

UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/9172  
21 April 1969

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 21 APRIL 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to draw your attention to the systematic and continuous aggression which is being waged by the United Arab Republic in the Suez Canal sector and which was escalated in the last two nights when units of the Egyptian forces crossed the Canal in deliberate violation of the cease-fire and of undertakings given in relation thereto.

On the night of 19 April 1969, at approximately 2030 hours local time, a unit of about 15 Egyptian soldiers crossed the Canal opposite Ismailia and assaulted an Israeli position which they unsuccessfully attempted to blow up. The attackers were repelled in a short encounter, in which one Israeli soldier was slightly wounded and one vehicle damaged. In its rout the Egyptian unit abandoned arms and explosive charges.

On 21 April 1969 at 0130 hours an Israeli patrol on the east bank of the Canal intercepted another Egyptian commando unit about 30 kms north of Kantara. In the ensuing exchange of fire, the raiders were forced back to the United Arab Republic positions on the west bank of the Canal. Three Israeli soldiers were slightly wounded and one vehicle was damaged and soon repaired.

Referring to the first of these incidents, Radio Cairo announced this morning, 21 April: "The front in the Suez Canal sector was a scene for a military operation of a new type - a unit of the Egyptian Special Forces crossed the Canal and assaulted an enemy post which was destroyed."

As for the second incursion, the same source reported today, quoting an official United Arab Republic military spokesman, that Egyptian Special Units crossed the Canal, engaged Israeli forces and "destroyed one of their tanks".

The above-mentioned attacks followed three weeks of incessant breaches of the cease-fire by the United Arab Republic forces on the west bank of the Canal, as reported by General Odd Bull. The motivation of these premeditated acts of aggression is well known. I have referred to it in previous letters.

I have the honour to request the circulation of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

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

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