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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS  
INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON

(for the period from 13 July to 12 October 1983)

Introduction

1. In its resolution 536 (1983) of 18 July 1983, the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for a further interim period of three months, until 19 October 1983. The Council called upon all parties concerned to co-operate with UNIFIL for the full implementation of its mandate as defined in resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) and the relevant decisions of the Security Council and requested the Secretary-General to report to it on the progress made in that respect.
2. The present report contains an account of developments relating to UNIFIL from 13 July to 12 October 1983.

Organization of the Force

3. As of 12 October 1983, the composition of UNIFIL was as follows:

Infantry battalions

Fiji	625
Finland	495
France	147
Ghana	550
Ireland	655
Netherlands	731
Norway	605
Senegal	559

Headquarters camp command

Ghana	154
Ireland	83

Logistic units

France	793
Italy	41
Norway	199
Sweden	<u>143</u>
Total	<u>5 780</u>

In addition to the above personnel, UNIFIL was assisted by 73 military observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), organized as Observer Group Lebanon (OGL). Those unarmed observers were under the operational control of the Commander of UNIFIL, Lieutenant-General William Callaghan.

4. There have been no changes in the deployment of the Force since my last report (S/15863). The deployment of UNIFIL as of October 1983 is shown on the annexed map.

5. The military observers of UNTSO continued to man the five observation posts along the Lebanese side of the Israel-Lebanon armistice demarcation line (ADL) and to maintain teams at Tyre, Metulla and Chateau de Beaufort. In addition, they operated four mobile teams.

6. The Lebanese internal security forces continued to co-operate with UNIFIL in maintaining order in its area of operation. They carried out independent patrols and assisted UNIFIL in special investigations of mutual concern.

7. The Lebanese army unit serving with UNIFIL remained at a strength of 166 all ranks. They were deployed in the UNIFIL area and attached to different battalions.

8. Logistic support for UNIFIL continued to be provided by the headquarters logistic branch, the French logistic component, the Norwegian maintenance unit, the Ghanaian engineering unit, the Swedish medical company and the Italian helicopter wing. Despite developments in Beirut, it was possible to maintain adequate logistic support of the Force. UNIFIL convoys enjoyed a fair degree of freedom of movement on the coastal road between Naqoura and Beirut, although the Force continued to be denied access to Tyre and Sidon as well as to all areas adjacent to the coastal road. Most current supplies, particularly fresh rations, petroleum products and other commodities, continued to be supplied from Lebanese sources. Owing to the closure of Beirut international airport, however, air shipments, some rotations of contingents and mail services had to be temporarily diverted to Tel Aviv. Sea shipments of dry rations and spare parts from Cyprus were temporarily re-routed via Haifa. The Italian helicopter wing continued to play an important role in the logistic support of the Force and in humanitarian assistance to the Lebanese civilian population. As previously reported, however, flight clearances were often denied by the Israeli military authorities on the grounds that they would interfere with activities of the Israeli Air Force.

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9. In addition to its other tasks, the French engineer company continued to search for and defuse unexploded mines and bombs. It cleared two minefields which endangered civilian traffic and defused or neutralized about 500 anti-personnel mines and 20 anti-tank mines, about 100 shells of all types, 80 cluster-bomb units and various explosive devices.
10. During the period under review, three members of the Force lost their lives. One died as a result of the accidental discharge of a weapon, one from natural causes and one as a result of a traffic accident. Since the establishment of UNIFIL in 1978, 96 members of the Force have died, 41 of them as a result of firing and mine explosions, 42 in accidents and 13 from natural causes. Some 120 have been wounded in armed clashes, shellings and mine explosions.
11. The discipline and bearing of the members of UNIFIL as well as of the UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force have been of a high order, reflecting credit on themselves, their commanders and their countries.

