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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative
of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

During the night of Friday, 20 May 1994 and the following morning, an Israeli commando unit abducted the Lebanese national Mustafa Dirani from his home in the village of Qasr Naba, Baalbek District, in the north-eastern part of the Bekaa Valley. The unit used two very advanced military helicopters, which jammed Lebanese military radar systems and entered Lebanese airspace from the direction of the sea to the east of the town of Jbeil (Byblos). The unit unloaded four military vehicles a few miles from Mr. Dirani's home and then set out from there for a point close to the house. The Israeli soldiers broke into the house, bound Mr. Dirani's wife and brother and drugged Mustafa Dirani and took him to Israel.

The Government of Lebanon strongly condemns this fresh Israeli act of aggression, which represents a flagrant violation of its national sovereignty and is incompatible with the most elementary principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the International Bill of Human Rights.

At a time when there are increasing contacts and stepped-up negotiations for the achievement of peaceful solutions in the region, the Israeli violation of Lebanon's national security poses a direct threat to the peace process in the Middle East.

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

The Government of Lebanon urges the United Nations, in particular the members of the Security Council, to take speedy action for the immediate release and repatriation of the Lebanese national abducted, Mustafa Dirani.

Lebanon reserves its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council to consider this flagrant Israeli act of aggression against it.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 38 of the provisional list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
