

and strengthen" the measures it was already taking to prevent infiltration into Israel, reminded both Governments of their obligation to prevent all acts of violence "on either side of the line" and called upon them to ensure the effective co-operation of local security forces. The Secretary-General was asked to consider with General Bennike the best ways of strengthening the Truce Supervision Organization, while General Bennike himself was instructed to report back to the Security Council in three months on the observance of the four armistice agreements, making suitable recommendations. He was to take into account any agreement which might be reached between Jordan and Israel as a result of the initiative taken by Israel on November 23 in asking the Secretary-General to convene a conference under Article 12 of the armistice agreement in order to review the terms of the agreement.

General Bennike reported on February 24 that Jordan had increased the number of police and of patrols along the armistice line, punished known infiltrators, removed suspects from the frontier zones and replaced officials lacking in vigilance. Israel had improved and increased its border police force and infiltration and thefts had decreased. Nevertheless there had been an intensification of psychological warfare and the number of complaints registered with the Mixed Armistice Commission had consequently increased. He recommended more frequent meetings between local commanders. The strength of the Truce Supervision Organization was built up. Seventeen military observers, including four Canadian officers, were added between December 1953 and July 1, 1954 to bring the total to 41. The supporting staff was increased from 50 to 67.

Meanwhile the conference Israel had asked for to review the terms of the Israel-Jordan armistice agreement did not take place. Jordan wished to avoid being drawn into special negotiations with Israel on a political level under Article 12 of that agreement, but offered to talk about the enforcement or amendment of the armistice agreement within the existing Mixed Armistice Commission under Article 11. Israel continued to demand a special conference, attendance at which was obligatory under Article 12 when once the Secretary-General had convoked it. Mr. Hammarskjöld had issued invitations to the conference but had not actually set a date for the opening of the meetings when incidents occurred between March 17 and 23 which led him to decide not to press for the conference immediately.

On March 17 an attack by unknown assailants on an Israeli bus led to the death of eleven Israelis. Israel insisted that Jordan was to blame for the occurrence, but the United Nations Chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission withheld his vote on the issue on March 23 on the ground that the available evidence did not prove Jordan to have been involved. Israeli representatives thereupon withdrew for a period of three and a quarter months from the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission.

On the night of March 28-29 nine Jordanians were killed and many wounded in an attack by army-trained Israelis on the Jordanian village of Nahhalin. On Jordan's behalf Lebanon asked the Security Council on April 1 for urgent consideration of the incident. On