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LETTER DATED 12 MARCH 1951 FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSIONS

Sir,

I have the honour to communicate to you for transmission to the President of the Security Council the attached report on the status of the operations of the Mixed Armistice Commissions during the period 17 November 1950 to 17 February 1951.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

W. E. Riley,
Major General, USMC,
Chief of Staff.

/REPORT ON THE
S/2049

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE MIXED
ARMISTICE COMMISSIONS, DURING THE PERIOD
17 NOVEMBER 1950 TO 17 FEBRUARY 1951

I have the honour, in pursuance of the Security Council resolution of 17 November 1950 (document S/1907), to submit the following report on the status of the operations of the Mixed Armistice Commissions during the period 17 November 1950 to 17 February 1951.

I. Egyptian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission

1. On 12 December 1950, the Egyptian delegation to the Egyptian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission requested that an investigation be made by a United Nations observer to confirm that all Israel armed forces had been withdrawn from Bir Qattar near the Gulf of Akaba. The Security Council, in its resolution of 17 November 1950, took note of the statement of the Government of Israel that "Israel armed forces will evacuate Bir Qattar pursuant to the 20 March 1950 decision of the Special Committee, provided for in article X, paragraph 4, of the Egyptian-Israel General Armistice Agreement, and that Israel armed forces will withdraw to positions authorized by the Armistice Agreement". A United Nations observer visited Bir Qattar on 3 January 1951 and found no evidence of military positions there, and former defence works had been filled in.
2. An Israel training aircraft on 19 December 1950, while on routine training flight, supposedly lost its way and crashed off the northern edge of the Egyptian-controlled Gaza-Rafah strip. The Egyptian authorities recovered six bodies from the wreckage and returned them to the Israel authorities with full military honours.
3. On 23 December 1950, the Egyptian delegation submitted a complaint alleging that Israel was concentrating armed forces in the Beersheba area in excess of the number allowed by the General Armistice Agreement. A United Nations observer investigated this complaint immediately and found no evidence of any increase in the garrison in excess of that authorized by the General Armistice Agreement.
4. On 30 January 1951, at the request of the Egyptian delegation, a United Nations observer investigated an alleged incursion of Israel soldiers across the demarcation line into Egyptian-controlled territory south of Gaza. The Egyptian delegation's complaint alleged that during the night of 29-30 January 1951, an

Israel armed force had penetrated one mile inside the Egyptian-controlled area, under covering rifle and machine gun fire and had blown up a house. At the meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission on 14 February 1951, the Israel delegation stated that no Israel army personnel were involved and added that further investigation of the incident was being continued.

5. On 14 February 1951, at the meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission, the Chairman reminded both delegations of those parts of the Security Council resolution of 27 November 1950, which requested the Egyptian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission to "give urgent attention to the Egyptian complaint of expulsion of thousands of Palestine Arabs", and called upon both Parties "to give effect to any findings of the Egyptian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission regarding the repatriation of any such Arabs who, in the Commission's opinion, are entitled to return". The Chairman made the following proposals for the mutual agreement of both Parties:

- (a) The eight complaints dealing with the expulsion of Arabs from Majdal to the Gaza strip be withdrawn.
- (b) Both Parties agree to repatriate, at the earliest practicable date, individuals who, in the opinion of the Mixed Armistice Commission, are entitled to repatriation.
- (c) The Mixed Armistice Commission notes the statement of the Israel military commander of the area that no future transfers will be made and that this assurance be reaffirmed by the Israel delegation.
- (d) The question of reuniting separated families, and the transfer of Arabs now living in the Gaza strip, who desire to join the heads of their families in territory under the control of the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom, be given immediate consideration.

