



Security Council

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS  
INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON

Introduction

1. In its resolution 523 (1982) of 18 October 1982, the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for a further interim period of three months, until 19 January 1983. The Council authorized the Force during that period to continue to carry out, with the consent of the Government of Lebanon, interim tasks in the humanitarian and administrative fields, as indicated in resolutions 511 (1982) and 519 (1982), and to assist the Government of Lebanon in assuring the security of all the inhabitants of the area without any discrimination. The Security Council also insisted that there should be no interference with the operations of UNIFIL and that the Force should have full freedom of movement in the discharge of its mandate. Further, the Council requested the Secretary-General, within the three-month period, to consult with the Government of Lebanon and to report to the Council on ways and means of ensuring the full implementation of the UNIFIL mandate as defined in resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) and the relevant decisions of the Security Council.

2. The present report contains a description of developments relating to the functioning of UNIFIL since the adoption of resolution 523 (1982).

Organization of the Force

3. As of 13 January 1983, the composition of UNIFIL was as follows:

Infantry battalions

Fiji	626
Finland	491
France	129
Ghana	556
Ireland	672
Netherlands	807
Nigeria	444
Norway	648
Senegal	557

Headquarters camp command

Ghana	146
Ireland	55

Logistic units

France	782
Italy	40
Norway	191
Sweden	<u>142</u>
	<u>6 286</u>

In addition to the above personnel, UNIFIL was assisted by 72 military observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). The number of observers, which had been temporarily reduced because of operational requirements of UNTSO in Beirut (see S/15455, para. 5), was brought back up to strength on 20 December 1982. The observers were under the operational control of the Commander of UNIFIL, Lieutenant-General William Callaghan.

4. As previously indicated (see S/15455, para. 21), the Nepalese battalion left UNIFIL, and its withdrawal was completed by 18 November 1982. The new Finnish battalion (see S/15468 and S/15469) completed its deployment on 11 December 1982. On 8 November 1982, the Government of Nigeria informed the Secretary-General that it would discontinue its participation in UNIFIL after the expiration of the current mandate. Two Nigerian companies, comprising 250 all ranks, were repatriated on 10 November 1982 at the end of their regular tour of duty. The French infantry unit remained at reduced strength in accordance with the temporary arrangement releasing the greater part of the unit to the French authorities (see S/15455, para. 4).

5. During the reporting period, six members of the Force lost their lives. Three Irish soldiers were killed in a shooting incident under circumstances which are still being clarified. One Finnish and two Ghanaian soldiers died as a result of accidents. Since UNIFIL was established, 89 members of the Force have died, 40 of them as a result of firing or mine explosions, 39 in accidents and 10 from natural causes. Some 120 have been wounded in armed clashes, shellings and mine explosions.

6. As a result of the movement of units reported in paragraph 4 above, some changes had to be made to the battalion areas of responsibility. The Norwegian battalion was assigned the area vacated by the Nepalese battalion in the eastern sector, and the Finnish battalion was deployed in an area held by the French battalion before its reduction. Minor adjustments were made to the Ghanaian, Irish and Nigerian battalion sectors. The deployment of UNIFIL as of 13 January 1983 is shown in detail on the annexed map.

7. The military observers of UNTSO continued to man the five observation posts along the armistice demarcation line and to maintain teams at Tyre, Metulla and Château de Beaufort. They also operated three mobile teams, and in December 1982 a

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fourth team was added. There has been no change in the disposition of the Lebanese army or gendarmerie personnel serving with UNIFIL. The gendarmerie has increased its activities significantly.

8. The changes mentioned in paragraph 4 above, as well as restrictions which continue to be imposed on UNIFIL, have put a strain on the logistic components of the Force. UNIFIL has continued to be denied access to Tyre and Sidon and to all areas adjacent to the coastal road. Similarly, flight clearances for the UNIFIL helicopter wing have often been denied by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), on the grounds that they would interfere with activities of the Israel Air Force. On the other hand, the reopening of the Beirut International Airport, together with an improvement of land communications between Beirut and the south, have improved the situation somewhat and have again made it possible for UNIFIL to conduct most logistic activities, including rotations, through Beirut and to revert increasingly to procurement from sources in Lebanon.

