffer zone 2A and 2B. UNEF carries out its functions 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.

24. 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 the parties, and they have acted upon them in a satisfactory manner. Complaints by either party are relayed by the Chief Co-ordinator or the Force Commander to the party concerned.

25. UNEF has continued to conduct inspections of the areas of limited forces and armaments and the missile restricted zones as provided in the Agreement of 4 September 1975, except for the area where the Egyptian forces were redeployed in May 1979.

E. Humanitarian activities and co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

26. UNEF has continued to assist the ICRC representatives with facilities for family reunions and student exchanges in the north of buffer zone 1. In the period under review, 1,573 persons crossed from Egypt to Israeli-occupied territory and 1,350 crossed from Israeli-occupied territory to Egypt. Since the return of El Arish to Egypt, UNEF is no longer involved in these exchanges.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

27. By its resolution 33/13 C of 8 December 1978, the General Assembly, inter alia, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Emergency Force at a rate not to exceed \$6,082,333 gross (\$6 million net) per month for the period from 25 July to 24 October 1979 inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of nine months authorized under its resolution 438 (1978) of 23 October 1978. Accordingly, the costs to the United Nations in respect of UNEF as from 25 July 1979 will depend on the dispositions that may be taken by the Security Council.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

28. In deciding in its resolution 438 (1978) to renew the mandate of UNEF for a further period of nine months until 24 July 1979, the Security Council also requested the Secretary-General to submit at the end of that period a report on the developments in the situation and the steps taken to implement its resolution 338 (1973).

29. Following the developments outlined in my last comprehensive report on the situation in the Middle East of 17 October 1978 (A/33/311-S/12896), the General

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Assembly adopted a further resolution emphasizing the need to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem (resolution 33/29 of 7 December 1978).

30. In a letter dated 16 March 1979 (A/34/124), the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt informed me that a treaty of peace had been negotiated between Egypt and Israel. Subsequently, the Permanent Representatives of Egypt (A/34/214) and of Israel (A/34/231) informed me of the approval of the treaty by the legislative organs of their countries and its entry into force on 25 April 1979. That treaty has also been the subject of communications addressed to me by certain States Members and circulated as official documents of the United Nations (S/13181, A/34/129-S/13189, A/34/133-S/13194, A/34/201-S/13201, A/34/160-S/13216 and Corr.1, A/34/182-S/13248, A/34/184-S/13354).

VI. OBSERVATIONS

31. During the period under review, the situation in the Egypt/Israel sector remained quiet and there were no incidents of a serious nature. The United Nations Emergency Force has continued to exercise its buffer function between Egyptian and Israeli forces and to provide its good offices to the parties in dealing with various problems on the ground.

32. Despite the recent developments in the Egypt/Israel sector the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be unstable and potentially dangerous. This situation is likely to continue unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. It is my earnest hope that efforts will be pursued by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, both with a view 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).

33. It is clear that the original context in which UNEF was created and in which it had previously functioned has basically changed during the period under review. While the Governments of Egypt and Israel have both expressed themselves in favour of an extension of the mandate of UNEF others have expressed opposition to such a course. In this regard, I would recall the general considerations contained in document S/11052/Rev.1 of 27 October 1973 approved by the Security Council in its resolution 341, in which it is stated that:

