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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-third session
Item 55 of the provisional agenda*
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING
THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION OF
THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL Thirty-third year

Letter dated 7 August 1978 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter addressed to you on 5 July 1978 by the Chargé d'affaires of Jordan (A/33/175-S/12767), and to state the following:

The allegations contained in the above letter are misconceived and designed to mislead.

The facts are that, in 1977, a suggestion made on a personal initiative was presented to the Military Administration of Judea, Samaria and Gaza recommending the registration of all the inhabitants of these areas who had left and remained abroad. Ostensibly, this would facilitate the procedures for arranging family visits or reunions. The suggestion, however, was never implemented nor even endorsed. The regulations and practice stand: families applying for permits for relatives to visit or to be reunited with them are required to provide the appropriate data only upon actually submitting the application.

It should be noted in this connexion that, except for rare cases, there are no restrictions on the movement of incoming and outgoing visitors and goods between Judea, Samaria and Gaza and different Arab countries. During 1977-1978, nearly 1 million persons and well over \$160 million worth of goods crossed the Jordan River in both directions. This movement continues in full during the current summer.

^{*} A/33/150.

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It should be recalled that Israel is assuming considerable risks and acts solely out of goodwill in allowing such an interchange of persons and goods with countries not at peace with Israel.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the Ceneral Assembly, under item 55 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Shamay CAHANA
Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.