6. Both delegations agreed to study the Chairman's proposals and to give their replies at the earliest possible time.

7. Also at the meeting of 14 February 1951, the Mixed Armistice Commission considered the Egyptian delegation's complaints of 2 and 11 September 1950, alleging expulsion of members of the Azazme bedouin tribe from Israel-controlled territory into Egypt, and the Israel delegation's complaint that members of the Azazme tribe had been forced across the Egyptian-Israel demarcation line into Israel-controlled territory.

8. On the question of members of the Azazma bedouin tribe, the Israel delegation stated that its position remained unchanged. The Azazma bedouins, the Israel delegation maintained, had fled into the Sinai during military operations and were not in Israel territory at the time of the signing of the General Armistice Agreement. Following the signing of the Agreement, Israel had registered all bedouins under Israel control. The members of the Azazma tribe were not among those bedouins registered at the time; they had returned to Israel-controlled territory at a later date. Therefore, they were infiltrators and would be treated as such.

9. The Egyptian delegation suggested that a committee of United Nations observers be appointed to prepare for the Mixed Armistice Commission a list of Arabs expelled; the Commission could then take the necessary action for their repatriation. The Israel delegation opposed this suggestion on the ground that the name of the tribe was known to the Mixed Armistice Commission and, in the Israel delegation's opinion, previous investigations by United Nations observers had established the fact that these Bedouins had infiltrated into Israel-controlled territory. The Israel delegation added that, at a previous meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission, the Chairman at the time had stated that these Bedouins were, in fact, infiltrators.

10. The Chairman proposed that both delegations explore informally the possibility of arriving at a mutually acceptable solution of the Azazma tribe problem. The Israel delegation rejected this suggestion, stating that a compromise solution to this problem would be a dangerous precedent for Israel. Should a compromise be found on this matter, all other questions would similarly be resolved by compromise. The Egyptian delegation, however, agreed to an informal discussion.

11. The Chairman pointed out that historically the Azazma tribe's home grounds, wells, and water points were encompassed in a wide oblong area running from Beersheba to El Aqja. The official map used by the Mixed Armistice Commission indicates the areas attributed to the Azazma sub-tribes. Authorities on the subject of Bedouins, long before the present problem had arisen, had ascribed this area to the Azazma tribe. The Chairman added that the tribe was semi-nomadic and in the past was accustomed to roam westward into the Sinai and eastward into Transjordan in search of water and pasture. Today, the majority of the tribe were

in the Sinai, but they were in urgent need of a living space of their own. In the past, the Bedouins were unregimented by the governments of the countries through which they moved, and were not "citizens" or "subjects" in the sense of being members of a modern State. For example, in the past they were not subject to Palestine law but, instead, administered their own justice by means of tribal courts. In the opinion of the Chairman, one important point had not been clearly established, namely, the location of the Azazme tribe at the time of the signing of the General Armistice Agreement between Egypt and Israel.

12. In summing up his statement, the Chairman said:

- (a) It would be difficult to find a solution to the problem concerning the Azazme bedouins which would be completely satisfactory to Israel, Egypt and the Azazme tribe.
- (b) Any attempted solution which treats the Azazme as "citizens" in the usual sense would be unrealistic.
- (c) The solution of the problem must come from the joint efforts of all concerned; that is, the sincere joint efforts of Israel and Egypt and the enlisted co-operation of the sheikhs of the Azazme tribe and sub-tribes.
- (d) Both delegations, in their discussion of the problem, had taken what appeared to be irreconcilable positions with respect to the disposition of the Azazme tribe. Therefore, there was a great necessity for the reconsideration, by both Parties, of their positions in the hope that in the near future, constructive proposals for a joint solution may be forthcoming.

13. The Israel delegation agreed with the Chairman's contention that historically the members of the Azazme tribe were connected with the Beersheba area, but that the map showed other names of bedouin tribes which no longer lived in the area and were refugees elsewhere. The Israel delegation reiterated that none of the Azazme tribe, except two small sub-tribes whose members were accepted as Israel citizens, were living in Israel territory at the time Bedouins were registered in 1948. The Israel delegation agreed that the Azazme tribe needed an area of their own, but added that it was not authorized to propose any Israel territory as a reserve area, nor did the delegation believe that the Israel Government would agree to such a proposal.

14. The Chairman again called upon both Parties to give serious reconsideration to their positions in order that another meeting might be held in the near future with a view toward finding a mutually acceptable solution.

II. Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel
Mixed Armistice Commission

1. On 11 September 1950, the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom Government complained in a telegram to the Security Council that Israel armed forces had violated the northern frontiers of the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom by occupying a piece of land abutting on the hydro-electric works near Naharayim.
2. On 7 October 1950, the Israel delegation to the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission addressed a letter to the United Nations Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization on the question of the dispute over the Naharayim area. The Israel delegation requested that an "emergency meeting be convened to discuss and vote on the question whether the disputed area lies east or west of the demarcation line, or, in other words, did Israel violate the Armistice Agreement by ploughing this area".
3. The Security Council discussed this complaint in October and the early part of November 1950. In its resolution of 17 November 1950, the Security Council, "taking into consideration the views expressed and the data given by the representatives of Egypt, Israel and the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom, and the United Nations Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization", called upon the Parties to the complaints before the Security Council to consent to their being handled according to the procedures established in the General Armistice Agreements.
4. The Israel delegation's request of 7 October 1950 was communicated to the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom delegation and informal talks are in progress.
5. A major problem settled by the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission concerned the location of a diversion of the Beersheba-Elath road in the Wadi Araba. On 22 November 1950, the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom delegation complained that a diversion of the Beersheba-Elath road had been constructed by Israel during 1950 on Hashemite Jordan Kingdom territory. Following a series of meetings, the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, on 14 February 1951, decided that:
 - "a. The stretch of the road in the Wadi Araba between MR. 165,292 - 954,700 and map reference 165,562 - 953,250 is to be considered as being in Jordan-controlled territory.
 - "b. The remainder of the road, between Kilometre 74 and Kilometre 78, is to be considered as being in Israel-controlled territory, it being recognized that these two decisions shall not in any way prejudice the rights, claims, and positions of either Party in an ultimate peace settlement between them.
 - "c. Israel

"c. Israel traffic shall cease to use that portion of the Wadi Araba road declared to be in Jordan-controlled territory, from 1200 hours on 25 February 1951."

On 25 February 1951, the portion of the road declared to be in Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-controlled territory was blocked and Israel traffic ceased to use it. (The Wadi Araba dispute is discussed fully in a separate report to the Security Council dated 12 March 1951.)

6. During the period 15 December 1950 to 15 February 1951, a series of incidents along the demarcation lines between the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom and Israel led to sixteen requests for emergency meetings of the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission. At its meeting on 14 February 1951, the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Armistice Commission adopted a resolution unanimously, condemning the wanton killings and murders and drew attention to the imperative need for preventing the recurrence of such acts. It was further resolved that, since high-ranking Hashemite Jordan Kingdom and Israel military officers were to meet shortly to discuss the prevention of future incidents, the sixteen complaints would be considered as having been acted upon by the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission. At subsequent sub-committee meetings, a total of 116 complaints were stricken from the agenda of the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission. (This subject is discussed fully in a separate report to the Security Council dated 12 March 1951.)

7. At the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting on 14 February 1951, it was also decided unanimously that in the future the Chairman would have the sole right to determine which complaints called for emergency meetings. In the event the Chairman decided that a complaint was of an emergency nature, a meeting of the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission would be called within twenty-four hours.

III. Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission

1. The task of marking on the ground the demarcation lines between Israel and the Lebanon was completed on 27 January 1951. The purpose of this project, undertaken by a special sub-committee set up by the Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on 16 November 1949, was to reduce incidents arising out of uncertainty as to the exact location of the demarcation line. In general, the work of this sub-committee progressed smoothly. For example, in a number of cases special measures were taken with respect to fields lying astride the demarcation lines, it being understood that such measures would not affect final decisions to be

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incorporated in an eventual peace treaty. However, with respect to a small portion of the demarcation lines, the Israel and Lebanese delegations were unable to come to an agreement, as a result of differing interpretations of the text of the Anglo-French Agreement of 1923. The sub-committee is now engaged in preparing the final draft of its report and is expected to meet in March 1951, for a final study of the draft report before its submission.

2. On 23 November 1950, the Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission considered a complaint submitted by the Lebanese delegation, which alleged that Israel military aircraft had flown across the demarcation lines. The Israel delegation replied that annex I (Definition of Defensive Forces) of the Lebanese-Israel General Armistice Agreement did not prohibit military aircraft from using the air space above the defensive zone. The Lebanese delegation rejected this interpretation and requested the Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission to take a decision on the matter. The Chairman suggested, and both Parties agreed, that the Israel position should be studied further before the question was voted upon. At a subsequent meeting, both delegations agreed that the deputy Chiefs of Staff of the Israel and Lebanese armed forces, who had signed the General Armistice Agreement, should meet in order to resolve the question. In the meantime, the Israel delegation agreed to prohibit military aircraft from entering the air space above the defensive zone. To date, the proposed meeting of the deputy Chiefs of Staff has not taken place.

3. In addition, the Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission dealt with the following matters:

- (a) The return of persons from Israel and the Lebanon who had made unauthorized crossings of the demarcation lines and were apprehended. In this respect, following an agreement reached in the Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, several hundreds of Palestine Arab refugees who had infiltrated into Israel from the Lebanon, were returned to the Lebanon through the Lebanese-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission.
- (b) The return of herds of livestock and individual domestic animals which had wandered across the demarcation lines and were seized.
- (c) The return of fishing boats from one State which had entered the waters of the other and were seized.
- (d) The disposition of cases of smuggling and theft along the demarcation lines.

(e) The consideration of the repatriation to Israel of Arab refugees who had fled to the Lebanon during the hostilities.

IV. Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission

1. The main concern of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission has been the administration of demilitarized zones and the problems arising therefrom. The Israel project for straightening and deepening the bed of the Jordan River at the southern end of Lake Hula has led to complaints to the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission by the Syrian delegation. The aim of this project is to lower the water level of Lake Hula and to dry the marshes north thereto. The Syrian delegation has contended that the carrying out of this project would remove a natural military obstacle, in contravention of article II, paragraph 1 of the Syrian-Israel General Armistice Agreement, which states:

"The principle that no military or political advantage should be gained under the truce ordered by the Security Council is recognized."

The Syrian delegation further held that the work undertaken by the Israel authorities prevented many Arab residents of the demilitarized zone from resuming normal civilian life.

2. Under the terms of article V of the Syrian-Israel General Armistice Agreement the Syrian delegation is required to address its complaint concerning the demilitarized zone to the United Nations Chairman, and likewise the United Nations Chairman can decide whether the work being carried out by the Israel authorities in the demilitarized zone could be permitted under the terms of the General Armistice Agreement. The Syrian complaint was made to the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on 14 February 1951. The Israel delegation, however, raised no objection to the complaint being considered by the Commission. Instead, at the formal meeting of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on 21 February 1951, both delegations agreed mutually to seek the opinion of the United Nations Chief of Staff on the question as to whether or not the work undertaken by the Israel authorities constituted a contravention of article II (military advantage) of the General Armistice Agreement.

3. At the meeting of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on 7 March 1951, the United Nations Chief of Staff submitted a memorandum to the Chairman of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission which was circulated to the delegations. In submitting the memorandum, the United Nations Chief of Staff took
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into consideration the fact that the Israel delegation had raised no objection to the Syrian complaint being discussed in the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission. This memorandum read as follows:

"A. In accordance with the desires of both delegations of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission as expressed at the 58th meeting held on 21 February 1951, the views of the Chief of Staff are transmitted with respect to the Lake Hula Concession project now being undertaken.