9. The French engineer company of UNIFIL continued to perform the important and risky task of searching for and demolishing or defusing unexploded mines and bombs.

#### Situation in southern Lebanon and activities of UNIFIL

10. During the reporting period, the presence and activities of IDF in the UNIFIL area were generally limited. However, IDF further developed its logistic facilities in the area, maintained patrol bases and erected temporary road-blocks. A number of local inhabitants were detained by IDF. On 23 November 1982, an Israeli unit forced its way into the Senegalese battalion headquarters and briefly questioned Lebanese army personnel stationed there. The following day, a similar attempt was foiled at the Irish battalion headquarters. On 16 December 1982, Israeli soldiers at Jwayya fired approximately 20 rounds and two illumination flares towards two Nigerian positions. On 20 December, Israeli personnel on two separate occasions fired over the heads of two members of the UNIFIL military police who were on convoy duty at the Khalde Junction south of Beirut.

11. A series of incidents involving the de facto forces (Christian and associated militias) took place following the take-over by the Norwegian battalion of the area formerly controlled by the Nepalese battalion. The incidents, commencing on 19 October 1982 and lasting for approximately a month, included the kidnapping of a soldier, hijacking of vehicles, removal of equipment and firing close to UNIFIL positions. The de facto forces also sealed off the Norwegian battalion area and increased the restrictions on UNIFIL freedom of movement within the enclave controlled by them. The reason given for the harassment was the alleged change in the procedure of UNIFIL towards a limited number of local Lebanese residents who were members of the de facto forces and who, it was claimed, had previously been able to travel to and from their homes in the UNIFIL area wearing uniforms and, occasionally, with their personal weapons. Through intensive contacts undertaken by UNIFIL with the de facto forces as well as contacts with the Israeli authorities at various levels, the kidnapped soldier was released after some 10 hours, and the hijacked vehicles and most of the equipment were returned. UNIFIL also took protective measures in respect of its positions and was able to carry out partial

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rotation of the Norwegian battalion by helicopter. The full rotation of the Norwegian battalion was eventually carried out in mid-November, and the previous arrangements regarding freedom of movement were restored.

12. With the exception of the above incidents, attempts of the de facto forces to operate within the UNIFIL area remained relatively limited. However, on a number of occasions members of the de facto forces were able to enter the area, together with Israeli military personnel. There were also several incidents in which the de facto forces fired close to UNIFIL positions.

13. During the period under review, IDF continued the recruitment and arming of selected villagers in the UNIFIL area. These irregulars have, by and large, remained inactive, with the exception of a group whose activities are centred in the village of Jwayya. In an incident on 10 December 1982, armed members of that group in two vehicles attempted to run through a UNIFIL check-point. The Fijian personnel at the check-point fired two warning shots into the air, whereupon the passengers in the vehicles opened fire. The fire was returned, and one person was killed and three were wounded. UNIFIL has made strong representations to the Israeli authorities about the arming of such groups and the risk of incidents arising from their irresponsible behaviour.

14. The number of displaced persons that sought refuge in the UNIFIL area continued to decrease, and humanitarian assistance of an emergency nature has been discontinued. UNIFIL continued its active co-operation with the regional authorities of the Lebanese Government as well as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in their longer-term activities on behalf of the local population, particularly by providing logistic support for health and education services and water supply. The Swedish medical company and the medical teams of the battalions have continued to provide medical assistance to Lebanese civilians, often with the support of the Italian helicopter wing. The number of admissions as well as of out-patients treated has remained at the high level previously reported. The Israeli authorities have continued to prevent UNIFIL from extending humanitarian assistance outside its area of operation, although the competent Lebanese authorities have requested such assistance.

