

SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/8329
8 January 1968

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 8 JANUARY 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instruction from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your urgent attention.

At approximately 1000 hours local time this morning, Jordanian forces opened fire from the East Bank of the River Jordan on civilian workers near the village of Kfar Ruppin. One civilian was wounded.

At 1300 hours, Jordanian armed forces opened fire on civilian workers of the Jewish National Fund engaged in land reclamation in the Jordan Valley south of Tirat Zvi. In order to extricate these workmen, fire was returned to the positions from which the Jordanian forces were firing. At 1420 hours, Jordanian artillery was joined by tanks in firing on Israeli civilian workers in the same sector, and at 1500 hours, the Jordanian shelling grew in intensity. Artillery fire and tanks were employed to silence this Jordanian fire, and by 1620 hours, quiet was restored in this sector.

At 1635 hours, Jordanian forces commenced uninterrupted, intense and indiscriminate shelling of the Israeli villages of Kfar Ruppin and Maoz Hayim. Artillery fire was returned. However, the Jordanian shelling continued. In order to stop this shelling and its attendant danger to life and destruction of property, limited air action was ordered against the Jordanian artillery positions at 1700 hours.

The exchange of fire lasted until 1800 hours, when the area became quiet.

Full particulars of Israeli casualties and of damage to Israeli property are not yet available.

The Government of Israel holds the Jordanian authorities responsible for these deliberate and unprovoked attacks.

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

Please accept, etc.

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