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Letter dated 11 March 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the note verbale dated 24 February 1981 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed to Your Excellency (A/36/110-S/14383). In that note verbale it was alleged that Israel was compelling the Syrian nationals residing in the Golan Heights "to renounce their original Syrian nationality and forcing them to obtain an Israeli one. Those Syrian citizens filed suits against these measures to the Israeli Supreme Court ...".

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the allegations contained in the Syrian note verbale are complete fabrications. No Syrian citizen has been forced to renounce his Syrian nationality or to acquire Israel nationality; consequently, no suit has been filed in this regard with the Israel Supreme Court.

As is well known, Syria is a country which regards itself as being in a state of war with Israel. The Syrian note verbale in question must be viewed against this background. It is, in fact, no more than the product of the fertile and malevolent imagination of its authors. At the same time, it constitutes yet another manifestation of the willingness of Israel's enemies to abuse the means and machinery of the United Nations in their relentless campaign of vilification against my country.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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

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