

**Middle East conflict -
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Press Release

UNOGIL makes new arrangements for patrolling northern
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UNOGIL MAKES NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR PATROLLING NORTHERN FRONTIER;
FIRST MILITARY OBSERVERS FROM THAILAND ARRIVE

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer with the UN Observation Group in Lebanon, at Beirut.)

United Nations observers have set up an outstation at Hermel, in northeastern Lebanon, and have established a post at El Kah, near the Syrian frontier east of Hermel.

The leader of the opposition in that area, Sabri Hamadi, lives at Hermel, and arrangements for the establishment of the observation posts were made over the week-end between Mr. Hamadi and a group of United Nations observers, headed by Colonel Maurice Brown. The observers spent two days in the vicinity and made several trips to the two frontier posts north of Hermel -- at Koussair and north of El Kah.

The new arrangements enable the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon to patrol and observe along the main roads leading into the northeastern corner of Lebanon from Syria. Last week, similar arrangements were made for the northwestern area of Lebanon, north of Tripoli.

As a result, the United Nations is better able to carry out its duties along the entire north and northeastern frontier of Lebanon. Nearly all of this territory is under opposition control.

Observers from Thailand

The first military observers from Thailand to join the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon arrived in Beirut today, bringing the total number of United Nations observers in Lebanon to 147, from 15 countries. The five Thai observers are: Major M.L. Terb Supradit, Lieut. Commander Monton Songkakul, Major Tawatchai Nakvanich, Major Thanom Vithanomsat and Major Ong-Ark Mahadej.

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