Situation in southern Lebanon and activities of UNIFIL

12. During the reporting period, the UNIFIL area was generally quiet. The population has increased as a result of persons seeking refuge from the fighting which took place in Beirut and the surrounding area. The Force continued to operate its check-points and to patrol its area of deployment, with a view to contributing to the maintenance of order and ensuring the security of the local population. The Force also co-operated with the Lebanese authorities and United Nations agencies in extending humanitarian assistance to the population.
13. The presence of the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) within the UNIFIL area of operation continued at approximately battalion strength. The level of activities of those forces in regard to patrols, erection of road-blocks, searches of houses and detention of local inhabitants remained essentially as last reported.
14. During the period under review, IDF continued to recruit and arm selected villagers in the UNIFIL area. They also occasionally set up joint check-points with them. Local leaders remained in touch with UNIFIL concerning efforts by Israeli officials to gain support for the setting up of village committees and local militias. UNIFIL continued to monitor and, whenever possible, contain the activities of armed irregulars. A number of incidents occurred at UNIFIL check-points when those irregulars refused to submit to searches of their vehicles or to surrender their weapons. Such incidents occurred less frequently than in the previous reporting period and tended to be less serious.
15. UNIFIL continued to co-operate with the Lebanese authorities as well as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in extending assistance to the local population. The Swedish medical company and the medical teams of the battalions continued to provide assistance to Lebanese civilians, often with the support of the Italian helicopter wing. During the reporting period, about 7,300 Lebanese civilian

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patients were treated in the out-patient clinics of the Force. In the same period, the UNIFIL hospital admitted and treated some 1,300 Lebanese civilians. The medical personnel of the Force, in co-operation with UNICEF, also assisted the Lebanese Government in carrying out a vaccination programme. In addition, UNIFIL assisted in public works by clearing mined land, providing equipment and extending engineering assistance.

16. Throughout the period, the Commander of UNIFIL and his senior civilian and military staff maintained close contact with the Government of Lebanon and the Lebanese regional authorities. They also maintained contact with the Israeli authorities on matters affecting the functioning of the Force.

#### Financial aspects

17. By its resolution 37/127 A of 17 December 1982, the General Assembly, inter alia, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNIFIL at a rate not to exceed \$15,229,666 gross (\$15,087,833 net) per month for the period from 19 January 1983 to 18 December 1983 inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of three months authorized under its resolution 523 (1982), subject to obtaining the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the actual level of commitments to be entered into for each mandate period that might be approved subsequent to 19 January 1983. On that basis, the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee was obtained in entering into commitments for UNIFIL in an amount of \$80,331,000 gross (\$79,466,000 net) for the six-month mandate period until 19 July 1983 and in an amount of \$40,379,000 gross (\$39,925,000 net) for the three-month mandate period until 19 October 1983. Should the Security Council renew the UNIFIL mandate beyond 19 October 1983, the costs to the United Nations for maintaining UNIFIL up to 18 December 1983, inclusive, will be within the commitment authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/127 A, assuming continuance of the Force's existing strength and responsibilities. The Secretary-General will request the General Assembly at its present session to make appropriate financial provisions for UNIFIL in respect of periods after 18 December 1983, if the period of extension determined by the Security Council goes beyond that date.

#### Observations

18. The activities of UNIFIL have remained essentially unchanged since my last report on the subject (S/15863). The recent events in the Aley and Shouf regions have had no direct impact on the UNIFIL area of deployment, except for an influx of displaced persons from those regions. During the reporting period, UNIFIL continued to carry out the interim tasks laid down by the Secretary-General and endorsed by the Security Council after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June 1982, and, in this context, it continued to exert its best efforts to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to the local population and to prevent activities which were likely to hamper the restoration of the authority of the Lebanese Government in its area.

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19. As a consequence of the Israeli invasion, the capability of UNIFIL to achieve those objectives was necessarily contingent upon the co-operation of the Israeli authorities, who, as the occupying Power, were in control of the area. Despite the difficulties encountered, UNIFIL has been able to fulfil most of the interim tasks assigned to it. The activities of the local groups armed and uniformed by the Israeli forces have been limited in the UNIFIL area of deployment. With the assistance of UNIFIL, the Lebanese internal security forces have continued to play an active part in the maintenance of law and order in the area. In addition to providing protection and humanitarian assistance to the local population, UNIFIL has extended its full co-operation to the humanitarian efforts of UNRWA, UNICEF and ICRC. Local leaders have on many an occasion expressed appreciation for the work of UNIFIL and the protection and stability it has afforded the area.

