

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/11057/Add.228
13 January 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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

The following report on the situation on 12 January 1974 in the Egypt-Israel sector is based on information received from the headquarters of UNEF and UNTSO:

1. General assessment of the situation:

There was a marked increase in activity on 12 January, particularly in the Austrian battalion area, where heavy exchanges of artillery and mortar fire occurred.

Over-all a total of twenty exchanges of fire were observed, seven initiated by Egyptian forces, four by Israel forces and nine by unidentified forces. In addition, there were forty-five cases of firing not involving exchanges, twenty-one by Egyptian forces, nineteen by Israel forces and five by unidentified forces.

No significant activity occurred in the Finnish battalion area. There were no problems with the convoys, with sixteen trucks being unloaded at OP Kilo (AMR 7660-8252) 1/ and forty-five in Suez City.

The Swedish battalion and Irish battalion reported moderate activity.

2. Reports on ground activity (firings):

(a) Austrian battalion:

- (i) Position 101 (AMR 136-730): Between 0626 2/ and 0640 machine-gun fire by Egyptian and Israel forces (exchange of fire; it was not possible to determine which party commenced firing owing to distance). Between 0832 and 0850, between 0905 and 0925 and between 1300 and 1317 artillery fire by Egyptian forces. Between 2022 and 2037 machine-gun fire by Israel forces.

1/ AMR - approximate map reference. It should be noted that UNTSO has been using the Egyptian Red Grid system, but UNEF, for technical reasons, has had to adopt temporarily the Universal Transverse Mercator system. UNEF will change to the Egyptian Red Grid system as soon as the required maps are available.

2/ All times GMT.

- (ii) Position 104 (AMR 732-834): Between 0740 and 0750 machine-gun fire by Israel forces. Between 0850 and 0855 small-arms fire and between 1710 and 1715 artillery fire by Egyptian forces.
 - (iii) Position 102 (AMR 157-627): Between 0750 and 0815 artillery fire by Egyptian forces. Between 1205 and 1242 tank and artillery fire, between 1310 and 1335 mortar fire and between 1425 and 1530 artillery fire by Israel forces. Between 2040 and 2045 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces.
 - (iv) Position 107 (AMR 411-370): At 0800 artillery fire by Egyptian forces and at 0802 artillery fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). At 0840 Israel forces ceased firing and at 0920 Egyptian forces ceased firing. Between 0945 and 0950 artillery fire by Israel forces.
 - (v) Position 106 (AMR 418-379): Between 0805 and 0810 and between 1035 and 1047 artillery fire by Egyptian forces. At 1213 artillery fire by Israel forces and at 1300 artillery fire by Egyptian forces (exchange of fire). At 1305 Egyptian forces ceased firing and at 1309 Israel forces ceased firing.
 - (vi) Position 108 (AMR 413-352): At 0815 artillery fire by Israel forces and at 0817 artillery fire by Egyptian forces (exchange of fire). At 0905 Israel forces ceased firing and at 0925 Egyptian forces ceased firing. Between 0920 and 1005 tank and artillery fire by Israel forces. Between 1005 and 1017 artillery fire by Egyptian forces. Between 1040 and 1100 and at 1207 artillery fire by Israel forces and at 1208 artillery and tank fire by Egyptian forces (exchange of fire). At 1340 both parties ceased firing. At 1425 machine-gun and mortar fire by Israel forces and at 1426 machine-gun and mortar fire by Egyptian forces (exchange of fire). At 1429 both parties ceased firing. At 1440 artillery fire by Israel forces and immediately afterwards artillery fire by Egyptian forces (exchange of fire). At 1526 both parties ceased firing.
 - (vii) Position 103 (AMR 139-580): At 0816 artillery and tank fire by Israel forces and immediately afterwards artillery and tank fire by Egyptian forces (exchange of fire). At 0950 Israel forces ceased firing and at 1030 Egyptian forces ceased firing. At 1235 artillery fire by Egyptian forces and at 1305 artillery and tank fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). At 1330 Egyptian forces ceased firing but resumed mortar fire between 1437 and 1512. At 1526 Israel forces ceased firing.
- (b) Irish battalion:
- (i) Position 502 (AMR 393-046): Between 0020 and 0100 machine-gun fire by unidentified forces. Identification was not possible owing to darkness. Between 0705 and 0713 machine-gun fire and between 0815 and 1105 mortar and artillery fire and between 1125 and 1320 artillery fire by unidentified forces. Identification was not possible owing to distance. Between 1140 and 1145 small-arms fire by Israel forces. At 1710

machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces and at 1711 machine-gun fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). At 1830 both parties ceased firing. At 2020 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces and at 2021 machine-gun fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). At 2045 both parties ceased firing.

