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LETTER DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your urgent attention a further grave attack carried out by the UAR military forces against Israel in deliberate violation of the cease-fire.

Today, 25 September 1968, at approximately 1705 hours local time an Israeli half-track was blown up by an anti-vehicle mine laid on a track about one kilometre east of the Suez Canal in the Little Bitter Lake area. As a result of the explosion one Israeli soldier was seriously wounded. Footprints of nine persons led westward to the Canal.

Israeli vehicles had used the track yesterday without incident, and it is thus clear that the mine was laid during last night.

United Nations observers were informed about the incident.

This act of aggression is the latest in a series of Egyptian premeditated and systematic military assaults which have taken place during the past month. It comes soon after the ambush on 26 August 1968 and the heavy artillery barrage along the entire Canal sector on 8 September and the further ambush of 22 September, which were the subject of my previous letters (S/8788, S/8805, S/8830). The first two of these attacks were discussed in the Security Council on the basis of the Israeli complaints. The third one is reported by the United Nations Military Observers in document S/7930/Add.88 of 24 September which upholds the facts reported by me, leaves no doubt about Egyptian responsibility for the attack and adds the information that the UAR refused a request by the UNMOs to conduct an inquiry on the west bank of the Canal despite the discernible footprints noticed on the west bank by the observers.

It is now evident that these acts of aggression are not isolated incidents, but constitute a pattern of armed aggression by the regular armed forces of the UAR

in violation of the cease-fire and of the latest Security Council resolution 258 (1968). Moreover, there can no longer be any doubt that the UAR authorities are suppressing the truth when they pretend that they have no knowledge of these military actions.

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

Please accept, etc.

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