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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 19 September 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and pursuant to my letters of 19 August (S/14114) and 22 August 1980 (S/14120), I have the honour to draw your attention to the following acts of aggression committed by Israel against my country, Lebanon, on 17 and 18 September 1980:

(a) At 1340 hours the towns of Nabatiyeh and Château Beaufort were continuously shelled until 2000 hours, resulting in damage to property;

(b) At 1350 hours five artillery shells fell near the village of Ain ed-Dilb in the province of Sidon;

(c) At 1400 hours the city of Tyre was shelled for 50 minutes. This resulted in one person killed and three wounded. There was extensive damage to property, and the power and telephone lines were cut;

(d) At 1620 hours Tyre, el-Bass and Bourj esh-Shamali were shelled again. As a result, one child was killed and three persons were wounded;

(e) At 1745 hours three shells fell in the suburbs of Sidon and another shell fell near Mar Elias;

(f) At 2400 hours Israeli aircraft and naval vessels bombarded the Tyre area, concentrating on the southern city coastline, and flares were dropped over the area. Shelling ceased at 0400 hours on 18 September 1980.

This operation caused extensive damage to property. It also caused panic among the inhabitants, a large portion of whom fled to other parts of the country.

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 26.

(Signed) Ghassan TUENI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
