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ARMED ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST THE IRAQI NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS
AND ITS GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL
SYSTEM CONCERNING THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, THE
NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 12 July 1984 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's note of 15 March 1984 in which you inquired what action the Government of Israel had decided or envisaged to take in regard to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 38/9 of 10 November 1983.

In this connection, I wish to recall the statement made by the Prime Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, in a public address on 2 May 1984 in which he said, inter alia:

"It is well known that many countries in the world have entered the nuclear age and have begun to acquire and build nuclear facilities for peaceful purposes in order to supply the energy essential for their economies and development. Israel, lacking in natural resources and sources of energy, has likewise an interest in building power reactors in order to satisfy its energy needs. It is imperative to continue to uphold and strengthen the régime of conventions and treaties which set the standards of international behaviour in these essential areas. Concerning the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, Israel supports those international arrangements which would ensure the status and inviolability of nuclear facilities dedicated to peaceful purposes. Moreover, Israel views positively the activities of international organizations and agencies that were established by the international community for these purposes."

I also wish to draw Your Excellency's attention to the statement made by the Director General of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission, Mr. Uzi Eilam, on 21 May 1984, in which he said:

"Israel is aware of the substantial contribution which the peaceful uses of nuclear energy can have to the well-being of the world and the rights of all countries to benefit from such uses. Indeed, for its part, Israel seeks to avail itself of nuclear energy in order to satisfy its own energy requirements. In the light of the above, Israel holds that nuclear facilities dedicated to peaceful purposes be inviolable from military attack. Also, Israel supports international efforts to arrive at an early arrangement directed to this purpose of regulating the status of nuclear facilities and the mission of the IAEA in ensuring that nuclear energy be a credible and safe source of peaceful development. As Israel has already stated, it has no policy of attacking nuclear facilities and certainly has no intention of attacking nuclear facilities dedicated to peaceful purposes anywhere."

These statements reflect Israel's position with regard to Your Excellency's note.

I should also like to take this opportunity to express my Government's regret at the acquiescence of the General Assembly in being used by Iraq year after year in its attempts to vilify the State of Israel.

Israel urges that the energies of the United Nations be devoted to supporting positive international initiatives, thus contributing to the advancement of the cause of peace, including in the Middle East.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 24 and 36 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Yehuda Z. BLUM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations