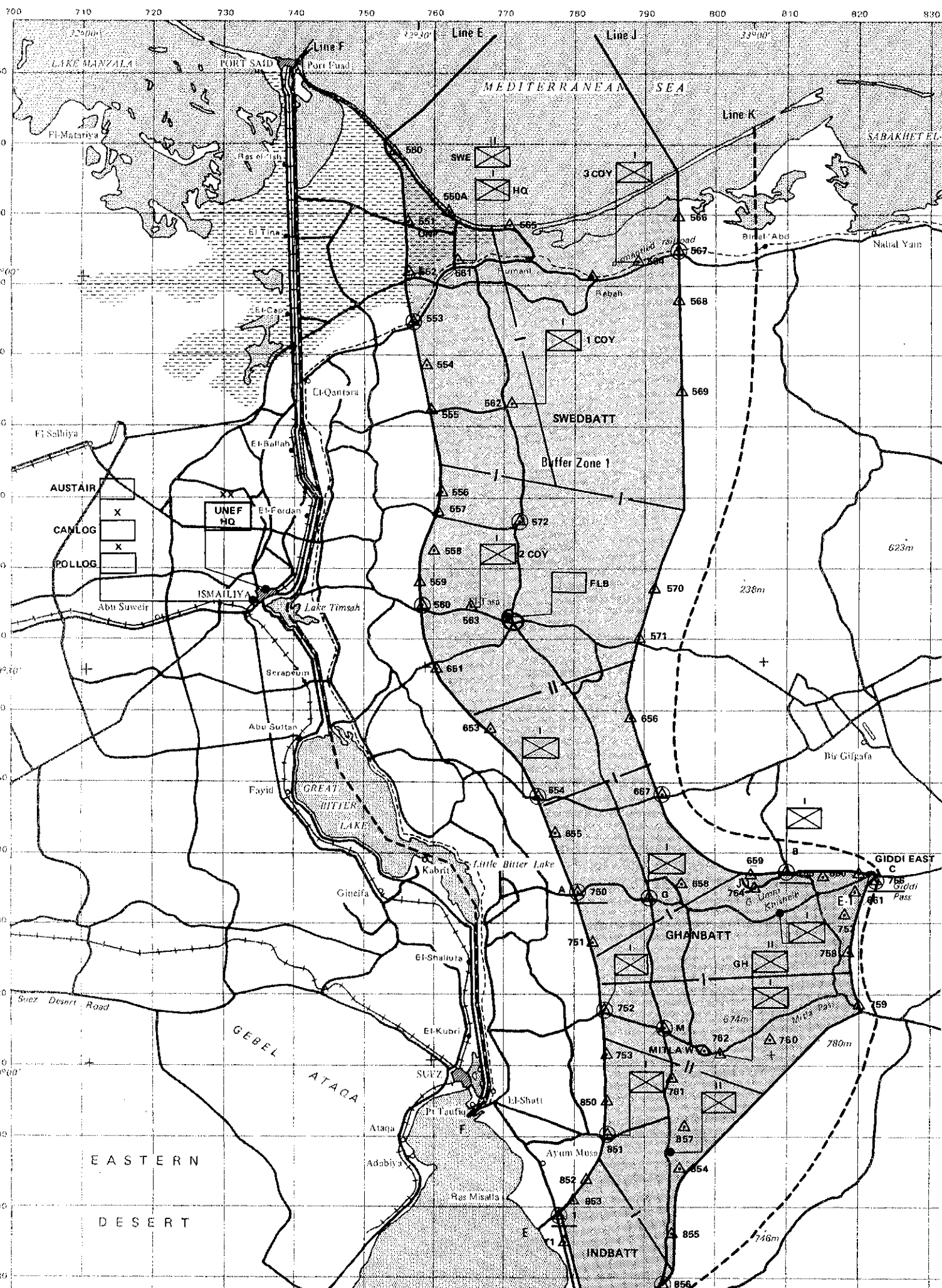
"All matters which may affect the nature or the continued effective functioning of the Force will be referred to the Council for its decision."