20. By a letter to me dated 10 October 1983, the Permanent Representative of Lebanon, on behalf of his Government, has requested a further extension of the mandate of UNIFIL in the following terms:

"I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Lebanon has decided to request the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which expires on 19 October 1983, for a further interim period of six months, on the terms defined in resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) and the relevant decisions of the Security Council.

"I would like to emphasize to Your Excellency, that UNIFIL, in its present role, has provided all possible support to enable the Lebanese Government to restore its legitimate authority in southern Lebanon, and security to the Lebanese population and, above all, an international commitment to the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon. Furthermore, UNIFIL has performed its role with courage and distinction under very difficult circumstances."

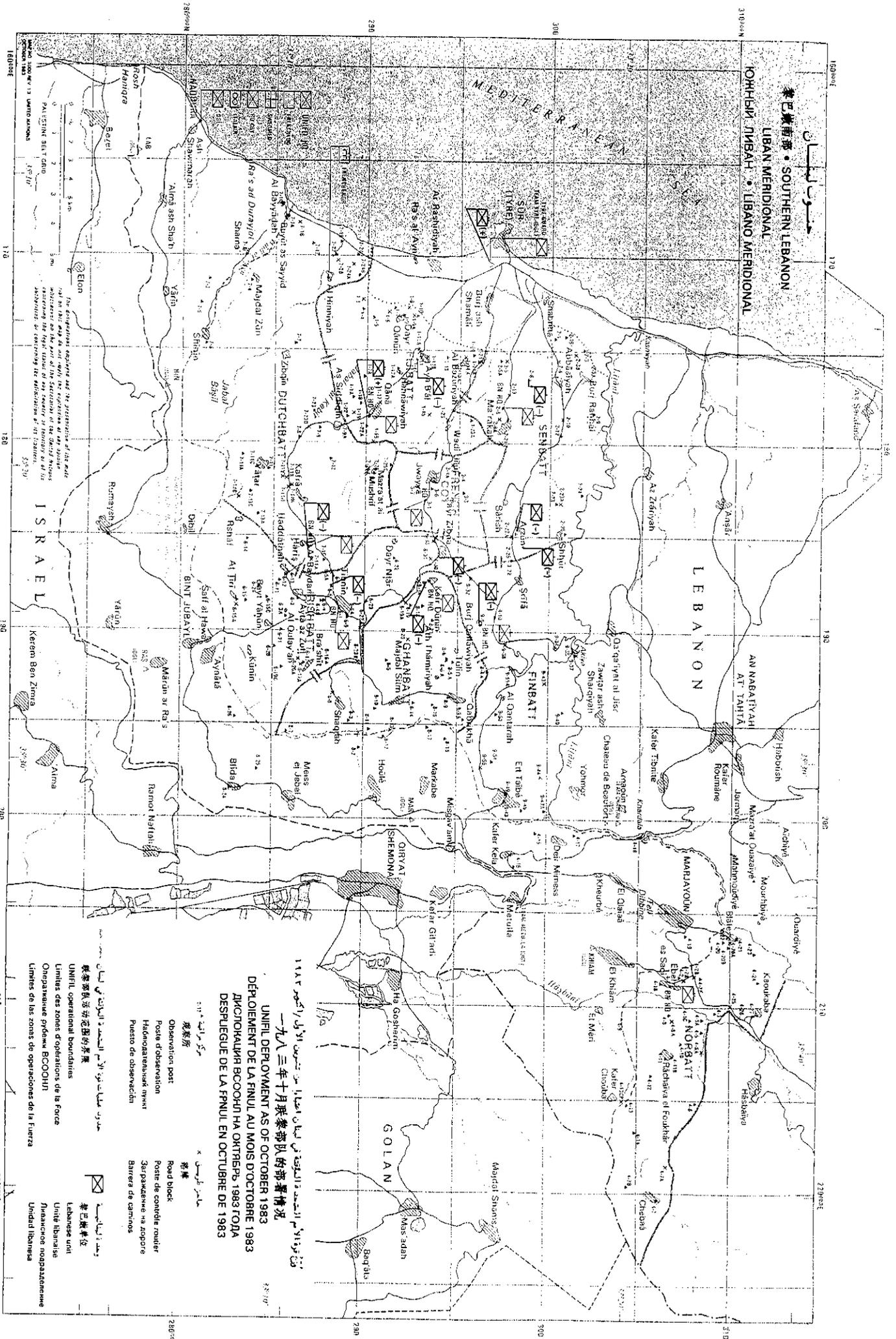
21. It is evident that despite the present circumstances, UNIFIL remains an important element of stability in southern Lebanon. Its presence also represents the commitment of the United Nations to support the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and to help bring about the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory, in accordance with Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 509 (1982). Although the Israeli invasion of June 1982 has radically altered the conditions under which UNIFIL was created and is intended to function, the objectives set by the Security Council in its resolution 425 (1978) remain entirely valid. A withdrawal of the Force from its area of operation before the Lebanese Government is in a position to assume effective control of the area with its national army and its internal security forces would unquestionably be a serious blow to the prospect of restoring the authority of the Lebanese Government in southern Lebanon as well as to the security and welfare of the local population. It is particularly important to avoid such a development at a time when the Lebanese Government and people, following the recent cease-fire in the Aley and Shouf regions, are exerting their best efforts to achieve national reconciliation. For all those reasons, I feel obliged to recommend to the Security Council that it extend the mandate of UNIFIL, once again, for another interim period, bearing in mind the request of the Lebanese Government.

