UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION

MAM/pr

Government House
Jerusalem

CONFIDENTIAL

21 January 1968

Dear General Dayan,

I should like to inform you that, prior to the actual movement outside the Canal of the stranded ships, the Suez Canal Authority is preparing a field reconnaissance which will begin on 27 January 1968 with a survey of the entire Canal channel, ending on 3 February. From 4 to 18 February there will be a detailed reconnaissance of wrecks in the area between kilometre 156 and kilometre 158 which will be coupled with a detailed reconnaissance of wrecks in the area between kilometre 81 and kilometre 82 during the same period. All these dates are tentative. The units to be used for this reconnaissance will be from the Suez Canal Authority and will be under its full control. Should there be any modification to this timetable I will inform you accordingly.

I am instructing the UN observers in charge of our cease-fire operations on both sides of the Canal to be on the alert and to observe closely and report on the operation.

This information is being passed to you in order that the necessary measures be taken to avoid the possibility of any incident or breach of the quiet in the Suez Canal sector.

I should like to request you, General Dayan, to keep this information strictly confidential, so that the operation, which is not only of interest to the countries whose flags the ships fly but also of concern to the international community as a whole, may in no way be jeopardized.

Yours sincerely,

Odd Bull, Lt-General
Chief of Staff, UNTSO

Major-General M. Dayan
Minist[illegible] of Defence
Mini[illegible]y for Defence
Tel-A[illegible]
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