"a. Military Advantage

It can be argued that in the draining of Lake Hula marshes, any military advantage which will accrue to one Party shall be equally enjoyed by the other Party. It should be pointed out that the terrain along the demarcation line and east of the international border between Syria and Palestine in the vicinity of the Hula marshes is in itself a natural obstacle to the movement of military forces. These topographical features and extremely high ground present a dominating military terrain feature from which the Syrians can control the ground which is now marsh land. The argument of Syria that in drawing up the Armistice Agreement a demilitarized zone was created where no natural obstacles existed, is not valid. Article V, paragraph 3, states in part:

'The Armistice Demarcation Line shall follow a line midway between the existing truce lines, as certified by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization for the Israel and Syrian forces. Where the existing truce lines run along the international boundary between Syria and Palestine, the Armistice Demarcation Line shall follow the boundary line.'

Article V, paragraph 5 (a) states in part:

'Where the Armistice Demarcation Line does not correspond to the international boundary between Syria and Palestine, the area between the Armistice Demarcation Line and the boundary, pending final territorial settlement between the Parties, shall be established as a Demilitarized Zone.'

From these articles, it is conclusive that a demilitarized zone was created where the truce lines did not correspond to the international border between Syria and Palestine, and not in locations where no natural obstacles prevented the movement of armed forces.

It is concluded that:

- i. in draining Lake Hula, the Israelis will not enjoy any military advantages not equally applicable to the Syrians;
- ii. the demilitarized zone was not created where natural obstacles to the movement of armed forces were non-existent.

"b. Civilian Works

In draining the Hula marshes, the Israelis are performing works of a civilian nature for the purpose of reclaiming land for cultivation. This work affects land in the territory under

Israel control. Therefore, Syria cannot on any grounds offer an objection to this type of work, any more than could Israel protest against projects of a similar nature being performed by Syria in territory under its control. It must be further pointed out that the draining of these marshes will be equally advantageous to Syria from a sanitary point of view. In completing this project, Israel will have contributed to the malaria control of the area.

"c. Construction of Dam

The construction of a dam at the south end of Lake Hula to lessen the flow into the Jordan River has resulted in a slight rise in the level of the lake with some flooding of Arab lands in the vicinity of Ein Tinna. While this flooding approximates that which would occur during a normal rainy season, nevertheless this water will not recede in due course. This flooding, therefore, is an obstacle in the return to normal civilian life of the inhabitants of the demilitarized zone. This is a violation of article V, paragraph 2, of the Armistice Agreement.

"d. Work Within the Demilitarized Zone

At the present time, Israelis are performing work within the central sector of the demilitarized zone preparatory to straightening and deepening the Jordan River. A road has been cut through Arab lands, against the will of land owners. The Israelis contend that they are exercising rights under a concession originally granted by the Imperial Ottoman Government in 1914 and transferred to the Palestine Land Development Company Limited in 1934. Whereas a Mandate Government Ordinance in 1938 gave undisturbed rights to the concessionaires in the areas known as the 'Unreserved Concession Area', it does not follow that these rights granted under the Mandate Government, which no longer exists, still hold good.

The demilitarized zone created by the Armistice Agreement was defined with a view toward separating the armed forces of both Parties while providing for the gradual restoration of normal civilian life in the area of the demilitarized zone. The Chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission was charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the provisions of the Armistice Agreement with respect to the demilitarized zone were implemented. It follows that neither Party to the Armistice Agreement therefore enjoys rights of sovereignty within the demilitarized zone. Any laws, regulations or ordinances in force prior to the Armistice Agreement which affected any areas included

in the demilitarized zone are null and void. Therefore, the concessionaires do not enjoy the right to expropriate lands or buildings, to occupy lands temporarily or to force the owners of lands to accept compensation. There is no law of expropriation within the demilitarized zone. Any occupancy of lands either temporary or permanent, without the full consent of the land owners is a hindrance to the restoration of normal civilian life in the demilitarized zone, and a violation of article V, paragraph 2, of the Armistice Agreement.

