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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 21 to 27 October 1974.

1. Ground and air activity incidents increased during the period under review. Ground activity was heavier in the western and central parts of the sector during the last two days of the period.

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 69 cases of firing across the ADL and 4 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 22, 23 and 24 October and artillery fire on 26 October, all by Israel forces.

(b) OP Hin (AMR 1770-2790), east of the village of Marouahine, reported artillery fire on 21, 22, 24, 26 and 27 October, flares on 22 and 27 October and small-arms fire on 23 October, all by Israel forces.

(c) OP Ras (AMR 1920-2785), south-east of the village of Maroun Er Ras, reported flares and machine-gun fire on 21 and 22 October, mortar fire on 22 October, small-arms fire on 23 October and artillery fire on 26 and 27 October, all by Israel forces. It also reported mortar fire on 22 and 23 October by unidentified forces (United Nations military observers were unable to identify the firing party owing to darkness).

(d) OP Mar (AMR 1998-2921), south-east of the village of Markaba, reported machine-gun fire on 21, 25 and 27 October, small-arms fire on 23 and 24 October and artillery fire on 27 October, all by Israel forces.

1/ AMR - approximate map reference.

(e) OP Khiam (AMR 2071-3025), south of the village of El Khiam, reported artillery fire on 21, 22, 26 and 27 October and mortar fire on 22, 26 and 27 October, all by Israel forces. It also reported mortar fire on 21 October and artillery fire on 23 October, both by unidentified forces (United Nations observers were unable to identify the firing party owing to darkness).

(f) Naqoura out-station (AMR 1629-2805), on the coast near the village of Naqoura, reported that Israel forces naval vessels penetrated Lebanese territorial waters on 25, 26 (two instances on each day) and 27 October (one instance). It also reported machine-gun fire on 26 October from Israel forces gunboats.

4. There were 14 overflights reported during the period. Overflights by Israel forces jet aircraft were reported on 21 and 22 October (three each day), on 23, 25, 26 and 27 October (one each day), and on 24 October (two). One overflight by Israel forces light aircraft was reported on 27 October. One overflight by unidentified jet aircraft was reported on 24 October (United Nations military observers were unable to identify the aircraft owing to high altitude).

5. The Lebanese authorities submitted 26 complaints during the period under review as follows:

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

(b) Seven complaints were submitted alleging Israel forces jet aircraft overflights. All complaints were confirmed.

(c) One complaint was submitted alleging that Israel forces naval vessels penetrated Lebanese territorial waters on 26 October. This complaint was not confirmed due to darkness.

(d) One complaint was submitted alleging that an Israel forces patrol had penetrated Lebanese territory at AMR 2028-2987. This complaint was not confirmed; the location of the alleged incident was outside United Nations observation range.

(e) Seven complaints were submitted alleging that an Israel forces patrol had penetrated Lebanese territory daily from 20 October to 26 October in the region of Chebaa (AMR 2200-3055). None of these complaints were confirmed; the locations of the alleged incidents were outside United Nations observation range.

6. Two inquiries were conducted by United Nations military observers during the period under review. Two complaints were submitted by the Lebanese authorities alleging that on 20 and 23 October respectively, an Israel forces patrol penetrated Lebanese territory and laid minefields at AMR 1733-2775 and AMR 1746-2778. At the request of the Lebanese authorities, the Chief of Staff of UNTSO authorized inquiries which took place on 21 and 23 October, respectively. Both complaints were confirmed.