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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 2 June 1980 from the Chairman of the Committee on
the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian
People to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and on its behalf, I have the honour to bring to your notice the most recent in a series of outrages committed on the Arab inhabitants of the territories illegally occupied by Israel, and to express the deep concern of the Committee at these terrorist operations.

Mr. Bassam Al Shaka, the elected Mayor of Nablus, suffered serious injuries this morning when his car was blown up, with the result that both his legs had to be amputated.

At about the same time, Mr. Karim Khalef, the elected Mayor of Ramallah, suffered the same fate when his car also exploded, resulting in severe damage to both his feet, one of which had to be amputated.

Mr. Ibrahim Tawil, the elected Mayor of Al Bireh, was saved from a similar fate, although a bomb squad expert was blinded by a bomb rigged to a garage door which exploded in his face.

Furthermore, bombs exploded near an Arab elementary school of Al-Khalil (Hebron), killing 7 and wounding 14 Arab inhabitants.

In a separate incident, two students of Bir Zeit University were shot without provocation by soldiers of the Israeli Army, one in the back and the other in the leg and side.

In addition, since 28 May 1980, Israeli authorities have arrested 31 students in the Ramallah-Al Bireh area, all in their final year of high school and in the middle of their final examinations. The Israeli authorities have, moreover, banned the distribution outside Jerusalem of two Arab dailies, the "Al Fajr" and the "Al Shaab".

* A/35/50.

It is clear that this campaign of terror, waged by Israel's occupation forces on the Arab inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories, is intended to silence their demands for their just rights and constitutes a further instance of Israeli violations of established principles of international law in general and of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 in particular. 1/

These actions and the policy which Israel persists in following can only exacerbate tension in the region and constitute a serious threat to international peace and security. It is imperative that the Security Council should take urgent and decisive action to prevent a deterioration of the situation.

I shall be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 24 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Falilou KANE
Chairman

of the Committee on the Exercise of the
Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973, p. 287.