- "B. Until such time as a mutual agreement is reached between the Governments of Syria and Israel, with respect to the work now being conducted in the demilitarized zone in connection with the drainage of the Lake Hula marshes, the Palestine Land Development Company or any successors are, in the opinion of the Chief of Staff, not justified in continuing such work.
- "C. In the opinion of the Chief of Staff, the Palestine Land Development Company Limited should be instructed forthwith to cease all operations within the demilitarized zone, until such time as a mutual agreement is arranged through the Chairman between Syria and Israel for continuing this project.

(Sgd.) W. E. Riley,
Major General, USMC."

Note: The United Nations Chief of Staff now believes that his memorandum should have stated that any laws, regulations or ordinances in force prior to the Armistice Agreement which affected any areas included in the demilitarized zone, "are held in abeyance", instead of "are null and void".

4. At the meeting of 7 March 1951, the Israel delegation contended that the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission had invited the United Nations Chief of Staff to express an opinion whether the work being done by Israel was a contravention of article II of the General Armistice Agreement or not. It was not in order for him to go outside the scope of the request as he had done in his memorandum. The Israel delegation charged the United Nations Chief of Staff with assuming prerogatives in the demilitarized zones which were not given to him under the General Armistice Agreement. The Israel delegation maintained that Israel was determined to uphold her sovereignty in the demilitarized zone except insofar as it was limited by the terms of the General Armistice Agreement.
5. The Syrian delegation stressed that it would have been improper for the United Nations Chief of Staff to express an opinion on one aspect of the problem only. He was within his rights to advise the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on all aspects of the problem. The Syrian delegation called on the Commission to vote on the Syrian delegation's complaint. However, it was mutually

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agreed to postpone the vote for twenty-four hours to permit the Israel delegation to study further the memorandum from the United Nations Chief of Staff and the position taken by the Syrian delegation.

6. Three hours before the time set for the meeting on 8 March 1951, the Chairman of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission received the following message from the Israel deputy Chief of Staff:

"I am instructed by my Government to inform you that, having heard the report of yesterday's meeting of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, it considers that the questions raised and the memorandum submitted by General Riley calls for careful consideration. I have, therefore, instructed our delegation not to attend tonight's meeting of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, which will have to be postponed."

The message added the Israel delegation would inform the Chairman of the date on which it could take part in a meeting of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission.

7. This message was communicated to the Syrian delegation which replied on the same day as follows:

"a. Since the meeting of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission set for 8 March 1951 was mutually agreed upon, the postponement requested by the Israel delegation constitutes a very dangerous precedent. This action gives the important problem under discussion a sense of gravity which might impede the smooth working of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission in the future.

"b. The Syrian delegation protests against the delay caused by the Israel delegation in the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission taking a decision on the question of Lake Hula. The Syrian delegation requests the intervention of the United Nations Chief of Staff, Truce Supervision Organization, in order that the Israel work now in progress in the demilitarized zone be stopped immediately."

8. On 10 March 1951, the Chairman of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission requested the Israel delegation to ensure that instructions are issued in order that Israel works on Arab-owned lands in the demilitarized zone be stopped until action has been taken by the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission. To date, the Israel authorities have ignored the request of the Chairman to cease work on this project within the demilitarized zone.

9. Paragraphs 1 to 8 refer to matters which occurred after the ninety-day period from 17 November to 17 February. These details are included in this report in view of the importance attached to the Lake Hula problem by the Israel and Syrian delegations.

W. E. Riley,
Major General, U.S. Marine Corps,
United Nations Chief of Staff of the
Truce Supervision Organization.