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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 21 May 1970 from the Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions of my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Kuwait on 30 April 1970 (A/7975, S/9774).

The letter repeats discredited Arab propaganda fabrications regarding conditions of life in Israel-administered territories. Any impartial observer, not guided by the interests of Arab belligerency towards Israel, would recognize that the human rights exercised by the Arab inhabitants of these areas are more extensive than those granted to citizens of most Arab States. In fact, numerous visitors to these areas, including many thousands from Arab countries, have been able to ascertain that for themselves.

The Government of Israel is not obliged, however, to assist Arab belligerency and to welcome to Israel-held territories the three-member Special Committee, which serves as an instrument of hostile Arab propaganda. It will be recalled that the Committee was established by a resolution prejudging the questions it was to examine and on the basis of discrimination against Jewish communities oppressed in Arab lands.

In any event, as a State Member of the United Nations, Kuwait could play a constructive role in the Middle East conflict by encouraging the other Arab States to make peace with Israel, and in the meantime to respect the cease-fire, by word and deed.

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Instead, as indicated in my letters of 13 June 1969 (S/9254) and 24 June 1969 (S/9278) to the President of the Security Council, Kuwait has rejected Security Council resolution 242 (1967), has repudiated the cease-fire resolutions and has sent units of its armed forces to participate in military operations against Israel in the Suez Canal area, in violation of the cease-fire. Moreover, Kuwait actively supports terror warfare against Israel and shares in the responsibility for the murder of innocent Israeli civilians.

A State like this is certainly not entitled to sermonize to others on the tragic situation in the Middle East.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Yosef TEKOAH
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations
