



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/3319
16 November 1954

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE INCIDENTS BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL,
PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF THE GAZA STRIP

Note by the Secretary-General: the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate for the information of the members of the Security Council the attached report, dated 11 November 1954, from the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization concerning the incidents between Egypt and Israel, particularly in the area of the Gaza strip.

Since I took over as Chief of Staff on 2 September 1954, the tension between Egypt and Israel has been one of my main preoccupations. In so far as this tension resulted from complaints relating to violations of the General Armistice Agreement, I considered that it was my duty to co-operate with the Parties in an effort to devise remedies.

From the tables annexed to this report it may be seen that the Chairman of the Egyptian-Israeli MAC received 32 Egyptian complaints and 40 Israeli complaints in September; 23 Egyptian complaints and 24 Israeli complaints in October. (In certain cases the complaining Party did not request an investigation and, on 9 November 1954, the Parties agreed to consider such non-investigated complaints as settled.)

In October there were not only less complaints, but also - apart from the "Bat Galim" incident, which is not considered in this report - less serious incidents than in September. However, the fact that, after about three quiet weeks, there was in the last week of October, a recrudescence of incidents mostly in Israel-controlled territory and some of them of a serious nature, indicates that vigilance should not be relaxed.

The tables annexed to this report show that, among the Egyptian complaints investigated, there were, in September, 3 cases of armed groups crossing the demarcation line from Israel-controlled territory and firing on Egyptian posts and 8 cases of Israelis firing across the demarcation line, and, in October,

4 cases of armed groups crossing the demarcation line from Israel-controlled territory and one case of Israeli firing across the demarcation line.

Of Israeli complaints, there were in September: 3 cases of demolition by high explosives by infiltrators from Egyptian-controlled territory; 5 attacks on Israeli individuals or settlements by infiltrators from Egyptian-controlled territory; 5 cases of firing across the demarcation line from the Egyptian side. In October, there was one case of infiltration from Egyptian-controlled territory and demolition by explosives; 3 cases of armed attacks by infiltrators from Egyptian-controlled territory and 3 cases of firing across the demarcation line from the Egyptian side.

The above-mentioned incidents resulted in:

September: 1 Egyptian soldier and 1 Arab girl wounded, 2 Arab civilians kidnapped; 3 Israeli civilians and 1 Israeli Beduin killed, 3 Israeli civilians and 3 Israeli Beduins wounded, 2 Israeli Beduins kidnapped.

October: 4 Arab infiltrators killed, 3 Egyptian soldiers and 1 Arab civilian wounded; 4 Israeli Beduins wounded.

The following were stolen from Israel-controlled territory:

September: 470 meters of irrigation pipes; 5 irrigators, 75 animals;

October: 346 meters of irrigation pipes; 118 camels, 200 sheep and goats.

The greater number of incidents continue to occur in the vicinity of the demarcation line which separates the Egyptian-controlled Gaza Strip from Israel-controlled territory. According to the last Annual Report of the Director of U.N.R.W.A. (A/2717), there are about 312,000 people in the Gaza Strip (local population, not counting the Palestine refugees; about 100,000; Palestine refugees; 212,600, in June 1954). The Egyptian authorities in the Gaza Strip have the responsibility of watching the demarcation line on their side and preventing individuals or groups from crossing into Israel-controlled territory for marauding or other purposes. The Israel authorities have a similar responsibility on their side of the demarcation line, with regard to Israelis crossing into the Gaza Strip. What the Israelis consider as their main problem in that area is the prevention of infiltration from the Gaza Strip into

Israeli-controlled territory. As indicated above, the Egyptian authorities have also a responsibility in regard to that problem.

I have formed the opinion that, apart from the measures which both sides are taking unilaterally, it would be advantageous to examine the possibility of agreed measures, such as:

- (a) Patrolling sensitive sections of the demarcation line by joint patrols consisting of military vehicles from each Party and from the U.N.
- (b) Negotiation of a Local Commanders' Agreement, generally along the lines of the Israel-Jordan Agreement in force prior to June 1, 1954.
- (c) Construction of a double-apron barbed wire fence along certain positions of the demarcation line, and,
- (d) Manning of all outposts and patrols by regular Egyptian and Israeli troops.

I have communicated to the two Parties an advance copy of this report and I have proposed that an informal meeting be held as early as possible in order to discuss the above suggestions.

