



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/12730
6 June 1978

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 6 JUNE 1978 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL TO
THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I am directed to draw your attention to the blowing up of a public bus in Jerusalem on 2 June 1978, which led to the death of five Israeli children and a young visitor from abroad.

This civilian bus was on its regular run from the Damascus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem to a residential suburb of the city. Most of the passengers aboard the bus were women and children, returning from school and from shopping in the centre of the city. In addition to the six fatalities who have died thus far from this outrage, 20 innocent civilians were wounded, some of them critically, including a child of four (whose 12-year-old brother was killed), three teenagers (a 10-year-old girl and two youths), a pregnant woman and five other women. Shortly after the blast, the so-called "General Command for the Palestinian Revolutionary Forces", a constituent of the PLO, published a statement in Beirut, taking full responsibility for it.

This atrocity is yet another in the wave of international terror which has been horrifying the world of late. On the same day, other terrorist attacks took place elsewhere. The PLO, as we have on occasion pointed out, is the linch-pin of the "terrorist international". It has close operational contacts with the gangs responsible for the recent terrorist outrages in Italy, Germany and Japan, to mention but a few, providing them with training and organizational, financial and logistical support. This is the organization which purports to be the "sole representative" of the Palestinian people, which has denied the Lebanese Government the right to exercise its sovereignty over the southern part of its territory and which has terrorized Christians and members of other minority groups living on the Lebanese border with Israel.

The particular outrages perpetrated by the PLO since the end of 1977, not only against men, women and children in Israel, but also against leading Arabs in the Judaea and Samaria districts of the West Bank, not to speak of Egyptian targets, all flow from the PLO's ongoing commitment to destroy Israel in the fulfilment of its covenant and of what it grotesquely terms "a national duty".

Despite the obvious danger it constitutes to international peace and security, the PLO continues to enjoy observer status in the international Organization and has been accorded the opportunity to participate, with irregular privileges, in the deliberations of the Security Council.

S/12730
English
Page 2

I have the honour to request that this letter be distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Chaim HERZOG
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations
