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LETTER DATED 11 APRIL 1956 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to my letter of 10 April 1956 (S/3582), I have the honour to bring to your attention the text of a broadcast by Radio Cairo, a government-controlled station, made on 10 April 1956, at 0645 hours:

"The Israelis believed that the Egyptian forces would not reach them and that penetration of any military forces into Israel would bring about intervention of the Great Powers. The operations carried out by the Fedayeen on Saturday last put an end to the quiet enjoyed by Israel. Egyptian Fedayeen reached the town of Migdal. This surprise paralysed all possible Israeli action. The Fedayeen were able to open fire and to throw hand-grenades in the centre of the town and they left it ablaze. This event has extraordinary significance because the war is not now confined to firing or attacks along the border but has reached the heart of Israel and places which were believed to be safe from all danger. Following these incidents the whole of the Negev is in a state of tension, preparedness and panic. Inhabitants were ordered not to leave their houses after sunset. Indeed, the quiet reigning in the villages and towns remote from the Armistice Line has turned to terror and fear. The recurring incidents proved to the Israelis that inside Israel territory there operate a large number of Fedayeen. Awe-inspiring stories on Fedayeen activities circulate in Israel".

Commenting on the broadcast, an Israel Foreign Ministry spokesman stated on 10 April 1956, that it constituted clear evidence of Egyptian responsibility for the incursion into Israel of Egyptian armed murder and sabotage gangs, the so-called "Egyptian Fedayeen".

The spokesman declared that the broadcast boasting of acts of aggression against Israel civilians followed an urgent appeal by Major-General E.L.N. Burns to Colonel Nasser to ensure the cessation of all acts of hostility. He noted that the broadcast was an open declaration of Egypt's aggressive designs. Major-General Burns, he added, had stated that Egyptian responsibility for these acts would place her in the position of an aggressor.

In conclusion, the spokesman drew attention to the fact that while Cairo was making this broadcast, a new wave of aggression was launched against Israel's territory. Acts of sabotage and murder were again renewed in many parts of the southern area of Israel.

I have the honour to request that the contents of this letter be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

Please accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) ARTHUR C. LIVERAN

P.P. Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations

