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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 3 December 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the latest aggression committed by Israel against my country.

Between 0050 and 0235 hours, Israeli forces landed between es-Saadiyat and Damour. Heavy machine guns were used, and artillery shells and rockets were fired from Israeli naval vessels at the coastal area of Jiyeh. During the attack, helicopters dropped flares and gave support to the aggressors.

Preliminary reports speak of many people killed and wounded.

My Government protests strongly against these attacks, which nothing that has been said by the Israelis could justify. The continued cycle of violence exacerbates tensions in the area, and can lead to a further deterioration of the situation with grave consequences for peace and security in the region and beyond.

I would be grateful if you could have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 26.

(Signed) Fakhri SAGHIYYAH
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.