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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS
DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

(for the period 25 May 1979 to 23 November 1979)

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MAP: UNDOF deployment as of November 1979

INTRODUCTION

1. This report covers the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period 25 May 1979 to 23 November 1979. Its purpose is to provide the Security Council with an account of the activities of UNDOF in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to it by the Council in resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974 and extended by resolutions 363 (1974) of 29 November 1974, 369 (1975) of 23 May 1975, 381 (1975) of 30 November 1975, 390 (1976) of 28 May 1976, 398 (1976) of 30 November 1976, 408 (1977) of 26 May 1977, 420 (1977) of 30 November 1977, 429 (1978) of 31 May 1978, 441 (1978) of November 1978 and 449 (1979) of 30 May 1979.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

2. The composition of UNDOF as of 23 November 1979 was as follows:

Contingents:

Austria	538
Canada	210
Finland	389
Poland	101
	<u>1,238</u>

United Nations military observers (detailed from UNTSO)	22
Total	<u>1,260</u>

In addition to the above, observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) assigned to the Israel-Syria Mixed Armistice Commission assist UNDOF as the occasion requires.

3. It will be recalled that from March onward the strength of the Force was temporarily below the authorized level (S/13350, para. 2). During the period under review, the Force was brought to its present strength following consultations with the parties and with the Security Council (see S/13479, S/13480, S/13499, and S/13500).

4. Command of the Force continues to be exercised by Colonel Guenther Greindl of the Austrian Contingent as Officer-in-Charge pending the appointment of a new Force Commander. Lieutenant-General Ensio Siilasvuo has continued as the Chief Co-ordinator of United Nations Peace-Keeping Missions in the Middle East.

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B. Deployment

5. UNDOF personnel remain deployed within and close to the area of separation, with base camps and logistic units located nearby. UNDOF headquarters is located in Damascus. The UNDOF deployment as at 23 November 1979 is shown on the attached map.

6. Following the arrival of additional Finnish personnel, the Finnish battalion on 1 September assumed the extra duties taken over in March, as an interim measure, by the Austrian battalion (see S/13350, paras. 5 and 6). At present the Austrian battalion mans 18 positions and 9 outposts, and conducts 19 patrols daily in the area of separation north of the Damascus-Quneitra road. The Finnish battalion, having assumed operational control of the area of separation south of the Damascus-Quneitra road, mans 15 positions and 4 outposts and conducts 18 patrols daily in its area of responsibility.

7. The Austrian battalion base camp is located near the Wadi Faouar, eight kilometres east of the area of separation. The Finnish battalion base camp is located near the village of Ziouani, west of the area of separation. The Austrian battalion continues to share its base camp with the Polish logistic unit, and the Finnish battalion shares Camp Ziouani with the Canadian logistic company. The Canadian signals unit has detachments at Camp Ziouani and Faouar, as well as Damascus and Quneitra.

C. Rotation

8. The Austrian contingent completed partial rotations on 28 May and 27 August 1979. The Finnish contingent completed partial rotations on 4 June, 24 August and 26 September 1979. The Canadian logistic and signals units rotate in small groups each week. The Polish logistic unit carried out a full rotation on 6 July 1979.

II. ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Accommodation

9. The expansion and improvement of living accommodation, in keeping with United Nations standards, at positions within the area of separation have been completed for all Austrian battalion positions north of the Quneitra road. Additional construction is under way at Camp Faouar, and the improvement of utilities at positions and within the base camps continues.

10. The arrival of the Finnish reinforcements and the additional logistic functions assumed by the Force resulted in additional requirements for accommodation. A number of prefabricated buildings have been erected by the Finnish battalion in its positions. Additional prefabricated buildings are being procured for the further improvement and expansion of accommodation and storage facilities and to provide

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for the Quartermaster Stores in the Canadian logistic unit, which were destroyed by fire in June 1979. The construction work for the forward UNDOF command headquarters in Quneitra and the medical care shelter in Camp Faouar has been completed.

B. Logistic support

11. Logistic support to the Force continues to be provided by the Canadian and Polish logistic units, as outlined in the report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 25 to 27). Air support to UNDOF is now provided by UNTSO, with two flights weekly to Damascus from Jerusalem, Ismailia and Cairo. The Canadian and Polish units have continued to provide second-line transport, including delivery of water, petrol, rations, mail and miscellaneous cargo, as well as equipment maintenance and vehicle repair. These units now also provide third-line maintenance, transport and supply.

