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LETTER DATED 9 JUNE 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
UNITED STATES ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

My Government wishes to make it unmistakably clear to all Members of the United Nations that the United States has not engaged in any form of military operations on behalf of the Government of Israel during the present crisis in the Middle East. On 6 June 1967, I stated in the Security Council:

"During the past twenty-four hours, fantastic allegations have been made about United States aircraft being involved in the hostilities in the Near East. These allegations are totally without foundation in fact. They are made up out of whole cloth.

"I take this opportunity in the Security Council on the complete authority of the United States Government to deny them categorically without any ifs, ands or buts. Indeed, yesterday morning June 5, within hours after first hearing such charges, my Government denied them in a formal statement issued by the Department of Defense which I now quote:

'There have been reports that U.S. aircraft from aircraft carriers assigned to the Sixth Fleet have flown to Israeli airfields. Other reports have stated that Sixth Fleet aircraft have participated in air activities elsewhere in the area of conflict. All such reports are erroneous. All Sixth Fleet aircraft are and have been several hundred miles from the area of conflict.'

To establish the good faith of my Government, I stated:

"In these circumstances, my Government considers it necessary to take prompt steps to prevent the further spread of these dangerous falsehoods. With this in mind, I am authorized to announce in this Council and propose two concrete measures:

"The United States is prepared, first, to co-operate in an immediate impartial investigation of these charges by the United Nations, and to offer all facilities to the United Nations, in this investigation. And second, as a part of, or in addition to such an investigation, the United States is prepared to invite United Nations personnel aboard our aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean today, tomorrow, or at the

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convenience of the United Nations to serve as impartial observers of the activities of our planes in the area and to verify the past activities of our planes from our official records and from the log that each ship carries. These observers in addition will be free to interview air crews on these carriers without inhibition so as to determine their activities during the days in question. Their presence as observers on these carriers will be welcomed throughout the period of this crisis and so long as these ships are in the Eastern waters of the Mediterranean."

I should like to request that you circulate this letter to all Members of the United Nations as a Security Council document.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Arthur J. GOLDBERG