(Signed) E.L.M. Burns
Major-General
Chief of Staff

KEY: R - Investigation requested
 NR - No investigation requested

EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSION

Egyptian Complaints - September 1954

The decisions summarized in the last column were taken in emergency meetings of the MAC. The non-investigated complaints have been withdrawn. The others are pending before the MAC.

Date of Incident	No. of Compl't	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
2.9.54	24	0956 0933	Egyptian military position fired at by Israeli across D/L	NR (see key)	
3.9.54	25	KHAN-YUNIS	Overflight by an Israeli reconnaissance plane	NR	
3.9.54	26	EL AUJA	Egyptian officer threatened by Israeli in El Auja area	R Three statements were taken	
4.9.54	27		Egyptian position fired at by Israeli	R One statement was taken	
6.9.54	28	RAFAH	Overflight by an Israeli reconnaissance plane	R The statement of a witness was taken	
5.9.54	29	GAZA shore	Violation of Egyptian territorial waters by an Israeli warship	R One statement taken	
4.9.54	30	1040 1013	Egyptian position fired at by Israeli across D/L	R Several statements taken	
6.9.54	31	GABALIA	Overflight by one Israeli plane	R Several statements taken	
4.9.54	32	IKHZA	Crossing of the D/L by 2 Israelis	NR	

EGYPTIAN Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Compl't	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
7.9.54	33	1055 1010	Firing across D/L	NR	
7.9.54	34	IKHZA	Overflight by 3 four-engined Israeli planes	NR	
7.9.54	35	BETT HANON	Overflight by 8 Israeli planes	NR	
7.9.54	36	GABALIA	Overflight by 8 Israeli planes	NR	
6.9.54	37	EL AUJA	Overflight by 3 Israeli planes	NR	
7.9.54	38	GAZA	Overflight by 8 Israeli planes	NR	
9.9.54	39	EL CUSAIMA	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	NR	
9.9.54	40	IKHZA	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	NR	
8.9.54	41	0923 0323	Firing and attack of an Egyptian army position by armed Israeli	R Tracks of one vehicle Statements taken	
9.9.54	42	EL AUJA	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	NR	
9.9.54	43	RAFAH	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	NR	
9.9.54	44	BETHANON	Overflight by 3 Israeli planes	NR	

EGYPTIAN Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Compl't	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
12.9.54	46	IKHZA	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	R Statement by a witness	
12.9.54	47	D/Z	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	NR	
13.9.54	48	GAZA	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	R Statements taken	
13.9.54	49	BETT HANON	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	NR	
14.9.54	50		Crossing of D/L and firing at an Egyptian patrol by armed Israeli	R Some tracks - one bullet 2 statements	
7.9.54	51	GAZA	Overflight by 3 Israeli planes	R Statement taken	
31.7 - 1.8 - 20.8.54	52	AKABA	Shelling by 3" mortar of an Egyptian position	NR	
20.9.54	53		Crossing of D/L and firing at Arab labourers by armed Israelis. One girl wounded	R Tracks, 30 empty cartridges with Israeli markings. Statement of wounded girl	
25.9.54	54	2768 0982	Crossing of the I/F; firing at Arabs and kidnapping 2 Arabs by Israelis	R Tracks of 2 cars. Tracks of several men wearing boots. Statements taken	

EGYPTIAN Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Compl't	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
22-9-54	55	ABLISSAN area	Firing across the D/L at an Egyptian army position. One man wounded	R Tracks and empty cart-ridges on Israeli side of the D/L. Statement taken	(The MAC decides that this action is a violation of Art.II, para.2 of the GAA by Israel
28-9-54	56	EL MOGHAZI	Firing and shelling across the D/L of an Egyptian army position	Fragments of mortar shells and tails with Hebrew markings. Tracks of 4 cars	(DECIDES that this act is a violation of Art.II, para.2 of the GAA by Egypt

EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSION

Egyptian Complaints - October 1954

The decisions summarized in the last column were taken in emergency meetings of the MAC. The non-investigated complaints have been withdrawn. The others are pending before the MAC.

