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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 9 to 15 December 1974:

1. Tension in the sector increased markedly, with heightened ground activity mainly in central and eastern parts of the sector from 11 to 14 December and with an air attack in the Beirut area on 12 December.

2. Israel forces personnel continued to occupy during daylight hours, three positions on the Lebanese side of the armistice demarcation line (ADL) near border pillars 11 (AMR 1799-2788) 1/ (observed each day), 19 (AMR 1907-2749) (observed five days) and 33 (AMR 2004-2904) (observed each day).

3. There were 73 cases of firing across the ADL, two of which involved exchanges of fire. They were reported as follows:

(a) OP Lab (AMR 1643-2772), south of the village of Labouna, reported artillery fire on 13 December and small-arms fire on 15 December, all by Israel forces.

(b) OP Hin (AMR 1770-2790), east of the village of Marouahine, reported mortar and small-arms fire on 13 December, machine-gun fire on 13 and 14 December and artillery fire on 15 December, all by Israel forces. Two exchanges of machine-gun and small-arms fire between Israel forces and unidentified forces west of the OP were reported on 13 December.

(c) OP Ras (AMR 1920-2785), south-east of the village of Maroun Er Ras, reported artillery fire on 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 December, machine-gun fire on 13, 14 and 15 December and small-arms fire on 15 December, all by Israel forces.

(d) OP Mar (AMR 1998-2921), south-east of the village of Markaba, reported mortar fire on 11 December and artillery fire on 13 December, all by Israel forces.

(e) OP Khiam (AMR 2071-3025), south of the village of El Khiam, reported artillery and mortar fire by Israel forces each day during the period.

1/ AMR - approximate map reference.

4. One air attack by Israel forces jet aircraft was reported on 12 December (see S/11057/Add.560). There were also six overflights reported during the period. Overflights by Israel forces jet aircraft were reported on 10, 12 and 14 December (one each day) and on 15 December (three overflights).

5. The Lebanese authorities submitted 22 complaints during the period under review as follows:

(a) One complaint was submitted concerning an air attack by Israel forces jet aircraft. The complaint was confirmed by United Nations observation, except for damage (see S/11057/Add.560).

(b) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces fire had fallen on Lebanese territory. Six of these complaints were confirmed by United Nations observation, except for damage.

(c) Four complaints concerned Israel forces jet aircraft overflights. Two of these complaints were confirmed.

(d) Two complaints concerned overflights by Israel forces light aircraft or helicopters. The complaints were not confirmed.

(e) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that Israel forces patrols had daily penetrated Lebanese territory in the region of Chebaa (AMR 220-3055) and Rmaich (AMR 1847-2760). The complaints were not confirmed; the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

(f) In addition, one complaint was submitted with a request that an inquiry into the complaint be conducted by United Nations military observers. It is dealt with in paragraph 6 below.

6. One inquiry was conducted by United Nations military observers during the period under review. The inquiry was requested by the Lebanese authorities and authorized by the Chief of Staff of UNTSO. The inquiry concerned a Lebanese complaint to the effect that on 12 December artillery fire from Israel territory fell on Lebanese territory in the vicinity of Nabatiye (AMR 1958-3090), causing injury to six persons, destruction of houses and other material damage. The inquiry took place on 13 December. The complaint was confirmed in so far as injury to two persons and damage to houses and other material in the town of Nabatiye were concerned (see S/11057/Add.561).
