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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST  
PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 11 January 1980 from the Permanent Representative of  
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter of 31 December 1979 (A/35/59-S/13723), I wish to draw your attention to a letter of the same date (S/13720) from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait, in which - as a parting shot before leaving the Security Council - he requested the circulation of certain material furnished by the observer at the United Nations from the terrorist organization known as the PLO.

That document is yet another illustration of the way in which the representatives of certain Arab Governments are prepared to abuse the means and the machinery of the United Nations, and serve the interests of a terrorist organization which violates all the norms of human behaviour and law, domestic and international.

The material furnished by the PLO was, as usual, nothing but a pack of lies and falsehoods:

(a) On 22 December 1979, students in the town of Bir Zeit took to the streets and disturbed public order. Some of them set tires on fire, interfered with traffic, threw stones and clashed with the police. The authorities were obliged to enter the grounds of Bir Zeit University to restore order and disperse the trouble-makers. A number of them were arrested. The allegations of theft on the part of the authorities are totally groundless.

(b) The story involving Mrs. M. Tarazi is a complete misrepresentation of the facts. Mrs. Tarazi lives at the home of her son, Mr. Farrah Labib Terzi, the owner of two souvenir shops in Jerusalem who had defaulted severely on the payment of property and other taxes owed to the Municipality. In accordance with common practice, and after the due process of law, extending over a period of many months, officials from the Office for the Enforcement of Civil Judgements were sent in December 1979 to impound certain items of movable property from Farrah Terzi's home, in lieu of his municipal debts.

On 17 December 1979, Mr. Terzi paid off his debts to the Municipality. Consequently, his movable property was restored to his home the following day.

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It should be noted that this case was closed two weeks before the letter under reference from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait was sent to the President of the Security Council. A detailed account of the case is attached, on the basis of file No. 5582/78 in the Enforcement Office in Jerusalem.

In simple terms, the document in question is a blatant example of how the machinery of the United Nations is put at the unrestrained disposal of the PLO observer, who not only swamps the Organization with propaganda, political lies and religious incitement, but also is prepared to engage the United Nations in a private war on behalf of members of his family who have attempted to evade the common and elementary obligation of people everywhere to pay their municipal taxes.

It is preposterous that the Security Council - and, for that matter, the United Nations at large - should be exploited for the dissemination of a totally fabricated concoction on behalf of an interested individual, especially at a time when the Organization is preoccupied with major international crises.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "The situation in the Middle East" and "Programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981", and of the Security Council.

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

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ANNEX

Extract from File No. 5582/78 in the Enforcement Office in Jerusalem

On 20 March 1978 the Magistrates' Court in Jerusalem served a writ of execution upon Mr. Farrah Labib Terzi of Jerusalem, requiring him to pay a sum of 20,432.50 Israel pounds, as municipal taxes owed to the Municipality of Jerusalem (Civil Case No. 5738/77).

The debt was not paid, and the Municipality applied to the Enforcement Office in Jerusalem for implementation of the above-mentioned writ. The judgement debtor was properly served with notice of such proceedings, together with an information questionnaire and a caveat as to the consequences upon failure to respond. The judgement debtor signed an acknowledgement of the above-mentioned notice and questionnaire on 19 June 1978.

On 28 August 1978 the Municipality of Jerusalem sought to secure a lien on the movable property of the judgement debtor. An order to that effect was issued on 18 September 1978, but not enforced.

On 12 September 1978 the Municipality of Jerusalem requested the Enforcement Office to serve the judgement debtor with a writ directing payment of his debt in instalments. On the same date, a writ was issued requiring the payment of 3,000 Israel pounds a month, to begin on 1 October 1978.

On 21 September 1978 notice of such writ was delivered to Mr. Terzi at his home, and he acknowledged receipt thereof.

In a letter dated 15 November 1978 to the Enforcement Office, Mr. Terzi admitted responsibility for the debt and requested that the instalments be reduced to 500 Israel pounds a month. This request was rejected by the Chief Enforcement Officer on 20 November 1978, as the judgement debtor had not replied to the information questionnaire and since his request was not supported by an affidavit, as required by law.

On 27 October 1978 a contempt order was issued on Mr. Terzi, because of his failure to pay his debt. This order was not immediately implemented, because Mr. Terzi paid a sum of 1,992 Israel pounds on 15 November 1978.

Since the balance of the debt was not paid for several months, the Enforcement Office on 19 July 1979 secured a lien on various items of movable property in the home of Mr. Terzi and in his presence. At the latter's request, the items were not removed from his house, after he had signed a commitment to the effect that if he did not make payment of his debt, the items would be impounded.

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Upon the judgement debtor's failure to abide by that commitment, the Enforcement Office enforced the lien on 11 December 1979 and removed the following articles from the house of the judgement debtor: three sets of glasses; a Phillips juice-squeezer; a Grundig tape-recorder; a Telefunken vacuum cleaner; a Royal typewriter and a Moulinette blender.

A detailed report was prepared, a copy of which was left at the judgement debtor's house. The report indicates that when the enforcement officers arrived at the house, they found an elderly women who refused to open the door; under these circumstances, the door was opened by the enforcement officers, pursuant to their legal authority. All the items impounded were deposited in the warehouse of the Enforcement Office.

On 17 December 1979 Mr. Terzi fully paid his debt to the Municipality, which had accumulated to the sum of 31,193 Israel pounds.

On that same day, the Municipality requested that the case against Mr. Terzi be closed, and that the movable property which had been impounded be returned to its owner.

All the items in question were returned to Mr. Terzi on 18 December 1979, and he acknowledged receipt of them in writing.

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