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
1.10.54	57	GAZA	Violation of territorial waters	Interrogation of shore police	
1.10.54	58	EL AUJA	Violation of status of El Auja Dem. Zone by 4 armed Israelis	Several statements were taken	
4.10.54	59	EL AUJA	Violation of status of El Auja Demilitarized Zone	No tracks. A statement was taken	
5.10.54	60	GABAUJA	Overflight by 2 Israeli planes	Several statements were taken	
5.10.54	61	BETT HANON	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	Not requested	
28.9.54	62	SUEZ GULF	S/S BAT GALIM, an Israeli merchant vessel entered Egyptian territorial waters and fired at two Egyptian fishing boats. Two fishermen were killed, one fishing boat sunk	Investigated by UN Observers' team. Several statements were taken	
11.10.54	63	EAST OF GAZA	Expulsion of an Arab boy by Israelis	Several statements were taken	

EGYPTIAN Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Compl't	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
8.10.54	64	0893 0860	Firing across D/L at an Egyptian patrol	Not requested	
9.10.54	65	1083 1044	Group of infiltrators made unsuccessful attempt to steal oranges	Not requested	
9.10.54	66	GAZA territ. waters	Israeli armed boat attacked some Arab fishing boats	Not requested	
13.10.54	67	IKHZA area	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	A witness was interrogated	
13.10.54	68	BETT HANON	Overflight by 1 Israeli plane	A witness was interrogated	
14.10.54	69	0898 0867	Israelis dressed in khaki, armed, crossed the D/L	Tracks were followed by UNMO and crossed the D/L. Several statements were taken	
15.10.54	70	ABBASAN area	Overflight of Israeli planes	Several statements were taken	
15.10.54	71	1008 1018 1/25,000	Four armed Israelis crossed the D/L	Tracks were seen by UNMO crossing the D/L. Statements were taken	
15.10.54	72	0987 8677 1/25,000	Three armed Israelis crossed the D/L	Not requested	
19.10.54	73	903798 1/100,000	Four armed Israelis crossed the D/L and returned back to Israel	UNMO found outgoing and incoming tracks crossing the D/L. Several statements were taken	

EGYPTIAN Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
18.10.54	74	RAFAH area	An Israeli plane flew over Rafah area	Several statements were taken by UNMO	
19.10.54	75	KHAN YUNIS area	Two four-engine Israeli planes flew over Khan Yunis area	Several statements were taken by UNMO	
19.10.54	76	ABASSAN area	Two Israeli planes flew over Abassan area	Not requested	
22.10.54	77	1073 1043 1/100,000	Israelis fired across the line	Not requested	
26.10.54	78	1088 1048 1/25,000	8 armed Israelis approached the D/L; 3 of them crossed it, took firing positions and opened fire at an Arab. The Arab was wounded, his donkey was killed	Tracks were found by UNMO. Several statements were taken	Violation of Art.II, para.2 by Israel
30.10.54	80	0893 0877	Israeli command car opened automatic fire on an Egyptian outpost. The Egyptian soldiers were wounded	Mortar tails and fragments of mortar shells were found by UNMO. Several statements were taken	Violation of Art.II, para.2 by Israel

KEY: R - Investigation Requested
 NR - No Investigation Requested
 (X) - Incident subject of article
 in JERUSALEM POST 5 October.

EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI MIXED
 ARMISTICE COMMISSION
 Israeli Complaints - September 1954

The decisions summarized in
 the last column were taken in
 emergency meetings of the MAC.
 Non-investigated complaints
 have been withdrawn. The others
 are pending before the MAC.

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
1.9.54	46	GEVULOT Settlement	Group of infiltrators made unsuccessful attempt to steal 2 cows.	Not requested	
2.9.54	47	TALMEI YAFFA settlement 1122 1135	Stealing of 108 metres of piping by infiltrators.	Requested Tracks of 8 men leading towards the D/L.	
2/3.9.54	49	1078 1007	Stealing of 5 American pipes by infiltrators	Requested Tracks of barefooted men and 2 Conkeys were seen but lost.	
3.9.54	50	PATISH Settlement	Stealing of 126 metres of piping.	Requested Tracks of barefooted men and 2 donkeys were seen but lost.	
3.9.54 (X)	51	1393 8873	Blowing up of a bridge at Ein Nettavim.	R - No tracks. Traces of explosion. No serious damage done to bridge.	
4.9.54	52	SHOVA Settlement	Stealing of 50 metres of piping.	Requested No tracks. A statement was taken.	

