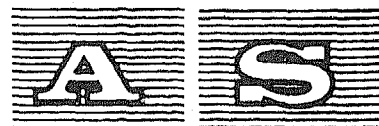


# UNITED NATIONS



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JAN 21 1975

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirtieth year

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST UN/SA COLLECTION

Letter dated 17 January 1975 from the Permanent Representative of  
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General\*

On instructions of my Government and further to previous letters addressed to you, I have the honour to draw your attention once again to the fact that the PLO terror organization continues to be permitted by the Government of Lebanon to act in complete freedom within Lebanon's borders and to conduct its sanguinary attacks against Israeli territory and citizens.

The Government of Lebanon appears to have practically surrendered its authority to the PLO in respect of wide areas of its territory and especially in the areas bordering on Israel.

The PLO continues to shell Israeli civilian localities and to attack Israeli patrols which are carrying out their duty to ensure the security of the inhabitants from the murderous attacks directed against them from Lebanon, as exemplified in the outrages of Ma'atlot, Kyriat Shmona, Shamir and Nahariya.

The Government of Israel has stated more than once that it is duty bound to take all appropriate action for the defence of its citizens. The PLO has itself acknowledged in its statements issued in Beirut that the Israel Defence Forces have been taking action against it and its bases in Lebanon. In one of these statements, issued in Beirut on 16 January 1975 and reported by the news media, a spokesman of the PLO declared that their "forces had showered the enemy with a flood of fire from various kinds of arms". Also on 16 January 1975, the Beirut daily el-Yom, reporting on the visit to the Arkoub area of Zuheir Muhsein, member of the PLO-Executive Committee and head of the Syrian-sponsored and supported terror grouping "Es Saiga" in Lebanon, stated that "the Palestinian revolutionary forces were still deployed in the southern area and in the refugee camps in a state of alert".

\* An identical letter was addressed to the President of the Security Council.

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Yasser Arafat, the leader of the PLO, as reported by the Beirut newspaper al-Nahar, declared on 31 December 1974 that "Lebanon had placed all its resources at the disposal of 'the campaign' and thus numerous revolutionary forces had arisen and had done its duty for it". Arafat also said in the same interview that the relations between him and President Franjieh of Lebanon were close and strong.

The letter dated 16 January 1975 (A/10036-S/11599) from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to you reaches a new height of hypocrisy. That letter is a mixture of distortions and misrepresentations concerning the situation obtaining in the area. It is only the Government of Lebanon that is responsible for this situation and for all the consequences arising from it by having practically abdicated its authority to the PLO in certain parts of its country, thus making it possible for murder attacks and other criminal actions to be carried out against Israel from Lebanon.

Enlightened world public opinion knows full well the true situation which is reflected in the mass media and in reports from Lebanon itself concerning the freedom of action accorded to the PLO in Lebanon to pursue its campaign of atrocities against the people of Israel.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 109, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yosef TEKOAH  
Permanent Representative of Israel  
to the United Nations

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