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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 14 January 1981 from the Permanent Representative of  
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my previous letters on the subject, I wish to draw your attention to two further outrages perpetrated recently against Israel citizens by the terrorist PLO.

On 10 January 1981, in the centre of the town of Gaza, a hand grenade was lobbed at an Israeli car with three persons in it, a couple and their young daughter. As a result, the husband was wounded and the wife received medium injuries.

On 11 January 1981, an Israel citizen was shot and murdered in the township of Jabelieh, where he had gone to have his car repaired.

Responsibility for both these outrages was taken by the PLO in a broadcast on its radio in Lebanon on 11 January 1981.

In this connexion, I wish to point out that in recent weeks there has been a series of PLO terrorist acts against Israel civilians:

(a) On 4 December 1980, an explosive charge went off in a store in the centre of Jerusalem, wounding 10 people. A PLO spokesman immediately took responsibility for this atrocity;

(b) On 25 December 1980, an explosive device was discovered in the southern town of Dimona. It was dismantled without causing injury;

(c) On 29 December 1980, two explosive charges went off at bus-stops in southern Israel, one outside the town of Ashkelon and the other at the Mishmar HaNegev road junction. While neither explosion caused injury, a PLO spokesman in Beirut immediately took responsibility for them, claiming that many soldiers had been killed;

A/36/72  
S/14328  
English  
Page 2

(d) On 5 January 1981, another explosive device was dismantled at a bus-stop near the Ra'anana junction in central Israel, without causing any harm.

As I have repeatedly pointed out in previous letters to you, the mindless and indiscriminate killing of civilians has been characteristic of the PLO since its inception. Its designs, whether successful or not, are those of a group of international criminals, and not, by any stretch of the imagination, of a national liberation movement.

Given the true character and aims of the PLO, as demonstrated yet again in the incidents listed in this letter, the Government of Israel is duty-bound to take all measures necessary to protect the lives and safety of its citizens.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yehuda Z. BLUM  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Israel  
to the United Nations

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