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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 21 July 1981 from the Permanent Representative of  
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter to the President of the Security Council of 15 April 1980 (S/13895) and my letter to you of 11 March 1981 (A/36/130), I wish to draw your attention to the fact that since mid-June 1978, there have been 115 acts, or attempted acts, of terror which the PLO has perpetrated from Lebanese territory against civilian targets in Israel. (See the attached list of 45 incidents in the last three months.)

Most of these criminal acts took the form of indiscriminate shelling of towns and villages in northern Israel from across the Lebanese border. But they also include such atrocities as the seizure on 7 April 1980 of two nurseries in Misgav Am, in which toddlers and infants, together with some nursing mothers, were taken hostage.

In this connexion, I should also like to draw your attention to the steady build-up of arms in PLO hands of late and, in parallel, to the widening of the PLO's operational infrastructure in Lebanon. In the last few months, the PLO has been supplied with heavy weapons with far greater fire-power than ever before, and in quantities which they have never had before.

The main suppliers of these weapons have been Libya, Syria and Soviet bloc countries, both directly and through Soviet puppets and proxies. The equipment includes, inter alia, Soviet-manufactured tanks, mainly T-34s, T-54s and T-55s; armoured troop carriers and other vehicles; large artillery pieces including 40-barrel multiple rocket launchers ("Katyushas"), mounted on heavy trucks; 130 mm and 155 mm howitzers; recoilless rocket launchers, of up to and including 130 mm calibre; anti-aircraft guns; SAM 7 surface-to-air missiles; and SAM 9 surface-to-air missiles (in this case, together with Libyan crews to man the missile batteries).

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Using the bridges over the Zahrani river as their supply routes, the PLO has deployed scores of these artillery pieces and other weapons in southern Lebanon, within easy firing range of towns and villages in Israel.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 33 of the provisional agenda.

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

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ANNEX

PLO terrorist activity emanating from Lebanon since 7 March 1981

- (1) 16.4.1981 - An abortive attempt by PLO terrorists to cross from Lebanese territory into Israel by balloon.
- (2) 20.4.1981 - At about 16:00 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
- (3) - An hour and one-half later, a second shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
- (4) - At about 22:00 hours, a third shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
- (5) - Shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
- (6) 21.4.1981 - Shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle. One civilian was injured.
- (7) 27.4.1981 - Katyusha rockets and artillery shells fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (8) - Shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
- (9) - Shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
- (10) 28.4.1981 - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (11) 29.4.1981 - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.
- (12) - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (13) 30.4.1981 - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (14) - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.
- (15) 10.7.1981 - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle. Six civilians were wounded.
- (16) 15.7.1981 - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Upper Galilee.
- (17) - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.

In these barrages, three civilians were killed in Nahariya; 25 others were wounded.

- (18) 16.7.1981 - Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Upper Galilee.
- (19) - In the afternoon, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee. Two civilians were wounded in Nahariya.
- (20) - At about 19:00 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
- (21) 17.7.1981 - At 08:30 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle. Two civilians were wounded.
- (22) - At about 10:00 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (23) - At 11:30 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee. A maternity hospital was hit, and two young mothers, as well as three other civilians, were wounded.
- (24) - At 20:00 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (25) - At 23:10 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (26) 18.7.1981 - At 00:25, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (27) - At 02:05 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle. Five civilians were wounded in Kiryat Shmonah.
- (28) - At 02:30 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle. One civilian was wounded in Kiryat Shmonah.
- (29) - At 04:25 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (30) - At 04:30 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (31) - At 06:10 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle. One civilian was wounded.

- (32) - At 09:55 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.
- (33) - At 10:10 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (34) - At 10:30 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.
- (35) - At 21:30 Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (36) 19.7.1981 - At 00:10 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (37) - At 08:30 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle. A 14 year old boy was killed in Kiryat Shmonah, and 15 civilians were wounded, two of them (including the mother of the dead boy) seriously.
- (38) - At 12:00 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.
- (39) - At 19:00 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- (40) - At 21:00 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee. Two persons were injured in Nahariya.
- (41) 20.7.1981 - At midnight, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
- (42) - At about 03:30 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
- (43) - At 04:00 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
- (44) - At about 06:30 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle. A woman was killed at Kibbutz Misgav Am, and another civilian was injured.
- (45) - At 20:00 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.

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