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Note verbale dated 1 February 1979 from the Permanent Mission of  
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the note verbale of 10 January 1979 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations (A/34/63-S/13034).

The Permanent Mission of Israel wishes to point out that the note in question is nothing but another mischievous attempt to make empty charges against Israel. Contrary to the allegations in that note, nothing in the Moor's Gate (Bab El-Maghariba) or in the vicinity has been or is being destroyed. Indeed, the reverse is true: maintenance work has recently been carried out by the authorities to protect the fabric of the Gate. In December 1978, the door of the Gate was repainted, and a large paving stone in the Gate, which had become smooth and slippery from constant use, was pointed to prevent accidents.

Moreover, there are no plans whatsoever to construct a suspension bridge leading to the Western Wall (also known as the "Wailing Wall"), within which the Moor's Gate is situated.

The Gate and its surrounds are visible to all, and the groundless nature of the charges in question can readily be verified.

The Permanent Mission of Israel has the honour to request that this note 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.

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