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

The Chief of Staff of UNTSO has reported that, in addition to the recurrent incursions near border pillars 11, 19 and 33 (see S/11057/Add.409, para. 2), the following developments took place in the Israel-Lebanon sector on 21 April 1974:

1. Reports on ground activity:

(a) OP Mar: 1/ Between 0553 2/ and 0602 machine-gun fire by Israel forces across the armistice demarcation line (ADL). Between 1046 and 1105 mortar fire by Israel forces across the ADL.

(b) OP Khiam: Between 1410 and 1455 mortar fire by unidentified forces south-east of OP.

2. Reports on air activity:

(a) OP Mar: Between 0334 and 0457 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed the ADL east-north-east of OP (14 overflights). Between 0504 and 0557 and between 0604 and 0638 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed the ADL east-north-east of OP (14 overflights). Between 0704 and 0757 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed the ADL east-north-east of OP (seven overflights). Between 0905 and 0958 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed the ADL east-north-east of OP (three overflights). Between 1005 and 1029 and between 1109 and 1139 four Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed the ADL east-north-east of OP (seven overflights). Between 1309 and 1310 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, then turning east, crossed the ADL south of OP and recrossed the ADL east-north-east of OP (confirmed by OP Khiam).

1/ The location of the observation posts are given in document S/11057.

2/ All times GMT.

(b) OP Khiam: Between 1212 and 1215 two Israel forces jet aircraft, flying north to south, were first observed west-south-west of OP and last observed south-south-west of OP. Between 1216 and 1217 one Israel forces jet aircraft, flying south to north, crossed into Lebanon south-east of OP and was last observed north-east of OP.

3. Complaints by the parties:

Complaints have been received from Lebanon alleging that:

On 20 April:

- (i) From 0535 to 1510 Israel forces jet aircraft overflew Lebanese territory in different areas in several passes of two to four aircraft during each overflight.
- (ii) An Israel forces mechanized patrol penetrated into Lebanese territory in the region of Chebaa (AMR 2200-3055) and after firing some automatic weapon bursts occupied a position at AMR 2209-3045 throughout the day.

On 21 April:

- (iii) At 0340 three Israel forces tanks located at Tal El Chaahar, close to Chebaa, fired with machine-guns at a civilian car. No injuries to personnel were reported. The Lebanese authorities requested that UNTSO carry out an inquiry into this incident.

Complaint (i) was confirmed by United Nations observation (see S/11057/Add.421, para. 2). Complaint (ii) was not confirmed, as it was beyond UNTSO observation range. Complaint (iii) was not confirmed, as no physical evidence was seen by United Nations military observers (see paragraph 4 below).

4. UNTSO inquiry on complaint:

With reference to complaint (iii) in paragraph 3 above, the Chief of Staff of UNTSO authorized an inquiry to be conducted by United Nations military observers.

The inquiry took place between 0825 and 0945 on 21 April. One military observer from OP Hin and another from OP Ras visited the location (AMR 2189-3045) near the entrance to the village of Chebaa where a Lebanese civilian vehicle had allegedly been fired at. The military observers were accompanied by a Lebanese liaison officer.

Witnesses in the area stated that at 0340 on 21 April a Lebanese taxi with five passengers was hit and damaged near the entrance to the village of Chebaa by Israel forces machine-gun fire from Tal El Chaahar. They further stated that no one was injured.

No physical evidence relevant to the alleged incident was seen in the area.