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LETTER DATED 14 JULY 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions of my Government I have the honour to draw the attention of the Security Council to a series of grave violations of the cease-fire committed by the armed forces of the United Arab Republic of 14 July 1967.

These aggressive acts followed a week of violations by the United Arab Republic of the cease-fire on land, on sea, and in the air, committed since those mentioned in my letter to you of 8 July (S/8044). In the light of the consensus reached by the Security Council on 9 July and the mutual acceptance by Israel and the United Arab Republic of the stationing of observers in the Suez Sector, it was our earnest expectation that there would be no recurrence of these incidents. However, this morning, 14 July, the armed forces of the United Arab Republic have recommenced their aggressive actions with increased scale and intensity.

At 0130 hours local time small arms fire was directed at Israeli forces in the area of Firdan, north of Ismailia, followed immediately with mortar shelling. Fire was returned. The exchange of fire continued for approximately forty minutes.

At 0530 hours, Egyptian forces opened artillery shelling from the west bank of the Canal on Israeli forces in the area of Ismailia.

Between 0600 hours and 0840 hours, Egyptian artillery, mortars and tanks from the west bank of the Canal shelled Israeli forces in the areas of Firdan, Kantara, Ismailia and Port Tawfiq. Fire was returned.

At 1130 hours, fire from direct trajectory weapons, followed by tank and artillery shelling, was opened at Israeli forces from the area of Port Ibrahim.

At 1155 hours the Israeli forces at Port Tawfiq were again attacked by Egyptian mortar and artillery shelling. The Egyptian fire continued intermittently until 1255 hours. Fire was returned. As a result of the Egyptian

attack an Israeli patrol boat in the Suez Canal was hit. At 1255 hours the Egyptian fire was intensified by shelling from gun emplacements at Port Ibrahim and Suez.

The Egyptian artillery, mortar, and tank shelling continued throughout the afternoon, and included fire from 130 mm. shore-guns at Port Ibrahim.

As a result of the Egyptian attacks, five Israeli soldiers were killed and more than twenty were wounded.

In view of the fact that all other means of silencing the continuous Egyptian artillery barrage remained ineffective, and since under these circumstances the evacuation of the casualties became impossible, a limited number of Israeli airplanes was ordered to take action against the Egyptian gun emplacements at 1600 hours.

The area became quiet at about 1910 hours.

This new series of aggressive acts by the United Arab Republic constitutes a grave violation of the Security Council cease-fire resolutions. It is a cause of serious concern to the Government of Israel. In the light of the consensus of the Security Council and the agreement of the two Governments to the stationing of observers, the Government of Israel expects that the deployment of the United Nations Observers in the Suez Canal Sector will soon be completed and be effective to prevent the continuation of these violations of the cease-fire.

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

Please accept, etc.,

(Signed) Gideon RAFAEL  
Permanent Representative of Israel  
to the United Nations