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NOTE DATED 15 JANUARY 1967 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In view of disturbing reports received from the Chief of Staff of UNTSO on the morning of 15 January 1967, I have dispatched by cable to the Governments of Israel and Syria through their Permanent Representatives to the United Nations the following urgent appeal. The appeal reads:

"Reports received by me on the morning of 15 January from General Odd Bull, Chief of Staff of UNTSO, are of such disturbing nature as to impel me to communicate with you urgently. The reports tell of a large build-up of heavy arms, armoured vehicles and military personnel in the area of and within the demilitarized zones on both sides of the Line. It is clear that the situation threatens to erupt at any moment into a large-scale clash of military forces in overt violation of the provisions of Security Council resolutions and of the Israel-Syria General Armistice Agreement.

"I appeal to you in most urgent terms, and I am appealing to the other side in identical terms, to restrain your military forces from any action which might result in an armed clash. I also appeal to you to accept without delay or pre-conditions the proposal of the Chief of Staff for an immediate emergency or extraordinary meeting of the Israel-Syria Mixed Armistice Commission on an agreed agenda, with a view to reaching an understanding on the problems of cultivation in the area which have given rise to the incidents of recent weeks.

"Because of the potential danger implicit in the present situation, I have advised the Chief of Staff to take every step within his authority, including a reinforcement of United Nations Military Observers on both sides of the Line, to secure a halt to the build-up and to avoid a large-scale armed clash. I am also taking the unusual step of immediately informing the members of the Security Council and the Council itself of this message to you.

"I would hope and expect to receive from you a prompt and co-operative response to this appeal."

I have also taken the liberty of informing the members of the Council individually of the action I have taken.

\* Reissued for technical reasons.