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
5.9.54	53	1047 0966	An Israeli patrol encountered a group of infiltrators.	Not requested	
5.9.54	54	1020 0960	An Israeli patrol encountered 3 Arab infiltrators and 3 donkeys.	This complaint was withdrawn	
3.9.54	55	1020 0960	An Israeli patrol encountered a group of infiltrators.	Tracks were found. Several statements were taken.	
5.9.54	56	0919 0645	An Israeli patrol encountered two infiltrators.	R - Body of a killed infiltrator was seen.	
4.9.54	57	1054 1016	Crossing of the D/L by 3 Egyptian infiltrators.	NR	
5.9.54 (X)	58	1220 1000	Murder of an Israeli tractor driver by infiltrators.	R - Tracks of 2 men were seen leading to D/L.	DECIDES that this hostile act is a flagrant violation of Art.V, para.4 of GAA by Egypt.
4.9.54 (X)	59	120035	A group of 20 armed Arabs after crossing the I/F attacked a tribe of Israeli Beduins. One Beduin was killed, 2 others wounded. Sheep, goats and camel were stolen	R - Tracks of men, goats, sheep and camels were seen. Statements were taken	

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
7.9.54 (X)	60	1098 1038	Blowing up of a main water pipe line by infiltrators.	R - Tracks of 4 men were followed to the D/L.	DECIDES that this aggressive, hostile and sabotage act against Israel is a flagrant breach of Art.II, para.2 of the GAA by Egypt.
7.9.54	61	1480 9090	Capture of an Arab infiltrator.	R - UN Observer was on the spot when an Arab infiltrator surrendered.	
11.9.54	62	0964 0936	Israeli patrol fired at across D/L by 2 Egyptian positions.	R - Investigation inconclusive.	
13.9.54	63	BIREL MALAGE area	A group of 20 Arabs after crossing the I/F attacked a tribe of Israeli Beduins. One man wounded, 1 kidnapped.	R - Tracks seen leading across D/L.	
12.9.54	64	1037 1012	An Israeli tractor driver fired at across D/L by Egyptian military post. No casualties.	R - One statement was taken.	
15.9.54	65	SHEICK NAVHAN	Capture of 2 eight year old Arab children in Israeli territory.	NR	

ISRAELI complaints, Cont'd.

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
20.9.54	67	109 305	Attack on Israeli Beduin tribe by Arab armed group which crossed D/L.	R - 14 empty cartridges were found. Tracks of barefooted men. Tracks of camels. Several statements were taken.	
21.9.54	68	BEERI settlement	Capture in Israel territory of an armed infiltrator.	R - One statement was taken	
20.9.54	69	EIN HASHELOSHA	Stealing of 90 metres of piping and 5 irrigators by infiltrators.	R - Tracks were seen crossing the D/L. Several statements were taken.	
23.9.54	71	SHUVA Settlement	Stealing of 30 metres of piping by infiltrators.	R - Tracks were found. Several statements were taken.	
22.9.54	72	MIGDAL ASKHELON shore	Violation of Israeli territorial waters by 5 fishing boats.	NR	
19.9.54	74	1430 8812	Capture of an Arab infiltrator in Israeli territory.	R - One statement was taken.	
20.9.54 (X)	66		Wounding of a tractor driver and blowing up of a home by 4 armed infiltrators.	R - A blown up tractor and tracks of men leading to D/L were seen.	DECIDES that this aggression which was carried out by that unit is a flagrant violation of Art.II, para.2 of the GAA by Egypt.

ISRAELI complaints, Cont'd.

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
20.9.54	70	SHEIKH NABHAN area 0946 0924	2 Israeli soldiers were fired at across the D/L by an Egyptian outpost.	R - Not conclusive.	
22.9.54	73	0901 0823	Israeli patrol fired at across D/L by Egyptian outpost.	R - Not conclusive.	
24/25.9.54	75	SHARSHERETH "G"	Stealing of two mules by infiltrators.	R - One statement was taken.	
25.9.54	76	TALMEI YAFFE	The infiltrators were discovered but flew.	R - One statement was taken.	
24.9.54	77	EIN HASHELOJHA	Infiltrators discovered but flew.	R - One statement was taken.	
24.9.54	78	SHARSHERETH	Firing at settlement guards by armed infiltrators.	R - Withdrawn.	
25.9.54 (X)	79	1127 1173	2 Israelis killed and 2 wounded by 5 armed infiltrators.	R - E. tracks leading to the D/L were seen. Statements taken.	DECIDES that this aggressive action against Israel constitutes a flagrant breach of Art.II, para.2 of the GAA by Egypt.

ISRAELI complaints, Cont'd.

