



302196

UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/9071  
11 March 1969

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 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 inform you that further grave breaches of the cease-fire were perpetrated today by the armed forces of the United Arab Republic in the Suez Canal sector.

At approximately 1040 hours local time the United Arab Republic forces opened small arms fire from the West Bank of the Suez Canal on Israeli forces on the East Bank, in three areas: south of the Bitter Lake, Port Taufiq, and about twelve kilometres north of Port Taufiq. Fire was returned, and sporadic exchanges of fire continued until approximately 1200 hours.

During the afternoon the United Arab Republic forces again opened small arms and artillery fire on the Israeli forces in the southern sector of the Suez Canal. At approximately 1545 hours, the United Arab Republic forces commenced shelling in the Mitla Pass area and southwards to Port Taufiq. Artillery fire was returned.

At 1605 hours the UNMOs proposed a cease-fire to take effect at 1700 hours. This was accepted by Israel at 1610 hours. The United Arab Republic forces, however, intensified their fire and extended it northwards to the Kantara, Ismailiya, Deversoir and Firdan Bridge sectors. Since the United Arab Republic forces continued their attacks, the Israeli forces were compelled to resume fire in self-defence.

At 1715 hours the UNMOs suggested another cease-fire, to take effect at 1815 hours. This was accepted by Israel but rejected by the United Arab Republic, and the firing continued. At 1913 hours, heavy Egyptian shelling continued in the Port Taufiq and Kantara areas. At 1915 hours Israeli forces ceased firing, and at 1930 hours quiet was restored.

At 2121 hours, the United Arab Republic forces again opened artillery fire in the Ismailiya area. Fire was not returned. At 2155 hours the United Arab Republic forces opened fire in the Firdan Bridge area, and continued until 2200 hours. Fire was not returned.

In addition to the foregoing, other sporadic snipings and firings by Egyptian forces on Israeli forces took place throughout the day.

These Egyptian attacks caused the wounding of one Israeli soldier.

In this connexion I should like to recall that the reports submitted by Lt. General Odd Bull concerning the incidents of 8 and 9 March 1969 (documents S/7930/Add.134 and 135) established conclusively the responsibility of the United Arab Republic for the previous breaches of the cease-fire on those dates.

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

Please accept, etc.

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

-----