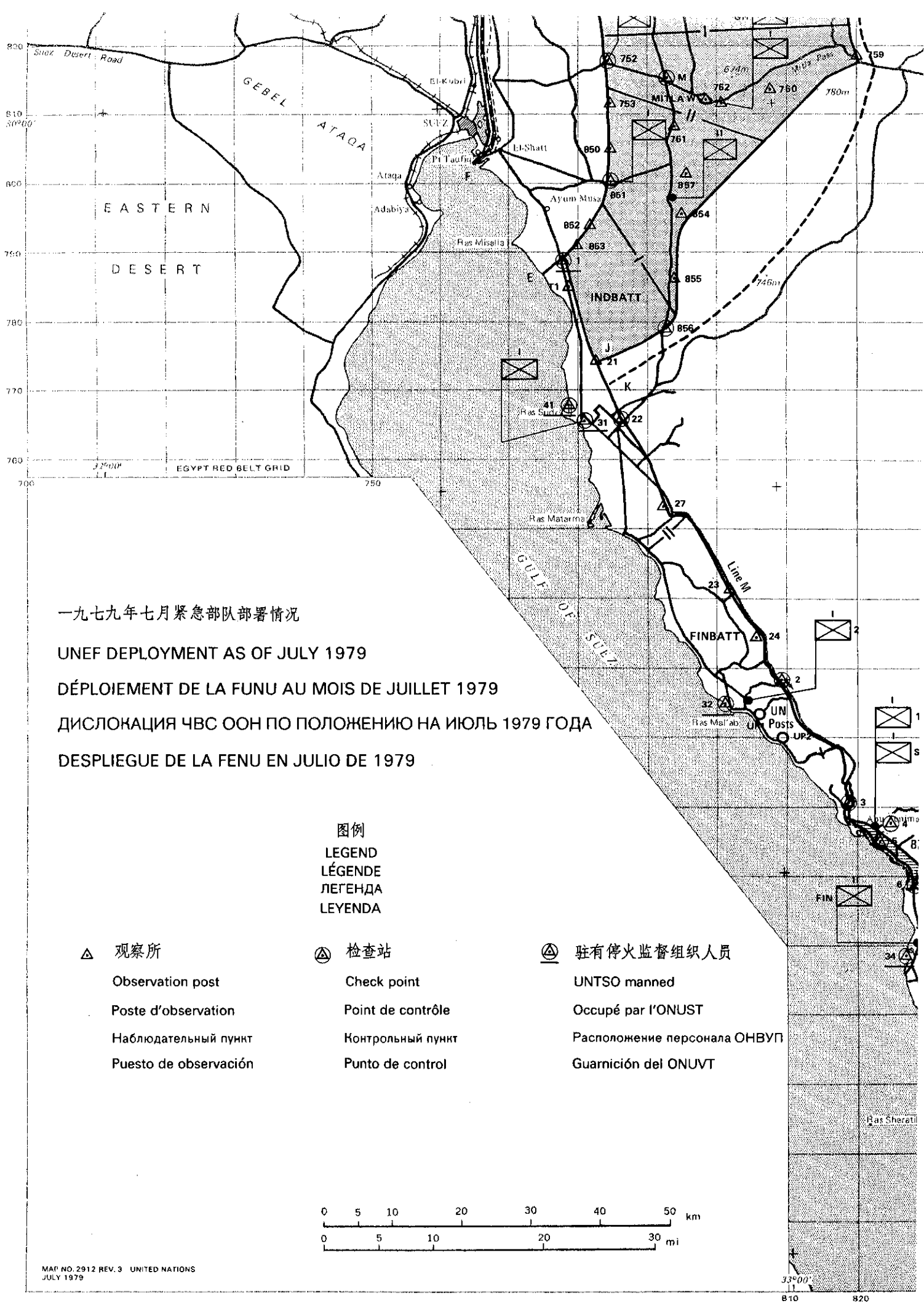
Whatever decisions the Council may reach I shall, of course, be ready to make the necessary arrangements.

34. In concluding this report, I wish to express once again my appreciation to the Governments contributing troops to the United Nations Emergency Force. I wish also to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Chief Co-ordinator of the United

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Nations Peace-keeping Missions in the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Ensio Siillasvuo; to the Commander of UNEF, Major-General Rais Abin; to the officers and men of the Force and its civilian staff, as well as the military observers of UNTSO assigned to assist UNEF in the fulfilment of its responsibilities. All of them have continued to perform with efficiency and dedication the important and difficult tasks entrusted to them by the Security Council.





一九七九年七月紧急部队部署情况
 UNEF DEPLOYMENT AS OF JULY 1979
 DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FUNU AU MOIS DE JUILLET 1979
 ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ ЧВС ООН ПО ПОЛОЖЕНИЮ НА ИЮЛЬ 1979 ГОДА
 DESPLIEGUE DE LA FENU EN JULIO DE 1979

图例
 LEGEND
 LÉGENDE
 ЛЕГЕНДА
 LEYENDA

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|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| △ 观察所 | ⊙ 检查站 | ⊙ 驻有停火监督组织人员 |
| Observation post | Check point | UNTSO manned |
| Poste d'observation | Point de contrôle | Occupé par l'ONUST |
| Наблюдательный пункт | Контрольный пункт | Расположение персонала ОНВУП |
| Puesto de observación | Punto de control | Guarnición del ONUVT |