12. Mines continue to pose a threat to members of the Force and to the local population, and mine incidents during the period under review have resulted in some civilian loss of life. Efforts continue to make the area safe for foot and vehicle movement. Since May, the Polish mine-clearing teams have cleared 22,420 metres of patrol path and 1,200 metres of tracks, as well as 33,140 square metres of ground near UNDOF positions in the area of separation. In the process 36 mines, 7 artillery shells and 30 other explosives were destroyed.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Functions and guidelines

13. The functions and guidelines of UNDOF as well as its tasks remain as outlined in the report of 27 November 1974 (S/11563, paras. 8-10).

14. UNDOF has continued, with the co-operation of the parties, to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it. This has been facilitated by the close contact maintained by the Officer-in-Charge and his staff with the military liaison staffs of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic.

B. Freedom of movement

15. The Protocol of the Agreement on Disengagement provides for all contingents to operate with full freedom of movement. However, restrictions on the freedom of movement still exist, and efforts to correct the situation are continuing.

C. Maintenance of the cease-fire

16. UNDOF continues to supervise the observance of the cease-fire between Israel

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and the Syrian Arab Republic. The cease-fire has been maintained during the period under review. No complaints referring to the UNDOF area of operation have been lodged by either party in this regard.

D. Supervision of the Agreement on Disengagement with regard to the areas of separation and limitation

17. UNDOF continues to supervise the area of separation to ensure, in accordance with its mandate, that there are no military forces within it. This is carried out by means of static positions and observation posts, which are manned 24 hours a day, and by foot and mobile patrols operating at irregular intervals on predetermined routes. In addition, temporary outposts have been established from time to time to perform specific tasks such as traffic control. UNDOF observation functions have been made more effective by the introduction of new equipment, consisting of high power binoculars and night observation devices.

18. The safety of Syrian shepherds who graze their flocks close to and west of the A line continues to be of concern to UNDOF. The establishment of new mine-cleared patrol paths and, from time to time, of standing patrols in these areas has helped to prevent incidents.

19. UNDOF has continued to assist the International Committee of the Red Cross with facilities for family reunions and student exchanges. Both parties continue to co-operate with UNDOF in making the family meetings possible in accordance with the agreed procedures.

20. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement on Disengagement, UNDOF continues to conduct fortnightly inspections of the areas of limitation in armament and forces. These inspections are carried out with the assistance of liaison officers from the parties, who accompany the UNDOF inspection teams. UNDOF also lends its assistance and good offices on request from one of the parties. In carrying out its tasks, UNDOF has continued to receive the co-operation of both parties, although restrictions of movement and inspection are sometimes placed on UNDOF teams during inspections in certain areas on both sides of the area of separation. UNDOF has sought the lifting of those restrictions so as to guarantee its freedom of access to all locations on both sides. During the period under review, UNDOF has been able to have two permanent violations of the area of separation removed.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

21. As indicated in my report of 22 October 1979 to the General Assembly (A/34/582, para. 14), the costs of UNDOF beyond 30 November 1979, should the Security Council renew its mandate beyond that date, would be of the order of \$2,096,333 gross (\$2,077,000 net of staff assessment) per month.

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V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

22. In deciding in its resolution 449 (1979) to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, the Security Council also called upon all the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) and requested the Secretary-General to submit at the end of this period a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement that resolution.

23. The search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and, in particular, the efforts undertaken at various levels to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973) have been dealt with in the comprehensive report on the Middle East problem (A/34/584-S/13578) which the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 33/29 of 7 December 1978.

