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LETTER DATED 1 MARCH 1965 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to draw the attention of the Security Council to a recent series of acts of sabotage or attempted sabotage in Israel territory, perpetrated by persons crossing the armistice demarcation line from Jordan.

On 7 January 1965, a group of armed infiltrators from Jordan was intercepted near the farm village of Nechusha (three kilometres from the Jordan border in the Hebron area). One of them was wounded and captured with explosives in his possession. In his statement to military observers of UNTSO, he admitted that he was a member of a group of saboteurs organized for operations in Israel.

On 21 January 1965, explosives were discovered placed in position at the water reservoir of the new desert town of Arad, overlooking the Dead Sea thirteen kilometres south of the Jordan border.

On 28 February 1965, at 0200 hours, two simultaneous explosions took place in the village of Kfar Hess, approximately six kilometres from the Jordan border in the central sector. A hole 70 cm. wide was blown in the village grain silo, and one of the dwelling houses was partially demolished. The tracks of three men led from the site of the incident across the Jordan border. A complaint has been lodged with UNTSO and investigation is in progress.

It need hardly be stressed that such incursions by armed saboteur squads constitute gross violations of the Israel-Jordan General Armistice Agreement, and endanger the security and quiet of the border area.

Under the armistice agreement, the Government of Jordan must accept full responsibility for the actions of these armed groups of saboteurs infiltrating from Jordan territory and returning to it. This responsibility has recently received fresh emphasis through the despatch to the area of a Special Mission

(consisting of Mr. Pier Spinelli as the Representative of the Secretary-General, and Major-General Rikhye, as Military Adviser) following a deterioration in the situation along the Israel-Jordan armistice demarcation line, and a series of incidents on that border. In the Secretary-General's statement on 25 February, it was stated that he had the same day asked the Permanent Representatives of Jordan and Israel "to convey to their Governments his hope that they will do their best to avoid future incidents and to maintain quiet along their borders". The acts of sabotage at Kfar Hess took place three days after the Secretary-General's appeal.

It is the urgent and inescapable duty of the Jordan Government to discharge its responsibility under the General Armistice Agreement, by apprehending and punishing the persons involved in the above incidents, and by taking stringent measures to prevent any recurrence of armed infiltration and organized sabotage from its territory.

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

(Signed) Michael COMAY
Permanent Representative