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LETTER DATED 4 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 inform you that the United Arab Republic forces have today resumed their acts of aggression in the Suez Canal sector.

This morning at approximately 1030 hours local time United Arab Republic forces opened fire from the western bank of the Suez Canal on Israel forces on the eastern bank, north of Port Tawfiq in the Mitla Pass area and to the south of Bitter Lake. Shortly thereafter, fire was returned and the UNMOs proposed a cease-fire for 1200 hours, and at 1113 hours, Israel notified acceptance of this proposal.

At 1100 hours the United Arab Republic forces commenced new artillery attacks in the Port Tawfiq area. At 1110 hours these attacks were extended to Deversoir. Fire was returned. At 1150 hours Israel was informed that the United Arab Republic accepted the proposed cease-fire for 1200 hours.

Israel forces ceased-fire at 1200 hours. The United Arab Republic forces continued firing in the Port Tawfiq, Deversoir and Mitla Pass areas. Fire was not returned. The area was quiet by 1222 hours.

No casualties were suffered by the Israel forces.

In several earlier letters to the President of the Security Council, and on the last occasion in my letter of 1 April 1969 (S/9124), I have drawn attention to the extremely bellicose and provocative statements made by various official spokesmen of the United Arab Republic, including President Nasser, which establish beyond any doubt the calculated determination of the United Arab Republic to undermine the cease-fire and to pursue aggressive and violent policies in the Suez Canal area. The latest of these utterances was made today, 4 April 1969, by the official spokesman of the Government of the United Arab Republic, Mr. Ziyat, who said that under the Egyptian policy of "effective defence", Egypt will not wait for Israel, but will open fire first.

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The letter addressed to you on 3 April by the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Republic (S/9130), with all its verbiage and specious legalisms, confirms this reckless policy, which is in flagrant violation of all the obligations of the United Arab Republic under the Charter of the United Nations and the Security Council's resolutions.

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

Please accept, etc.

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

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