



UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL  
S/4376  
7 July 1960  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 6 JULY 1960 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Excellency,

With reference to the letter of the Permanent Representative of Israel addressed to the President of the Security Council on 1 July 1960, document S/4365, I have the honour, on instructions from my Government, to bring to your attention the following facts:

1. Israel has submitted a complaint to the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission regarding incidents referred to in document S/4365. According to our information, the Israeli claims are far from being accurate and do not correspond with the facts. We prefer, however, not to discuss these facts because an investigation is being carried out by ISMAC and so far no decision has been taken by this body. It is therefore clear that the Israeli complaint is baseless since the facts have not been established.

2. The submission of a letter to the Security Council by Israel regarding the alleged incidents before they were completely investigated by the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission and in the context in which it was submitted leads us to believe that the incidents themselves were not the real motive for such submission.

3. The allegation by Israel that there is concentration of United Arab Republic troops in the Syrian-Israeli border area is totally unfounded. The United Arab Republic troops are undertaking no provocative measures in the area, and it is therefore entirely false that U.A.R. troops have renewed unilateral armed action along the Syrian border.

4. Israel has refused to attend the meetings of the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission since 1951. This refusal on the part of Israel does not only constitute a flagrant violation of the General Armistice Agreement, but has also

contributed to the increase of tension in the area. The Syrian delegation has consistently called for the meeting of the Syrian-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission in order to investigate complaints and to avoid incidents. This fact is confirmed by the numerous reports of the Chief of Staff, the latest of which is dated 25 February 1960.

5. It is well known that the state of tension prevailing in the Demilitarized Zone is totally the responsibility of Israel due to the fact that the natural characteristics of the Demilitarized Zone have been extensively changed by Israel in contravention of Article 5 of the General Armistice Agreement, as confirmed by the Chief of Staff in his report dated 27 March 1951, and in a later report dated 23 October 1953, S/3122, on the basis of which the Security Council adopted its resolution of 27 October 1953. It was also referred to in the report of the Secretary-General, document S/3659, dated 27 September 1956, and in the report of the Chief of Staff, document S/4270, dated 23 February 1960.

6. The aggressive policy of Israel with respect to the Demilitarized Zone is clearly indicated by the fact that Israel has committed no less than 259 aggressive acts in the said Zone since 1 January 1960, regarding which the United Arab Republic Government has submitted complaints to the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

7. Responsibility for incidents - trespassings, kidnappings, starting of shooting, etc. - can only be determined by the findings of the Mixed Armistice Commissions provided for by the General Armistice Agreement. ISMAC has time and again expressed its regret for Israel's persistent refusal to attend its meetings; and the Security Council itself strongly condemned this Israeli attitude, in its resolution of 18 May 1951, as "inconsistent with the objectives and intent of the Armistice Agreement".

8. In this connexion we wish to draw the attention of the Security Council to the two resolutions by ISMAC at its seventy-ninth emergency meeting on 16 February 1960, whereby ISMAC has condemned Israel for its hostile acts in the Demilitarized Zone. As recently as 30 May 1960, the Egyptian-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission decided that Israel has committed a hostile act against the United Arab Republic air space, condemned Israel and noted with great concern the continuous disregard of the General Armistice Agreement by Israel.

/...

9. The Government of the United Arab Republic deplore the Israeli practice to use the Security Council as a forum for baseless allegations and tendentious propaganda, especially when Israel has been condemned on countless occasions by the Security Council and the Mixed Armistice Commissions.

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

