

# Middle East conflict - correspondence with participating countries: Middle ...

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Middle East / Colombia

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Nov. - Dec. 56

Urrutia, Francisco (Perm. Represent. of Colombia  
to the U.N.)

- 2 letters from D.H.

5 November 1956

Dear Ambassador Urrutia,

Pursuant to our discussion of yesterday, I wish to confirm the request made to you orally that Colombia agree to participate in the proposed emergency international United Nations force to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities in accordance with the resolution of the General Assembly of 2 November 1956 (A/3256), and to express appreciation for the prompt and favorable response of the Government of Colombia.

This force, though armed will have police rather than military functions in the true sense. It will be composed of units made available by a number of states.

I need not stress the importance of this projected force to the effort to resolve the current conflict in the Near East, nor the obvious necessity of recognizing the factor of geographical distribution in its composition.

Dag Hammarskjöld  
Secretary-General

His Excellency  
Dr. Francisco Urrutia  
Permanent Representative of Colombia  
to the United Nations  
Empire State Building, Room 6207  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York 1, N.Y.

28 December 1956

Sir,

It was with great regret that I learned of the automobile accident near El Kantara on 26 December in which Sergeant Juan De Dios Aguilar of the Colombian Battalion of the United Nations Emergency Force lost his life.

I wish to express my sorrow over the tragic accident befalling a member of the military contingent which the Government of Colombia so helpfully provided to the United Nations Force. I should also appreciate it if my condolences would be transmitted to the family of the late Sergeant Juan De Dios Aguilar.

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

Dag Hammarskjöld  
Secretary-General

His Excellency  
Dr. Francisco Urrutia  
Permanent Representative of Colombia  
to the United Nations  
Room 6207  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York 1, N.Y.