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UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/10088
25 January 1971

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1971 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to refer to the letter addressed to you on 18 January 1971 by the Permanent Representative of Syria (S/10080).

An investigation, carried out by the Israel Defense Forces on the morning of 3 January 1971, immediately after the raid on United Nations Observation Post 4, revealed that tracks made by three persons wearing regular Syrian boots were followed from the Observation Post 4 site through a destroyed bunker located in the immediate vicinity of the OP and leading in an east-south-east direction towards Syrian territory. When following the track, the trackers found items which had been taken from the United Nations Observation Post living caravan. These findings were transmitted to the United Nations Observers and published in Security Council document S/7930/Add.1038.

The persons who plundered Observation Post 4 under cover of darkness made their escape to the Syrian lines. These lines are guarded by a dense network of military positions along the line and in depth. No armed elements, irrespective of whether they belong to the regular Syrian army or to units of Syrian-based terrorists, can operate from within this Syrian military zone without the knowledge and permission of the Syrian authorities.

The Syrian Government is responsible for all violations of United Nations Observation Posts committed by elements operating from within or behind the Syrian lines, of which the raid on United Nations Observation Post 4 was one instance.

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