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CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 18 September 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter of 17 September 1981 addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of the Sudan (A/36/516). That letter contains a gratuitous and completely unfounded attack on the credentials of the delegation of Israel to the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, notwithstanding the fact that they were found in due form by the Credentials Committee and accepted at its meeting on 16 September 1981, (see the first report of the Credentials Committee A/36/517 of 17 September 1981) which was subsequently adopted by the Assembly on 18 September 1981).

The letter of the Permanent Representative of the Sudan is thus a crude and transparent attempt to abuse the credentials procedure in order to introduce matters completely extraneous to it.

It is not my intention to be drawn into such abuse of the credentials procedure. I will confine myself to the following observations:

(a) The report of the Credentials Committee is not the occasion for any country to engage in polemics of the kind appearing in the Sudanese letter of 17 September 1981;

(b) Such unjustified aspersions cast on credentials which are in due form, and have been accepted as such by the Credentials Committee, are in violation of the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter;

(c) The approach reflected in that letter is also incompatible with the principles guiding the United Nations, including the duty incumbent on all Members of the United Nations to use it, as the Charter enjoins, as a "centre for harmonizing the actions of nations" (Article 1, para. 4);

(d) This approach does not merely redound to the general discredit of the United Nations system as a whole; it is also liable to affect adversely the ability of the United Nations to perform its primary functions for the maintenance of international peace and security.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 3.

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