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Further report on the status of the cease-fire
in the Middle East

The following report on the situation on 7 December 1973 in the Egypt-Israel sector is based on information received from the headquarters of UNEP and UNTSO:

1. Reports on ground activity:

(a) Austrian battalion:

Position 103 (AMR 139-580): 1/ Between 1753 2/ and 1754 and between 1957 and 1958 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces.

(b) Finnish battalion:

Headquarters: Between 0000 and 0800 sporadic small arms and machine-gun fire by Egyptian and Israel forces in Suez city area (not exchange of fire).

(c) Irish battalion:

Position 501 (AMR 443-186): At 0525 one round of small arms fire south-west of Position 501 by unidentified forces. At 1624 one round of small arms fire from south-west of Position 501 by Egyptian forces. At 1815 machine-gun fire, which ceased immediately, from south-south-west of Position 501 by Egyptian forces.

(d) Swedish battalion:

(i) Position 1103 (AMR 226-803): At 0050 small arms fire, which ceased immediately, north of Position 1103 by unidentified forces. At 0418 machine-gun fire, which ceased immediately, west of Position 1103 by unidentified forces. At 0448 machine-gun fire, which ceased immediately, from south-south-west of Position 1103 by unidentified forces. Between 0615 and 0620 exchange of small arms fire west-south-west of Position 1103 by Egyptian and Israel forces. (It was not possible to determine which force fired first.) At 0916 machine-gun fire, which ceased immediately, west-south-west of Position 1103 by Egyptian and Israel forces (exchange of fire). (It was not possible to determine which force fired first.) Between 2054 and 2244 small arms and machine-gun fire north-north-west of Position 1103 by Egyptian forces.

1/ AMR - approximate map reference.

2/ All times GMT.

- (ii) Position 1123 (AMR 426-195): At 0115 small arms fire west-north-west of Position 1123 by unidentified forces. At 0232 machine-gun fire, which ceased immediately, west-north-west of Position 1123 by unidentified forces.
- (iii) Position 1106 (AMR 273-811): Between 0820 and 0821 and at 0950 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces from north of Position 1106 at Israel forces bulldozer in area. At 1015 machine-gun fire by Israel forces at Egyptian positions in area 1106. At 1400 one round of anti-tank gun fire and at 1406 one round of anti-tank and machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces at Israel forces bulldozer south of Position 1106. At 1405 one round of anti-tank gun fire and at 1406 machine-gun fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). At 1407 both forces ceased firing.
- (iv) Position 1102 (AMR 268-813): At 1020 small arms fire by Egyptian forces, which ceased immediately, from north of Position 1102 to Israel positions south of Position 1102. Between 1727 and 2218 sporadic machine-gun fire north of Position 1102 by Egyptian forces.
- (v) Position 1101 (AMR 286-809): Between 1645 and 1727 small arms fire north of Position 1101 by Egyptian forces.
- (vi) Position 1104 (AMR 168-795): Between 1658 and 1919 sporadic small arms fire north of Position 1104 by Egyptian forces.
- (e) UNTSO Patrol 21 (AMR 7520-9110): Between 0610 and 0630 machine-gun fire by Israel forces north-west of patrol location. Between 0811 and 1100 several heavy explosions north-north-west of patrol 21 location. (It was not possible to identify origin.)

2. Reports on air activity:

Finnish battalion:

Position 228 (AMR 552-173): Between 0822 and 0823 one unidentified jet aircraft flying north to south, was first observed north of Suez city and last observed south of Suez city. (Identification not possible due to high altitude.)

3. Complaints by the parties:

(a) A complaint has been received from Egypt alleging that on 7 December between 0814 and 0821 Israel forces aircraft overflew Egyptian air space from Kabrit to Sa Farana (100 kilometers south of Suez city).

The above complaint was not confirmed by United Nations observation.

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(b) Complaints have been received from Israel alleging that:

On 6 December:

- (i) At 0710 and 1305 Egyptian forces opened fire south-east of Abu Suweir (AMR 7229-8730).
- (ii) At 0730 and 2200 Egyptian forces opened fire in the area of former OP Orange (AMR 7605-8415).
- (iii) At 0800, 0950 and 1730 Egyptian forces opened fire approximately 16 kilometers south-west of Fayid (AMR 7410-8450).
- (iv) At 0925 Egyptian forces opened fire 12 kilometers south-west of Fayid.
- (v) At 0945 Egyptian forces moved forward 12 kilometers south-west of Fayid.
- (vi) At 1200 Egyptian forces opened fire east of El Ballah (AMR 7401-8960).
- (vii) At 1750 Egyptian forces moved forward and opened fire east of Lake Timsah.
- (viii) At 1950 Egyptian forces opened fire near city of Suez.
- (ix) At 2100 Egyptian forces moved forward and opened fire in area of the Bitter Lake near former OP Orange.
- (x) At 2150 Egyptian forces opened fire east of Kantara.

On 7 December:

- (xi) At 0140 Egyptian forces opened fire north-east of Kantara.
- (xii) At 0625 Egyptian forces opened fire south of Abu Suweir.
- (xiii) At 0800 Egyptian forces opened fire east of Ismailia.
- (xiv) At 0820 Egyptian forces moved forward east of Port Taufik (AMR 7660-8040).
- (xv) At 0850 and 1400 Egyptian forces opened fire near Nifisha (AMR 7335-7838).

The above complaints were not confirmed by United Nations observation.

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4. Firing on or close to United Nations personnel and installations:

Swedish battalion:

Position 1106 (AMR 273-811): At 0950 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces passed within 10 meters of UNEF personnel. There were no casualties or damage.
