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LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 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 the third consecutive attack by the Israeli armed forces in this latest series of aggressions against the Suez Canal sector.

At 1545 local time today, Israeli occupying forces opened fire on Port Tewfik, Suez, and Elshatt, using heavy artillery and tank guns. Our armed forces were forced to return fire and shot down an Israeli propeller plane which the Israeli forces have been lately using for purposes of artillery reconnaissance.

The military engagements extended later in the afternoon to Ismailia and Kantara in the north. Artillery and mortars were used by the Israeli forces.

The recurrence of such attacks indicates clearly that those attacks are of a premeditated nature aimed at the destruction of civilian installations and homes in the densely populated areas of the cities along the Suez Canal.

It is significant that Israeli forces, twice during the engagements, refused to abide with the cease-fire requests proposed by the Military Observers in the area, the second of which was made by General Odd Bull himself who was in the area during the exchange. Israeli shelling only stopped at 1935 local time (i.e.) twenty minutes after the initial time proposed by General Odd Bull which was set at 1915.

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

I avail myself of this opportunity etc.

(Signed) M. EL KONY  
Permanent Representative of  
the United Arab Republic  
to the United Nations

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