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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

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

I wish to draw your urgent attention to a cowardly attack by two PLO terrorists, on 9 March 1981, on the driver of an Israel civilian bus.

The bus, belonging to the Egged Bus Company, was on the return leg of its regular route from Jerusalem to the Tomb of Rachel, a Jewish Holy Place between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. At the time, the only passengers on the bus were the two PLO terrorists who attacked the driver viciously with knives near the village of Sur Bahr. The driver resisted and the terrorists fled, but not before they had wounded him severely in the face and chest.

As is its custom, the PLO bragged of its responsibility for this outrage in a statement on 10 March broadcast by its radio in Lebanon.

As I have repeatedly pointed out in previous letters, the mindless murders and attempts at murder of innocent civilians have 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.

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

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

* A/36/50.