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LETTER DATED 30 JULY 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from the Permanent
Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations.

I would request you to have this letter distributed as a Security Council
document.

(Signed) M'Hamed ESSAAFI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 29 July from the Permanent Observer of the Palestine
Liberation Organization to the United Nations addressed to the
President of the Security Council

On instructions of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization I am requested to bring to your immediate attention the following information pursuant to our note of 25 July 1980.

The hunger strike at Nafha prison is now into its third week. Two hundred and six detainees in Asqalan prison started a hunger strike on 28 July 1980 in solidarity with the 47 Palestinians left in Nafha and their 24 comrades who were transferred from Nafha to Ramleh prison. Two days ago as a manifestation of their solidarity with the Palestinians already on hunger strike, 350 detainees in Gaza prison started their own hunger strike.

The health of many detainees in Nafha prison is extremely critical as the effects of severe dehydration are becoming dangerous. One of the prisoners transferred to Ramleh, Ishaq Maragh is now in Sarafend Prison Hospital, and reportedly close to death.

In drawing your attention to this serious and escalating situation I am requested to urge you to take every possible action vis-à-vis Security Council resolution 446 of 22 March 1979, and article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention of August 1949, to ensure that not one more Palestinian shall suffer the same agonizing and inhuman death as Ali Shehade Mohamed Al-Jabari and Kassem Mohamed Al-Helwi who were the victims of officially licensed murder.

(Signed) Zehdi Labib TERZI
Permanent Observer
