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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE INCREASE
IN THE NUMBER OF UNITED NATIONS OBSERVATION POSTS AND
MILITARY OBSERVERS IN THE ISRAEL-LEBANON SECTOR

1. Upon receipt of the letter dated 30 October 1972 from the President of the Security Council pertaining to the request of the Lebanese Government for an increase in the number of observation posts and military observers in the Israel-Lebanon sector (S/10818), the Secretary-General instructed the Chief of Staff of UNTSO, Major-General Ensio Siilasvuo, in consultation with the Lebanese authorities, to proceed immediately with the implementation of the arrangements set forth in the Secretary-General's memorandum of 27 October 1972 (S/10818, annex II).
2. Following further discussions with the Lebanese authorities on 1 and 2 November 1972, the two proposed additional observation posts, one south-east of Markaba at MR 1998-2921 (OP Mar) and the other at Marouahine at MR 1770-2790 (OP Hin), were set up and became operational on 2 November 1972 at 1000 GMT. OP Naq, now relocated to Labboune at MR 1643-2772 and renamed OP Lab, became operational at the same time. The former OP Naq at MR 1629-2805 has been reconverted into an outstation and is now called "Naqoura outstation"; it will have essentially administrative functions. 1/
3. Arrangements aimed at ensuring the effective functioning of the extended operation in the Israel-Lebanon sector and the security of UNTSO personnel have been agreed with the Lebanese authorities. They are the same as those made in April 1972 (S/10617, para. 2). It should again be placed on record that the fullest co-operation and assistance are being extended to UNTSO by the Lebanese authorities.
4. As indicated in the Secretary-General's memorandum of 27 October, each of the new observation posts covers up to 10 kilometres of the Armistice Demarcation Line (ADL) and affords observation in depth of either side of it. Their effectiveness will be further enhanced by observers moving, whenever the situation warrants and at the request of the Lebanese authorities, to areas from which a given incident can be better observed.

1/ An updated list of the observation posts, outstations and control centres in the Suez Canal, Israel-Syria and Israel-Lebanon sectors will be circulated to members of the Security Council as S/7930/Add.1788.

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5. General Siilasvuo has informed the Israel authorities, through their Liaison Officer, of the arrangements made for the new OPs, their location and date of opening.

6. As also indicated in the memorandum mentioned above, the number of observers assigned to the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission is being increased from 21 to 34. The additional observers are being provided for an initial period by reassignment from other UNTSO sectors; likewise the necessary supplies and equipment are being drawn from UNTSO's current stocks. In this regard it should be noted that the UNTSO logistics convoy dispatched from UNTSO headquarters in Jerusalem crossed smoothly and without delay both the Israel and Lebanese check points at Rosh Hanikra and Naqoura, respectively, in the early morning hours of 2 November 1972.

7. As from 3 November 1972, relevant information based on the observers' reports from the new OPs will be circulated to the Security Council as occasion requires.