15. Throughout the period, General Callaghan and his staff maintained close contact with the Government of Lebanon and the Lebanese regional authorities. They also maintained contact with IDF on matters affecting the functioning of the Force.

16. At United Nations Headquarters, consultations were held with the Permanent Representative of Lebanon concerning the implementation of resolution 523 (1982). Further, in the light of paragraph 4 of resolution 523 (1982), I asked Mr. Brian Urquhart, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, to undertake a visit to the area from 5 to 11 January 1983.

Financial aspects

17. By its resolution 37/127 A of 17 December 1982, the General Assembly, among other things, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNIFIL at a rate not to exceed \$15,229,666 gross (\$15,087,833 net) per month for the period from 19 January 1983 to 18 December 1983, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of three months authorized under its resolution 523 (1982), subject to obtaining the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the actual level of commitments to be entered into for each mandate period that may be approved subsequent to 19 January 1983. Accordingly, should the Security Council renew the UNIFIL mandate beyond 19 January 1983, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining UNIFIL during the period of extension will be within the commitment authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/127 A, assuming continuance of the Force's existing strength and responsibilities.

Observations

18. As will be seen from the above report, UNIFIL has continued to carry out the interim tasks laid down by the Secretary-General and endorsed by the Security Council after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. It has continued to do its best to maintain peace and order in its area of deployment and to prevent activities which are likely to militate against a peaceful atmosphere. I hope very much that all concerned will co-operate with UNIFIL in this endeavour. It is essential that armed incursions, acts of harassment, arbitrary arrests and other such activities should not occur. In this connection, I am glad to report that with the assistance of UNIFIL and the Lebanese battalion attached to it, the Lebanese gendarmerie is playing an increasingly active role in the maintenance of law and order in the UNIFIL area.

19. As members of the Council are aware, negotiations are now in progress on the withdrawal issue. It is clear that UNIFIL will be able to hand over its responsibilities to the Lebanese authorities only after this issue has been successfully settled. The Lebanese Government itself has stressed on numerous occasions the importance which it attaches to the continued presence of UNIFIL at this juncture. I do not need to emphasize also that the presence of UNIFIL is an important factor in ensuring the well-being and prosperity of the now sizeable civilian population of its area of deployment.

20. The Lebanese Government has requested the extension of the UNIFIL mandate for a further period of six months. The text of the letter addressed to me by the Permanent Representative of Lebanon is annexed to the present report. The details of any new tasks for UNIFIL would, of course, need to be carefully considered in advance. It is evident, however, that only when the current negotiations are completed will it be possible to define in detail the future role of UNIFIL as envisaged by the Government of Lebanon.

21. I have been in constant contact with the representatives of the troop-contributing Governments, whose steadfast support of UNIFIL and its mission has

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been of immeasurable value. These Governments have indicated their willingness to continue to provide contingents to UNIFIL for a further period. However, as indicated earlier in this report, the Government of Nigeria has informed me of its intention to withdraw its contingent at the end of the present mandate.

22. A withdrawal of UNIFIL before the Lebanese Government is in a position to take over with its own security forces would unquestionably have grave consequences. It would be a serious blow to the early restoration of the authority of the Lebanese Government in southern Lebanon and could lead to violent incidents between the various factions in the UNIFIL area, which would once again jeopardize the safety of the civilian population.

23. For these reasons I consider it essential that the mandate of UNIFIL should once again be extended. I recommend this course of action to the Security Council, bearing in mind the request of the Government of Lebanon and the views of others concerned. In this connection, I should mention that the Government of Israel has expressed the view that UNIFIL should not at the present time be extended for more than two or three months.

24. I wish, once again, to express the earnest hope that if the Council decides to extend the mandate of UNIFIL, all concerned will give their complete co-operation to the Force in order to enable it fully to carry out the tasks entrusted to it by the Security Council.