(ii) Position 501 (AMR 443-186): Between 0850 and 0905 and between 0930 and 1100 mortar fire by Egyptian forces. At 1810 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces and at 1850 machine-gun fire by Israel forces (exchange of fire). At 1912 both parties ceased firing.

(c) Swedish battalion:

(i) Position 1104 (AMR 168-795): Between 0207 and 0339 small-arms fire by Egyptian forces. Between 0831 and 0955 and between 1202 and 1350 artillery and mortar fire by Egyptian and Israel forces (exchange of fire; it was not possible to determine which party commenced or ceased firing first owing to distance).

(ii) Position 1106 (AMR 273-811): Between 0545 and 0635 machine-gun fire by Israel forces. Between 0909 and 0911 and between 1055 and 1056 mortar fire by Egyptian forces.

(iii) Position 1107 (AMR 325-787): Between 1100 and 1115 machine-gun fire by Israel forces.

(iv) Position 1121 (AMR 390-065): Between 1750 and 1802 and between 1820 and 1825 machine-gun fire by Egyptian and Israel forces (exchange of fire; it was not possible to determine which party commenced or ceased firing first owing to darkness).

(d) UNTSO Patrols:

(i) Patrol 27 (AMR 7260-8540): Between 1040 and 1108 artillery fire by Egyptian forces.

Patrol 27 (AMR 7260-8560): Between 1305 and 1350 artillery fire by unidentified forces. Identification was not possible owing to distance.

(ii) Patrol 15 (AMR 7326-8347): Between 0830 and 1035 and between 1223 and 1250 artillery fire and between 1705 and 1713 machine-gun fire by Egyptian forces.

(iii) Patrol 14 (AMR 7225-8540): Between 1040 and 1100 small-arms fire by Egyptian forces. Between 1101 and 1105, between 1205 and 1245, between 1305 and 1342 and between 1426 and 1532 artillery fire by Israel forces.

(iv) Patrol 17 (AMR 7570-7950): Between 1047 and 1230 small-arms fire by Israel forces.

- (v) Patrol 12 (AMR 7455-9005): Between 1751 and 1825 machine-gun fire by Egyptian and Israel forces (exchange of fire; it was not possible to determine which party commenced or ceased firing first owing to distance).
- (vi) Patrol 21 (AMR 7520-9125): Between 1820 and 1903 machine-gun and mortar fire by Egyptian and Israel forces (exchange of fire; it was not possible to determine which party commenced or ceased firing first owing to distance).

3. Complaints by the parties:

(a) Complaints have been received from Egypt alleging that on 12 January:

- (i) At 0800 Israel forces opened artillery fire 30 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (ii) At 1015 Israel forces opened artillery fire 20 kilometres west of Suez.
- (iii) At 1055 Israel forces opened tank fire 35 kilometres north-west of Suez and artillery fire 15 kilometres west of Fayid.
- (iv) At 1205 Israel forces opened tank fire 15 kilometres west of Fayid.

The above complaints were not confirmed by United Nations observation.

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

On 11 January:

- (i) At 0100 Egyptian forces opened fire 10 kilometres south-west of Fayid.
- (ii) At 0625 Egyptian forces opened fire east of kilometre 56 of the Suez Canal.
- (iii) At 0643 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire east of El Ballah.
- (iv) At 0700 Egyptian forces opened fire east of the Little Bitter Lake.
- (v) At 0750 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire south-east of El Ballah.
- (vi) At 0815 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 13 kilometres south-west of Fayid.
- (vii) At 0821 Egyptian forces opened artillery and tank fire 12 kilometres south-west of Fayid.
- (viii) At 0852 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 17 kilometres west of Fayid.

