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

The Chief of Staff of UNTSO has submitted the following report on developments which took place in the Israel-Lebanon sector during the period 14 to 20 October 1974.

1. During the period under review ground activity incidents increased slightly compared with the previous week while air activity incidents and tension in the area remained at the same level.
2. Israel forces personnel continued to occupy daily, during daylight hours, three positions on the Lebanese side of the armistice demarcation line (ADL) near border pillars 11 (AMR 1799-2788), 1/ 19 (AMR 1907-2749) and 33 (AMR 2004-2904).
3. There were 42 cases of firing across the ADL, two of which involved exchanges of fire, and two crossing violations. These were reported on the dates given below:

(a) OP Lab (AMR 1643-2772), south of the village of Labouna, reported flares by Israel forces on 18 October and one crossing violation by seven Israel forces personnel on 16 October (maximum penetration 50 metres).

(b) OP Hin (AMR 1770-2790), east of the Village of Marouahine, reported artillery fire on 18 and 20 October, mortar fire on 18 October, flares and machine-gun fire on 20 October, all by Israel forces. It also observed one crossing violation by 15 Israel forces personnel on 20 October (maximum penetration 200 metres).

(c) OP Ras (AMR 1920-2785), south-east of the village of Maroun Er Ras, reported machine-gun fire by Israel forces on 16, 18 and 19 October. An exchange of machine-gun and small-arms fire between Israel forces and unidentified forces south-east of OP was reported on 15 October.

(d) OP Mar (AMR 1998-2921), south-east of the village of Markaba, reported artillery fire on 14, 15 and 18 October, flares on 15 October, machine-gun fire on 16, 17 18 and 20 October, and mortar fire on 18 October, all by Israel forces. It also reported machine-gun fire by unidentified forces on 19 October.

1/ AMR: Approximate map reference.

(e) OP Khiam (AMR 2071-3025), south of the village of El Khiam, reported flares on 15 and 16 October, artillery fire on 19 and 20 October, mortar fire on 19 October, all by Israel forces, and mortar fire by unidentified forces on 15 October. An exchange of machine-gun and small-arms fire between Israel forces and unidentified forces south-south-west of OP was also reported on 20 October.

4. There were 12 overflights reported during the period. Overflights by Israel forces jet aircraft were reported on 14, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 20 (one each day) and on 17 October (four). Overflights by Israel forces light aircraft were reported on 14 and 16 October.

5. The Lebanese authorities submitted 32 complaints during the period under review as follows:

(a) Nine complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces fire fell on Lebanese territory. Eight of these complaints were confirmed by United Nations observation, except for damage.

(b) Eight complaints concerned Israel forces jet aircraft overflights. Seven of these complaints were confirmed.

(c) Two complaints concerned Israel forces light aircraft overflights. One of these complaints was confirmed.

(d) Five complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces crossed into Lebanese territory. One of these complaints was confirmed. Four of these complaints were not confirmed because the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

(e) Two complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces naval vessels had penetrated Lebanese territorial waters. None of these complaints was confirmed due to darkness.

(f) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces patrols had penetrated Lebanese territory in the region of Chebaa (AMR 2200-3055). None of these complaints was confirmed; the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

6. One inquiry was conducted by United Nations military observers during the period under review following receipt of a complaint alleging that on 18 October Israel forces personnel constructed a minefield encircled by barbed wire inside Lebanese territory at AMR 1700-2780. At the request of the Lebanese authorities, the Chief of Staff of UNTSO authorized an inquiry which took place on 20 October. The complaint was confirmed in so far as construction of a barbed wire fence inside Lebanese territory was concerned.
