

the Council on March 17, the Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization stated that the Egypt-Israeli mixed Armistice Commission had on March 6 found Israel responsible for the attack at Gaza. Reviewing the situation, the Chief of Staff observed that repeated minor incidents had helped to create a state of tension, one of the main causes of which had been infiltration into Israel from Egyptian-controlled territory. He recommended that certain measures should be taken to decrease tension along the demarcation line. On March 28 France, the United Kingdom and the United States submitted a joint draft resolution providing that the Security Council should condemn the attack by Israeli forces at the Gaza strip on February 28; call upon Israel to take all necessary measures to prevent such actions; and urge both sides to comply with the Armistice Agreement. With reference to conditions along the armistice demarcation line between Egypt and Israel, another joint draft resolution was submitted by France, the United Kingdom and the United States which requested the Chief of Staff to continue his consultations with the Governments of Egypt and Israel, with a view to the introduction of practical measures to preserve security in the area; and called upon the Governments of Egypt and Israel to co-operate with the Chief of Staff in the specific proposals he had made to this end. Both resolutions were adopted unanimously at meetings held on March 29-30.

On April 4, 1955 the Representative of Israel complained against Egyptian attacks, particularly the armed clashes at Pattish and Nahal Oz, and mining and gun-fire along the Gaza strip. In a report dated April 14, the Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization stated that the most important factor contributing to the increased tension had been the mining of tracks used by Israeli army vehicles, which might well be retaliatory action by certain elements following the Gaza incident. It was pointed out during the Security Council discussion of these incidents that there was an almost complete discrepancy of opinion as to the responsibility for them. On April 19 the President of the Security Council stated that there seemed to be no need for any new action by the Council, since the situation had been fully covered in the resolutions adopted on March 29 and 30. He appealed to both sides to give full effect to these resolutions, which were aimed at averting frontier incidents.

General Burns' efforts to work out with Israel and Egypt specific arrangements for preserving security in the Gaza area were interrupted by a series of further violent incidents in that region, which occurred on both sides of the demarcation line between August 22 and September 4. After considering these events, the Security Council adopted a resolution on September 8, which noted with grave concern the interruption of the talks which had been initiated by the Chief of Staff on March 30. The new resolution called upon both parties to appoint representatives to meet with the Chief of Staff and to desist from acts of violence, and it endorsed the view of the Chief of Staff that the armed forces of both parties should be clearly and effectively separated by measures such as he had proposed. Nevertheless, a series of clashes between Israeli and Egyptian forces subsequently took place in the El Auja demilitarized zone.

On December 16, 1955, the Security Council took under consideration a Syrian complaint against an Israeli military operation carried out on the night of December 11-12, 1955 on the east shore of Lake Tiberias, within Syrian territory, which resulted in casualties being suffered. The Representative of Israel countered with charges of Syrian aggressions and, in particular, accused the Syrians of firing on Israeli fishing boats and their police escorts on Lake Tiberias (which is on the Israeli side of the armistice demarcation line).