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LETTER DATED 17 JULY 1967 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE USSR ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I consider it necessary to draw the attention of the Security Council to Israel's continued acts of aggressive military provocation in the Suez Canal area.

The letters sent by the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Republic to the President of the Security Council on 13, 14 and 15 July 1967 cite specific new instances of gross violations by Israel of the Security Council's resolutions concerning a cease-fire.

In recent days, Israel's armed forces have on several occasions shelled and bombed towns and villages in the United Arab Republic along the Suez Canal. This has caused casualties among the civilian population and damage to property.

Events in the Suez Canal area show that Israel has not abandoned the attempt to follow a policy of aggression against the United Arab Republic and other Arab States.

The Soviet Government considers that the military clashes provoked by Israel in the Suez Canal area are extremely dangerous and could grow into a wider military conflict.

Israel's continued occupation of territory seized from Arab countries by aggression is a defiance of the basic principles of the United Nations Charter and international law and an infringement of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Arab States. In order to prevent further military clashes and remove the danger of a renewal of hostilities in the Near East, it is essential that Israel should immediately withdraw its forces from the territory of Arab States that it has occupied. That is the aim that the United Nations should seek to achieve.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as an official Security Council document.

(Signed) A. GROMYKO
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

67-16951

