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LETTER DATED 12 MAY 1967 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED
TO THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF JORDAN

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 8 May 1967 (reference PAL 13/225) regarding the claim for reparation in connexion with the death of Lt. Col. Flint of the Canadian Army on Mount Scopus on 26 May 1958 while serving on behalf of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine (UNTSO).

I have carefully noted your further observations on this matter. I am bound to say, however, that I can find no indication in your letters or in any of the quotations contained therein which cast any doubt on, or invalidate, any of the facts on which the claim presented in my previous letters is based.

As you will recall, the particular facts on which this claim is founded were fully set out, with the relevant sources, in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of my letter of 24 April 1967, including the supporting evidence of two United Nations Observers who were eyewitnesses of Lt. Col. Flint's death, and also of the State Criminalistics Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. This recital of facts in my view conclusively establishes that Lt. Col. Flint was killed not accidentally, or even during the course of the exchange of fire between Jordan and Israel, but on the contrary, was killed by a deliberate and direct shot fired from Jordanian-controlled territory after it had been mutually understood that firing had ceased.

It has been made clear, I believe, in my previous letters not only that the claim of the United Nations is based on these facts, but also that in making this claim for reparation, I was in no way seeking to attribute responsibility for the incident between Jordan and Israel which occurred in the Mount Scopus area on 26 May 1958, nor do I consider the total investigation carried out by UNTSO into the chain of events which brought it about relevant to the present issue.

Since, therefore, your letters on this subject have not shown that there is any ground for dispute in regard to the essential and relevant facts which form

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the basis of the reparation claim which I have submitted, I continue to hope that your Government will be willing to satisfy this claim, without prejudice, of course, to any question of responsibility for the incident between Jordan and Israel on 26 May 1958. However, should this hope not be immediately realized, I would welcome a discussion on ways and means of identifying any fact or facts relevant to the claim for reparation which may be reasonably regarded as being in dispute, with a view to resolving any differences.

Your letter of 8 May having been circulated to the Security Council, I am asking that this letter be similarly circulated.

Accept, etc.

(Signed) U THANT
Secretary-General