

UNITED NATIONS



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

A/35/166
S/13874
4 April 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fifth session
Item 26 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 3 April 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter from the Permanent Representative of Jordan addressed to you on 28 March 1980 (A/35/158), also circulated as a letter to the President of the Security Council (S/13868), referring to what he called a "well-established educational institution" in Abu Dis.

The "well-established educational institution" in question was opened last year. Altogether it consists of one class with 36 students.

There are today in Judea and Samaria 13 institutions of higher learning -- three of them are universities, five are teachers' seminaries, three are colleges for Islamic studies, one is a college for premedical studies and one is a polytechnic school. Six thousand students study in these institutions. The number of places available at these institutions of higher learning in Judea and Samaria exceeds the demand, and everyone who wishes to study in such an institution and has suitable qualifications can find an appropriate place.

In these circumstances the authorities saw no reason for maintaining a single-unit institution with 36 students in Abu Dis, involving the diversion of considerable funds, especially when a full university is functioning in Bethlehem, just over five miles away.

In this connexion it is worth recalling that under the Jordanian occupation from 1948 to 1967, there were no universities in Judea and Samaria and the Jordanian occupation authorities refused to grant university status to any institution seeking it. However, under the Israel administration since 1967 rapid strides have been made, as described above, in the educational field.

* A/35/50.

A/35/166
S/13874
English
Page 2

Israel will continue to encourage and support the development of institutions of higher learning in Judea and Samaria, and will not be deflected by the malicious propaganda disseminated at the United Nations by Jordan, which is evidenced also by the conferment of the title of Mayor of Jerusalem to an individual who is not the mayor. As is common knowledge, the Mayor of Jerusalem is Mr. Teddy Kollek.

It should also be recalled that Jordan is a country which considers itself to be in a state of war with Israel. Hence, this latest letter from the representative of the Palestinian Arab State of Jordan should be seen for what it is - yet another transparent attempt to manipulate the means and machinery of the United Nations in its relentless and unrestrained campaign of political warfare against Israel.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 26 on the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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