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LETTER DATED 3 FEBRUARY 1960 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, upon instructions from my Government, to bring to your attention, as President of the Security Council, a renewed act of aggression by the Israeli armed forces on the United Arab Republic (Syrian Region) in violation of the Armistice Agreement.

At 1255 hours (local time) on January 31, 1960, Israeli forces moved towards Arab farmers in the Southern Sector of the Demilitarized Zone North of Lake Tiberias. The farmers were accompanied by a U.N. Observer. The Israeli forces opened fire on them.

At 1300 hours on the same day, an Israeli armored vehicle moved to give support to the Israeli forces which started firing from mortars at 1315 hours. Our forces returned the fire at 1330 hours.

On the same day General von Horn requested an emergency meeting of the Syrian-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission to which we agreed, although Israel's position in this connexion is not known.

At midnight January 31, and on February 1st, the Israelis shelled some of our positions in the Southern Sector to which reference has already been made, attempting to occupy the village of Tawafik.

At 300 hours on February 1st, the Israelis resumed their firing on our positions in the same Sector, and our artillery returned the fire. The Israelis then occupied the village of Tawafik, but subsequently they were compelled to withdraw at 530 hours on the same day.

At 830 hours of the same day, the Israelis re-engaged our forces using all weapons.

At 1100 hours again on the same day, Israeli planes violated the air space of the Syrian region and were engaged by our planes.

At 2030 hours another engagement took place between Arab and Israeli patrols. Israeli forces opened fire, using 120 mm caliber mortars on the village of Tawafik.

In the afternoon of February 1st, Israeli forces began to evacuate some of the Israeli settlements on the Armistice demarcation line (Kafer Szold, Kafer Shamir).

Israeli forces are being continually reinforced along the Armistice demarcation line.

The above acts of aggression leave no room for doubt about the intention of Israel to pursue its planned aggressive policy in the demilitarized zone in order to occupy the area, in the manner which they have followed in occupying the Auja demilitarized zone, in violation of the Armistice Agreements.

The Government of the United Arab Republic takes a most serious view of this threat to Israel to the peace and security of the area.

While reserving the right of my delegation to pursue this grave matter further, I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated to all members of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Omar Loutfi
Permanent Representative
of the United Arab Republic
to the United Nations