25. In recommending a further extension of UNIFIL, I must draw the Security Council's attention to the financial difficulties faced by the Force. There is, as of January 1983, an accumulated shortfall in the UNIFIL Special Account of some \$152 million. As a result, the Organization is falling far behind in the reimbursement of the troop-contributing countries, placing an unfair and increasingly heavy burden on them. I am extremely concerned about this state of affairs and, therefore, appeal to Member States to pay their assessments. I would like also to appeal to Member States to consider making available, as a practical measure, voluntary contributions to the UNIFIL Suspense Account, to be used for the reimbursement of Governments contributing troops, equipment and supplies to UNIFIL.

26. In concluding this report, I wish to express, once again, my deep appreciation to the troop-contributing countries for their steadfast support to the Force during the present critical period. I also wish to pay tribute to the Commander of UNIFIL, Lieutenant-General William Callaghan, and his staff, civilian and military, and to the officers and men of UNIFIL as well as to the UNTSO military observers assigned to the area. They have performed their tasks with exemplary dedication and courage in extremely difficult circumstances.

Annex

LETTER DATED 13 JANUARY 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF LEBANON ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

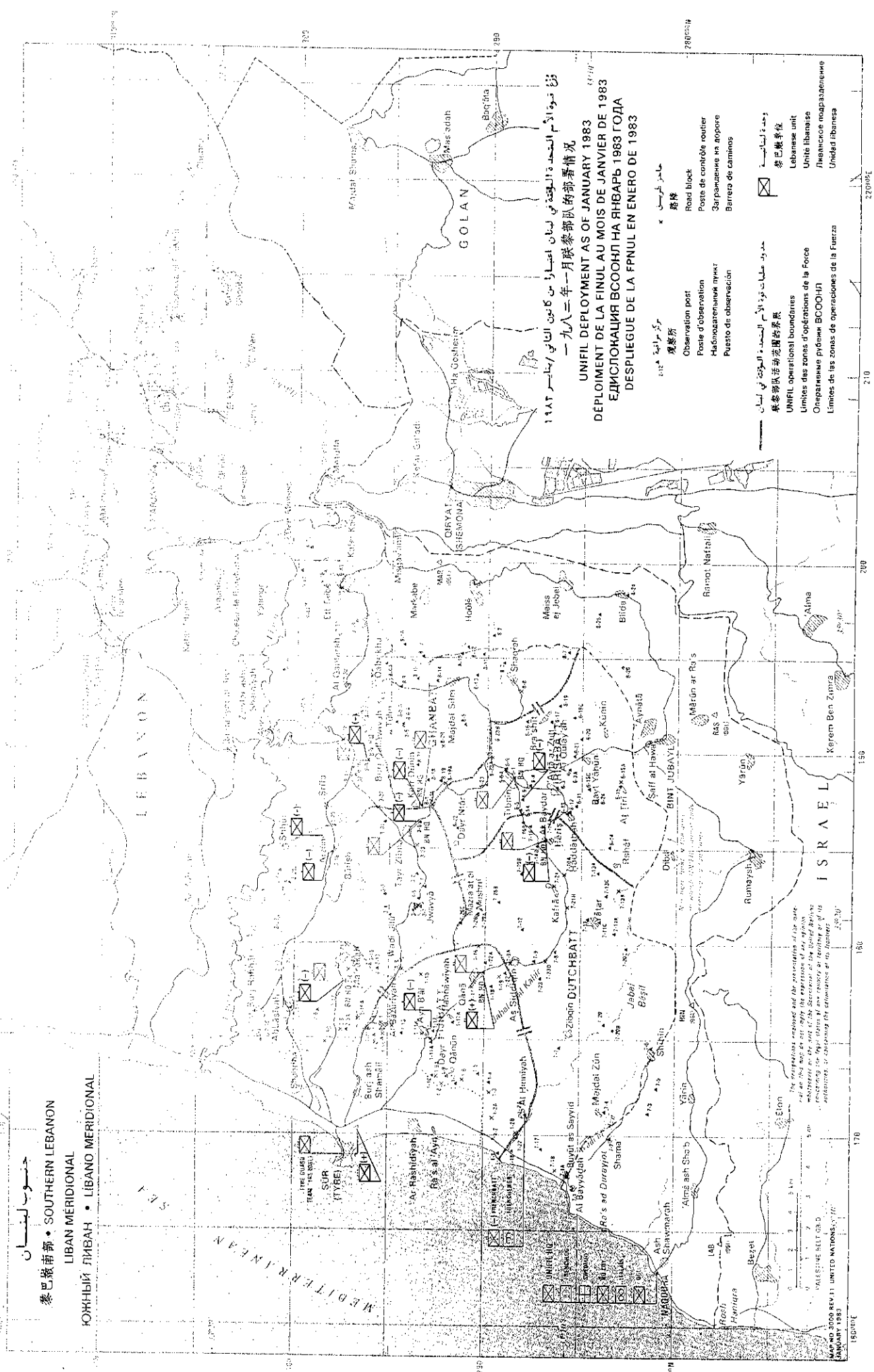
On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the mandate of UNIFIL, which is to be renewed before 19 January 1983, be considered in the light of the following:

