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Letter dated 5 February 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter of 25 January 1980 (A/35/78-S/13767), I wish to draw your attention to the ongoing attempts at indiscriminate terror against civilians in Israel being perpetrated by the terrorist PLO.

On the morning of Sunday, 3 February 1980, an explosive device, hidden in a rubbish bin, went off in the centre of Rehovot, a town 11 miles south of Tel Aviv. As a result, six persons, including a young mother and her little girl of three, were injured, one seriously.

This outrage followed quickly on the cold-blooded murder of a 23 year old resident of Kiryat Arba, on 31 January 1980, in the bazaar of Hebron.

As usual, the PLO immediately took responsibility for these atrocities, in the first case through its radio in Lebanon on 3 February and in the second instance through a spokesman in Damascus on 31 January.

These criminal incidents illustrate once again the true character of the PLO and its violent aims. In these circumstances, the Government of Israel is duty-bound, as I have indicated in previous letters, to take all measures necessary to protect the lives and safety of its citizens.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

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