VI. OBSERVATIONS

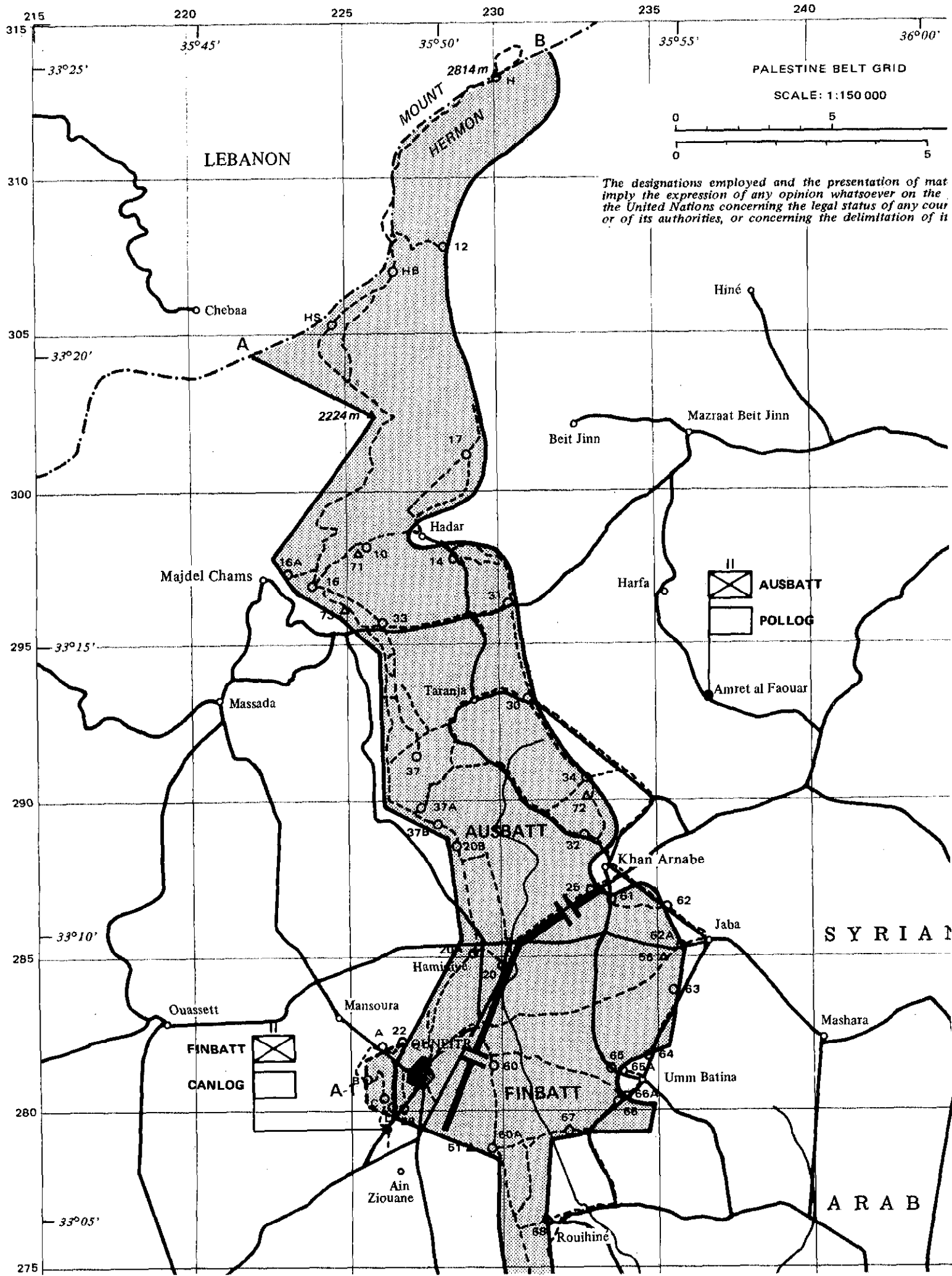
24. The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the cease-fire called for by the Security Council and the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces of 31 May 1974, has continued to perform its functions effectively, with the co-operation of the parties. During the period under review, the situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained quiet and there have been no serious incidents.

