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LETTER DATED 30 JUNE 1971 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions of my Government I have the honour to refer to my letter to you of 21 June 1971 (S/10231), concerning acts of aggression committed from Lebanese territory against Israel, and to draw your urgent attention to the fact that such attacks are continuing and have been intensified.

Yesterday, 29 June, fire was opened from Lebanese territory on an Israel patrol in the Misgav Am area. The Israeli forces returned fire. In the ensuing clash the Israeli forces crossed the cease-fire line in pursuit after the attackers.

This latest act of aggression from Lebanese territory was preceded by a series of other assaults. The armed attacks reported in my letter of 21 June were followed by almost daily acts of hostility:

On 20 June, bazooka and small-arms fire was opened from Lebanese territory on an army patrol in the Zarit area.

On 22 June, a terror squad crossed the cease-fire line and sabotaged a generator in the El Ajar village.

On 24 June, a terror squad tried to penetrate into Israel in the Har Dov area. It was intercepted by an Israeli patrol. Three of the attackers were killed, one wounded.

On 25 June, saboteurs from Lebanon placed explosive charges under a water culvert near the village of Malkia.

The intensification of aggression from Lebanon is explained as follows by the Lebanese newspaper Nida Al Watan of 15 March 1971:

"Three thousand armed terrorists entered Lebanon during the month of February. They continued to enter Lebanon also after February and are concentrating with arms and equipment in sensitive areas."

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S/10244 English Page 2

As stated in previous letters, Israel's policy is based on the scrupulous observance of the cease-fire on condition of reciprocity. This entails the obligation of the Government of Lebanon to prevent armed attacks of any kind whatsoever from Lebanese territory against the territory and population of Israel. I must reiterate that the Government of Israel reserves its right of self-defence to protect its territory and citizens from such attacks.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yosef TEKOAH
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations