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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 28 October to 3 November 1974.

1. The number of ground and air activity incidents during the period decreased compared with the previous week.
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 thirty-one cases of firing across the ADL, two of which involved exchanges of fire, and four crossing violations. These were reported on the dates given below:
  - (a) OP Lab (AMR 1643-2772), south of the village of Labouna, reported small-arms fire on 1 November by Israel forces.
  - (b) OP Hin (AMR 1770-2790), east of the village of Marouahine, reported artillery and mortar fire on 30 October by Israel forces and mortar fire on the same day by unidentified forces north-east of the OP. It also reported one crossing violation by 18 Israel forces soldiers on 30 October (maximum penetration 5 metres).
  - (c) OP Ras (AMR 1920-2785), south-east of the village of Maroun Er Ras, reported machine-gun fire on 29 October and 1 November, small-arms fire on 30 October and 1 November, and artillery fire and flares on 31 October, all by Israel forces.
  - (d) OP Mar (AMR 1998-2921), south-east of the village of Markaba, reported artillery and machine-gun fire on 28 October, small-arms fire on 29 October and mortar fire on 31 October, all by Israel forces.

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1/ AMR - approximate map reference.

(e) OP Khiam (AMR 2071-3025), south of the village of El Khiam, reported artillery fire on 28 and 31 October and 1 and 2 November and mortar fire on 30 October and 1 November, all by Israel forces.

(f) Naqoura Outstation (AMR 1629-2805), on the coast near the village of Naqoura, reported an exchange of fire on 29 October between Israel and Lebanese forces (between 0955 hours GMT and 1001 hours GMT artillery fire by Lebanese forces and between 0957 hours GMT and 0959 hours GMT naval heavy machine-gun fire by Israel forces). An exchange of fire was also reported on 30 October (between 2225 hours GMT and 2305 hours GMT naval gun fire by an unidentified naval vessel and between 2235 and 2245 artillery and machine-gun fire by unidentified forces from the vicinity of Rachidiye (AMR 1705-2933); United Nations military observers were unable to identify the naval vessel or the forces owing to darkness (see S/11057/Add.548). The Outstation also reported that one Israel forces naval vessel and one unidentified naval vessel penetrated Lebanese territorial waters on 29 and 30 October, respectively.

(g) A mobile patrol, while located at AMR 2094-2997, reported one crossing violation by 15 Israel forces soldiers on 28 October (maximum penetration 500 metres).

4. There were thirteen overflights reported during the period. Overflights by Israel forces jet aircraft were reported on 28, 29, 30 and 31 October and on 3 November (one each day) and on 30 October and on 1 November (two each day). Overflights by unidentified light aircraft were reported on 28 October (four overflights). United Nations military observers were unable to identify the aircraft owing to darkness and heavy clouds.

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

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

(b) Seven complaints concerned overflights of Lebanese territory by Israel forces jet aircraft. Six of these complaints were confirmed.

(c) Two complaints concerned overflights of Lebanese territory by Israel forces light aircraft and helicopters. Neither of these complaints were confirmed owing to darkness.

(d) Two complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces patrols had penetrated Lebanese territory. One of these complaints alleged a penetration on 30 October between 0820 and 0845 hours GMT at AMR 1733-2778. This complaint was confirmed. The second complaint alleged a penetration on 30 October between 1300 and 1410 hours GMT at AMR 1750-2780. United Nations military observers saw Israel forces personnel working on the fence along the ADL at the location during the time alleged but could not confirm that they penetrated Lebanese territory.

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(e) Two complaints alleged that Israel forces naval vessels had penetrated Lebanese territorial waters. Both complaints were confirmed.

(f) Seven complaints alleged that Israel forces patrol had penetrated Lebanese territory in the region of Chebba (AMR 2200-3055). These complaints were not confirmed; the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

(g) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces patrols had penetrated Lebanese territory in the region of the Rmaich (AMR 1847-2760). These complaints were not confirmed; the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

6. One incident of firing close to a United Nations observation post was reported during the period. OP Mar reported that on 29 October small-arms fire by Israel forces had passed within 20 metres of the OP. No damage or injuries to United Nations personnel were reported.

7. One inquiry was conducted by United Nations military observers during the period under review. A complaint was submitted by the Lebanese authorities alleging that on the night of 31 October to 1 November Israel forces personnel had penetrated Lebanese territory in the vicinity of Blida (AMR 1985-2827) and had destroyed six houses in the village with explosives. At the request of the Lebanese authorities the Chief of Staff of UNTSO authorized an inquiry which took place on 1 November. Witnesses in the village stated that 300 armed Israel forces personnel had entered Blida on the evening of 31 October, had evacuated occupants from several houses and had detonated explosives in these houses before departing from the village. United Nations military observers saw two houses which had been completely destroyed, one badly damaged, and three other houses moderately damaged. The complaint was confirmed in so far as damage by explosives to six houses in the village of Blida was concerned.

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