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22. In recommending a further extension of UNIFIL, I am well aware that the conditions under which the Force must now work are unsatisfactory and that its present activities can only be considered as a holding operation pending further developments and decisions by the Security Council. In this transitional period, it is particularly important that all concerned give their full co-operation to the Force in the performance of the task assigned to it by the Council, and I hope that the required co-operation will be forthcoming. In this connection, I am in constant consultation with the Force Commander as to the requisite strength of UNIFIL in present conditions. I shall keep the Security Council fully informed of any conclusions on this matter.

23. In connection with the extension of the mandate of UNIFIL, I must also, once again, call the Security Council's attention to the increasing financial difficulties faced by the Force. There is, as of the beginning of October 1983, an accumulated shortfall in the UNIFIL Special Account of some \$173.9 million, compared with \$168.5 million at the time of my last report. Consequently, the Organization is falling far behind in the reimbursement of the troop-contributing Governments for the expenditures they have incurred as a result of their participation in UNIFIL. I am extremely concerned about this state of affairs, both as a matter of principle and for practical reasons. The present shortfall has placed an unfair and increasingly heavy burden on the troop-contributing countries, particularly the less wealthy ones and, if not remedied, could jeopardize the functioning of the operation. Therefore, I must appeal in the strongest terms to all Member States to pay their assessments without delay. In view of the urgency of this matter, I would also appeal to the Governments who are in a position to do so to consider making available, as a practical measure, voluntary contributions to the UNIFIL Suspense Account which has been set up by the General Assembly to facilitate the reimbursement of Governments contributing troops, equipment and supplies to the Force.

24. In concluding this report, I wish to express my deep appreciation to the troop-contributing countries for their steadfast and generous support of the Force. I also wish to pay tribute to the Commander of UNIFIL, Lieutenant-General William Callaghan, and his staff, civilian and military, and to the officers and men of UNIFIL as well as to the UNTSO military observers assigned to the area. They have performed their tasks with exemplary dedication and courage in extremely difficult circumstances.



黎巴嫩南部 • SOUTHERN LEBANON  
LIBAN MERIDIONAL  
JOMHURIYAH LIBANAH • LIBANO MERIDIONAL

ISRAEL

UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT AS OF OCTOBER 1983  
DEPLOIEMENT DE LA FINUL AU MOIS D'OCTOBRE 1983  
ДИПОЛОЖЕНИЯ ВСОООН НА ОКТЯБРЬ 1983 ГОДА  
DESPLIEGUE DE LA FINUL EN OCTUBRE DE 1983

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Operativne granice BCOONH  
Límites de las zonas de operaciones de la Fuerza
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Unité libanaise  
Национальные подразделения  
Unidad libanesa
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Poste d'observation  
Наблюдательный пункт  
Puesto de observación
- Road block  
Poste de contrôle routier  
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