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map Reference	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
24-25.9.54	80	137 063	Attack on an Israeli Beduin tribe by armed Arabs - stealing 7 camels and 1 horse.	R - Tracks were seen but could not be followed to the border.	
27.9.54	81	OMER settlement	Stealing of 20 camels of an Israeli Beduin tribe by armed infiltrators.	R - Tracks were seen but could not be followed to the D/I.	
28.9.54	82	0916 0904	Israeli patrol fired at across D/I by Egyptian outpost.	R - Statement was taken. Not conclusive.	
28.9.54	83	0918 0895	Egyptian soldiers crossed into Israeli territory and opened fire at an Israeli observation post.	R - Tracks were found from and to the D/I. Several statements were taken.	
27.9.54	85	SHUVA settlement	Unsuccessful attempt at stealing of water pipe by infiltrators.	NR	
28.9.54	84	SHARSHEREITH settlement	Unsuccessful attempt to steal piping by group of infiltrators.	NR	
1.10.54	86	SHUVA settlement	Firing at SHUVA settlement by armed infiltrators and stealing 36 m. of piping.	R - One statement was taken.	

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EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSION

Israeli Complaints - October 1954

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map References	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
29.9.54	87	AFRIDAR	Capture of an Arab infiltrator	Witness' statement	
14.9.54	88	Beersheba	Capture of 3 armed infiltrators	Several statements	
1.10.54	89	ASKELON	Violation of territorial waters by five (5) fishing boats	Statement	
12.10.54	90	TSU MAON	Unsuccessful attempt at stealing	Not requested	
12.10.54	91	HISUFIM	Stealing of 8 water pipes by infiltrators	Not requested	
23.10.54	92	GILIA'AD	Stealing of religious object in a synagogue by infiltrators	Not requested	
8/9.10.54	93	1073 1092	Two infiltrators were encountered. One was killed. The other escaped	Tracks were found leading back across the D/L. Statements were taken	
9.10.54	94	Sheikh Nabhan area	Two infiltrators were captured by Israelis	Two statements taken	

ISRAELI Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map References	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
4.10.54	95	Eilat area	An infiltrator crossed the I/F and was captured	The infiltrator was interrogated by UNMO	
15.10.54	96	M'falsim	Infiltrators crossed the D/L and stole water pipe (About 60 m)	UNMO followed tracks to D/L where they crossed D/L	
19.10.54	97	Yihini	Infiltrators crossed the D/L and stole water pipe (50 metres)	Requested - Tracks to and from the D/L were seen. A statement was taken	
15.10.54	98	Mishmar Hanegev	Infiltrators made an unsuccessful attempt to steal	Not requested	
22.10.54	99	Near Omer	Armed infiltrators attacked Beduins and stole 4 camels. One Israeli Beduin was wounded	Tracks were found by UNMO. UNMO took several statements	
23.10.54	100	Barkia	Infiltrators stole a calf	Several statements were taken by UNMO	
23.10.54	102	Saad	Infiltrators stole 60 metres of waterpipe	Several statements were taken. Tracks were seen leading to the D/L	
25.10.54	103	1076 1008	Infiltrators blew a main water pipe line	Incoming and outgoing tracks were found by UNMO. A statement was taken	Egypt was condemned

ISRAELI Complaints, Cont'd

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map References	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
26.10.54	104	Sead	Infiltration and theft (scale, 50 empty sacks, 4 heaps of peanuts)	Several statements were taken by UNMO	
26.10.54	105	Error Hail	Armed infiltrators opened fire on a tractor driver	Statements were taken	
26.10.54	106	0923 0317	Egyptian position opened fire across the I/F at a command car	Several statements were taken by UNMO	
30.10.54	107	0997 0866	Heavy automatic fire was opened on an Israeli patrol across the D/L	Impacts of three mortar shells were found. Several statements were taken.	Violation of Art.II, para.2 by Egypt
29.10.54	108	110 036	A Beduin tribe was attacked by an armed gang coming from Egyptian territory. 3 Israeli Beduins were wounded.	A prisoner was interrogated and tracks were seen crossing the I/F. Statements were taken	Violation of GAA by Egypt
28/29.10.54	109	Yshibia	Infiltration and theft (35 metres of irrigation pipe)	Not requested	
30.10.54	110	0948 0921	Firing across the D/L by Egyptians at an Israeli outpost	Statements were taken	

ISRAELI Complaints, Cont'd.

Date of Incident	No. of Complaint	Map References	Summary of Complaint	Summary of Investigation	MAC Decision
30.10.54	111	Tel Reem	Infiltration and theft (100 metres irrigation pipe)	Statements were taken	
28.10.54	112	Sharshereth	Infiltration and theft (clothing and culinary equipment)	Not requested	
31.10.54	113	Maslul	Infiltration and theft. (clothing and kitchen equipment)	Not requested	