- (ix) At 0855 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 12 kilometres south-west of Fayid.
- (x) At 0920 Egyptian forces opened fire 8 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xi) At 0940 Egyptian forces opened artillery and anti-tank fire south of Nifisha.
- (xii) At 1100 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire south of Nifisha.
- (xiii) At 1115 and 1200 Egyptian forces opened fire east of El Ballah.
- (xiv) At 1130 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire east of kilometre 52 of the Suez Canal.
- (xv) At 1145 Egyptian forces moved forward and opened fire in the western part of Suez City.
- (xvi) At 1200 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire south-west of Nifisha.
- (xvii) At 1216 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire south-east of Nifisha.
- (xviii) At 1230 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire south-west of Ismailia.
- (xix) At 1400 Egyptian forces opened fire with anti-tank missiles and recoilless rifles south of Nifisha.
- (xx) At 1400 Egyptian forces opened fire east of the Little Bitter Lake.
- (xxi) At 1600 Egyptian forces opened fire and moved forward in the Ayun Musa area.
- (xxii) At 1630 and 1915 Egyptian forces opened fire south-west of Fayid.
- (xxiii) At 2115 Egyptian forces opened heavy artillery fire east of kilometre 63 of the Suez Canal.
- (xxiv) At 2129 Egyptian helicopters overflew the Gebel Ataga area.

On 12 January:

- (xxv) At 0630 and 0840 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 9 kilometres north-west of Fayid.
- (xxvi) At 0750 Egyptian forces moved forward 10 kilometres south-west of Fayid.
- (xxvii) At 0755 Egyptian forces opened fire 10 kilometres south-west of Fayid.
- (xxviii) At 0800 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 11 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.

- (xxix) At 0815, 0955 and 1000 Egyptian forces opened fire east of the Small Bitter Lake.
- (xxx) At 0820 Egyptian forces opened fire east of former OP Red (AMR 7671-8139).
- (xxxi) At 0835 Egyptian forces fired Katyusha rockets 11 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xxxii) At 0843 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 7 kilometres south-west of Abu Suweir.
- (xxxiii) At 0852 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 5 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xxxiv) At 0900 Egyptian forces opened fire at kilometre 138 of the Suez Canal.
- (xxxv) At 0901 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 10 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xxxvi) At 0905 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 7 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xxxvii) At 0910 Egyptian forces opened fire at kilometre 152 of the Suez Canal.
- (xxxviii) At 0920 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 8 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xxxix) At 0925 Egyptian forces opened fire south-east of Ismailia.
- (xl) At 0935 Egyptian forces opened fire east of former OP Pink (AMR 7661-8280).
- (xli) At 0943 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 14 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xlii) At 1025 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 12 kilometres north-west of Fayid.
- (xliii) At 1030 Egyptian forces opened mortar fire 5 kilometres south-east of kilometre 101 of the Cairo-Suez Road.
- (xliv) At 1040 Egyptian forces opened artillery fire 15 kilometres south of Abu Suweir.
- (xlv) At 1205 Egyptian forces opened fire 10 kilometres west of Fayid.

Complaint (xvii) was confirmed by United Nations observation (see S/11057/Add.225, para. 2 (d), (iii)). Complaint (xxviii) was confirmed by United Nations observation (see paragraph 2 (a), (iv) above). Complaints (xxxvi) and

(xxxviii) were confirmed by United Nations observation (see paragraph 2 (a), (i) above). Complaint (xliv) was confirmed by United Nations observation (see paragraph 2 (a), (v) above). Complaints (xxxi) and (xxxv) were not confirmed by United Nations observation but may be related to the incidents reported in paragraph 2 (a), (i) above. The other complaints were not confirmed by United Nations observation.

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

(a) Austrian battalion: Position 104: Between 0850 and 0855 small-arms fire by Egyptian forces passed within 10 metres of the position (see paragraph 2 (a), (ii) above).

(b) Irish battalion: Position 502: Between 1711 and 1830 several bursts of small-arms fire by unidentified forces passed within 5 metres of the position (see paragraph 2 (b), (i) above).

No casualties or damage to United Nations installations were reported in either case.

