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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 23 July 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter to you of 21 July 1981 (A/36/393), I wish to draw your attention to the vast disruption of normal life and harassment of the civilian population in Israel as a result of continued indiscriminate shelling of targets in the north of the country by PLO terrorists operating in Lebanon.

Since that letter, 22 additional bombardments of Katyusha rockets and artillery shells have hit the Galilee Panhandle and Western Galilee. In one of those barrages, which occurred at 1300 hours (local time) on 21 July, a civilian was wounded in Nahariya and a school building was damaged. In the other attacks, mercifully, no one was injured.

The details of the PLO bombardments of civilian centres in the north of Israel, from 2000 hours on 20 July to 0915 hours on 22 July, are as follows:

- 20.7.1981 - 1. At 2150 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
2. At 2240 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
3. At 2330 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
4. At 2355 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
- 21.7.1981 - 5. At 0230 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.

* A/36/150.

6. At 0245 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
7. At 0245 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee.
8. At 0310 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
9. At 0325 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
10. At 0345 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
11. At 0415 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
12. At 0450 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
13. At 1300 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
14. At 1300 hours, Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at Western Galilee. One civilian was wounded in Nahariya. A school building in Nahariya was hit and damaged.
15. At 2000 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
16. At 2000 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
17. From 2200 hours to 2400 hours, continuous barrage of artillery shells and Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanese territory at the Galilee Panhandle.
- 22.7.1981 -18. At 0130 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
19. At 0130 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.
20. At 0500 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
21. At 0915 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of the Galilee Panhandle.
22. At 0915 hours, shelling from Lebanese territory of Western Galilee.

In the numerous bombardments throughout the Galilee, considerable damage was caused to property, including a school, farms and heavy agricultural equipment, 250 dwelling units as well as to the region's electricity grid.

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
