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Letter dated 8 February 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter of 5 February 1980 (A/35/86 - S/13781), I wish to draw your urgent attention to the following incident:

On the night of 6/7 February 1980, a group of terrorists crossed the border into Israel from Lebanese territory, west of Kibbutz Eilon. The group, which was on a murder mission against civilians in Israel, was encountered by a patrol of the Israel Defence Forces. After throwing hand grenades at the patrol, the group turned around and fled. It was pursued by the patrol, but it escaped - in all likelihood into the area controlled by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

In their flight, the terrorists left behind three sets of personal equipment, four haversacks, light weapons, including rifles of Soviet manufacture, hand grenades, detonators and sabotage matériel.

The Government of Israel views this incident with gravity, and in the circumstances 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