



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 24 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to you to express the Government of Israel's concern regarding recurring incidents in which improvised explosive devices were planted along the line between Israel and Syria with the intent to attack Israel and in direct violation of the Disengagement Agreement (1974).

On 17 November 2020, several improvised explosive devices were discovered in Israeli territory, west of the Alpha line, in the southern Golan Heights (see graphic illustration of the incident, annexed). A similar incident occurred on 3 August 2020. Both incidents took place in the same area. In response, the Israel Defense Forces struck Iranian and Syrian military targets in Syria in order to thwart further attacks.

On 18 November 2020, immediately after discovering the improvised explosive devices, the Deputy Force Commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) visited the scene and was provided with details and evidence of the incidents.

These incidents, conducted by Iran's proxies in Syria (the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Quds Force, Unit 840), prove once again that Syrian territory, including the Area of Separation, is being abused by hostile elements. The Syrian regime continues to allow Iran and its proxies to use its territory, including military facilities and infrastructure, to entrench its presence in Syria and undermine efforts to maintain stability in the region. This reflects the Syrian regime's failure to fulfil its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions and the Disengagement Agreement (1974).

These activities constitute a serious and blatant violation of the Disengagement Agreement (1974); carry the potential for serious escalation in the region; and pose a risk not only to the local civilian population, but also to the United Nations personnel on the ground.

Israel expects a thorough investigation of these incidents by UNDOF and an appropriate report to the Security Council members. Israel emphasizes the importance of a rapid return of UNDOF forces to all its positions and of it resuming the full scope of its activities prior to 2014.

Israel considers the Syrian regime responsible for any aggressive activity and attacks that originate from its territory and will continue to take all lawful measures to defend itself from attempts to carry out attacks against our country.



Israel calls upon the Security Council to condemn these recurring dangerous acts and demands a total rollback of Iran and its proxies from Syria and the removal of Iranian military infrastructure from Syrian territory.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council. I wish to inform you that an identical letter has been sent to Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

(Signed) Gilad Menashe **Erdan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the identical letters dated 24 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Graphic illustration of the 17 November 2020 incident

Alpha Line Incident (17.11.2020) 18.11.20

- Several IEDs were exposed by the IDF on Israeli territory in the southern Golan Heights
- A similar attempt to place IEDs in the same area was foiled by the IDF three months ago on August 3rd


These repeated attempts were directed by Iran's Quds Force in Syria

IEDs were neutralized by IDF Combat Engineering specialists


In response, IDF fighter jets struck Iranian Quds Force and Syrian Armed Forces targets

IDF targets included:


Storage Facilities	Military Compounds
Headquarters	Syrian Surface-to-Air Missile Batteries



IDF operating in the area



IEDs found on site



The IDF holds the Syrian regime responsible for all actions originating from its territory, and will continue to operate against Iranian entrenchment in Syria, which undermines regional stability

IDF / International Cooperation Division / SMIS

FOUO 2020