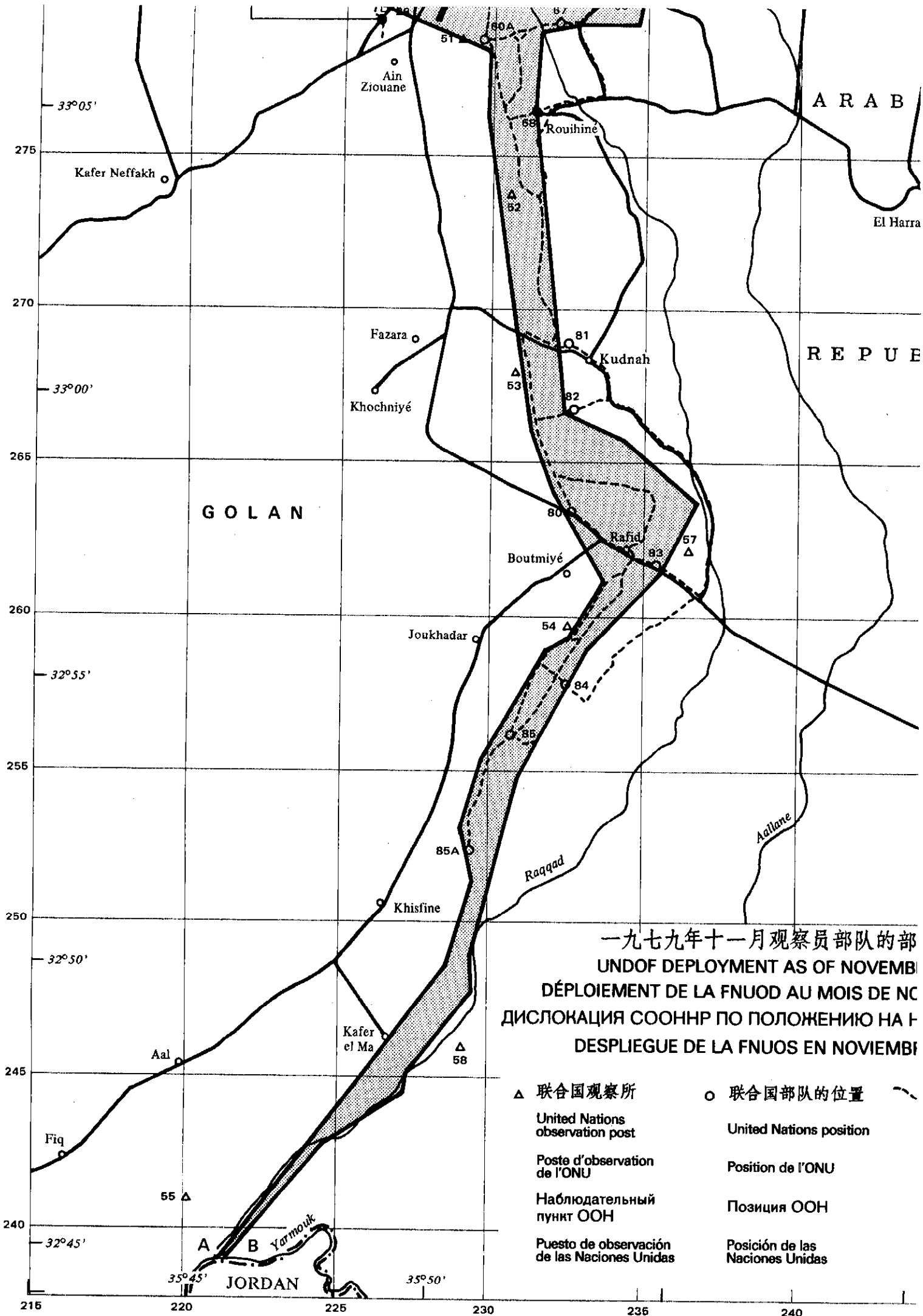
25. Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. I continue to hope that determined efforts will be made by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

26. In the prevailing circumstances, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 31 May 1980. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

27. In concluding this report, I wish once again to express my gratitude to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and to those which provide UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Officer-in-Charge of UNDOF, Colonel Guenther Greindl, to the officers and men of the Force and its civilian staff, as well as to the UNTSO military observers assigned to UNDOF. They have performed with exemplary efficiency and devotion to duty the important tasks assigned to them by the Security Council.

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一九七九年十一月观察员部队的部
 UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF NOVEMBER
 DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FNUOD AU MOIS DE NOVEMBRE
 ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ СООИНР ПО ПОЛОЖЕНИЮ НА 1 НОЯБРЯ
 DESPLIEGUE DE LA FNUOS EN NOVEMBRE

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| △ 联合国观察所 | ○ 联合国部队的位置 |
| United Nations observation post | United Nations position |
| Poste d'observation de l'ONU | Position de l'ONU |
| Наблюдательный пункт ООН | Позиция ООН |
| Puesto de observación de las Naciones Unidas | Posición de las Naciones Unidas |