1. That the UNIFIL mandate be extended for another interim period of six months. This is a practical consideration which we feel will have a general stabilizing effect in the region.
2. My Government feels that because of the changing circumstances, the UNIFIL area of operations should be extended to cover the whole country for the purpose of confirming the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces and armed elements from Lebanon, restoring international peace and security and assisting the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority.
3. The Government of Lebanon wishes that such expanded deployment be carried out as soon as all non-Lebanese forces and armed elements withdraw from the country.
4. My Government does not wish, neither does it envisage, any involvement by UNIFIL in any clash or conflict between Lebanese factions or groups. It is the view of my Government that dealing with such incidents is the sole responsibility of Lebanon's security forces.
5. My Government seeks a UNIFIL role which would support the Lebanese army and provide it with the required assistance to restore the effective authority of the Lebanese Government throughout Lebanon.
6. Lebanon is not asking at present for any increase in the number of UNIFIL troops.

I should be most grateful to Your Excellency if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kesrouan LABAKI

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جنوب لبنان  
 黎巴嫩南部 • SOUTHERN LEBANON  
 LIBAN MÉRIDIONAL  
 ЮЖНЫЙ ЛИБАНОН • LIBANO MERIDIONAL

وضع قوت الأمم المتحدة للوقف في لبنان اعتباراً من كانون الثاني/يناير 1983  
 一九八三年一月联合国停战部队部署情况  
 UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT AS OF JANUARY 1983  
 DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FINUL AU MOIS DE JANVIER DE 1983  
 ЭДИСЛОКАЦІЯ ВООЮНІ НА ЯНВАРЬ 1983 ГОДА  
 DESPLIEGUE DE LA FPNUL EN ENERO DE 1983

- |              |                           |  |                               |
|--------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| مركز مراقبة  | Observation post          | حدود عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف في لبنان | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| مركز مراقبة  | Poste d'observation       | حدود مناطق النشاط لفرقة الأمم المتحدة للوقف  | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| حصار طرق     | Road block                | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| حصار طرق     | Poste de contrôle routier | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| حصار طرق     | Заряженіе на дороге       | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| حصار طرق     | Barre de camions          | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| وحدة لبنانية | Lebanese unit             | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| وحدة لبنانية | Unité libanaise           | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| وحدة لبنانية | Ливанское подразделение   | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |
| وحدة لبنانية | Unidad libanesa           | حدود مناطق عمليات قوة الأمم المتحدة للوقف    | UNIFIL operational boundaries |

The map is prepared and the positions of the units are as they appear on the ground. The positions of the units are as they appear on the ground. The positions of the units are as they appear on the ground.

MAP NO. 1000 REV. 11 UNITED NATIONS, 1983  
 JANUARY 1983