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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 9 June 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 my letter of today^{1/} regarding Somalia's membership on the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories.

The biased character of the Committee and its work is further underscored by the fact that in addition to Somalia, which considers itself in a state of war with Israel, Yugoslavia, which broke off relations with Israel at the time of the June 1967 hostilities and has since openly identified itself with the political positions of the Arab States, is also a member.

Yugoslavia's attitude on the Middle East situation was reiterated by its President on 3 May 1970. In a statement in Belgrade, President Tito declared:

"We are on the side of the Arabs."

Examination of any aspect of the Middle East situation by a Committee of which Somalia and Yugoslavia are members, is a travesty of elementary equity and a mockery of the principles of the United Nations Charter.

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 TEKOA
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations

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^{1/} A/7984-S/9832.