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LETTER DATED 1 MARCH 1955 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT ADDRESSED
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's attention the following urgent matter:

Yesterday, at approximately 8.30 p.m., an Israeli armed force estimated two platoons strength, crossed the Armistice Demarcation Line east of Gaza and advanced well inside Egyptian controlled territory for about three kilometers until they reached the area of an Egyptian military camp. They blew up the buildings of the camps using demolition charges, then sprayed the ruins with fire from automatic weapons. They also blew up a water pump house in the vicinity using demolition charges. As a result of this, an Egyptian captain and fourteen other ranks were killed. Sixteen other ranks were injured.

Two hours later, a platoon of thirty-five soldiers under the command of a first lieutenant moved from a camp south of Gaza in a lorry towards the attacked Egyptian camp to reinforce the garrison of the Egyptian camp but was ambushed by Israeli soldiers whose job in this aggressive action was to prevent reinforcements from moving to the scene of the incident. As a result of this ambush, twenty-two soldiers were killed; another fourteen were injured, among them the platoon commander.

The total number of casualties amounts to thirty-seven killed from the Egyptian armed forces and two civilians; another thirty were injured from the armed forces and two civilians.

The Egyptian Government expresses its grave concern over this obviously premeditated armed attack which was carried out by Israeli armed forces against Egyptian armed forces within Egyptian controlled area.

This brutal act of aggression, which constitutes a flagrant violation of the Egyptian-Israeli General Armistice Agreement, surpasses by far all previous Israeli aggressions since the conclusion of the Armistice Agreement and certainly threatens seriously the peace and security in this area.

I fully reserve all the rights of my Government as regards the consequences of this grave act of aggression.

I have the honour to request you to communicate this letter to all the members of the Security Council.

Please accept, Excellency, etc.

(Signed) Omar Loutfi

Representative of Egypt
to the Security Council

