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LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to bring to your attention a renewed attack by the Israeli occupying forces in the Suez Canal sector.

At 1240 hours local time, the Israeli forces opened fire on the cities of Suez, Port Tawfik and Ismailia simultaneously and persevered in the shelling of those three cities for three consecutive hours.

It is to be noted with grave concern that General Odd Bull had arranged for a cease-fire at 1400 hours local time. This request was rejected by the Israeli occupying forces, suggesting 1530 hours as an alternative. What can be deduced, without ambiguity, is that the Israeli forces, not having succeeded until 1400 hours in achieving the aims they had set for themselves of destroying the civilian targets they had previously selected, required additional time in order to implement their criminal plans.

If no other proof is required, the behaviour of Israel underlines most clearly that the daily attacks against civilians and civilian installations form an integral part of its aggressive policies, which are not confined merely to the shelling of civilian targets.

As a result of this latest exchange, heavy damage has been inflicted on a number of houses and public service installations, among them the main hospital of the Suez Canal Organization in Ismailia.

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

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Mohamed Awad EL KONY
Permanent Representative of the
United Arab Republic to the
United Nations