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Letter dated 2 February 1982 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw Your Excellency's attention to the following:

On the night between 28 and 29 January 1982, five or six PLO terrorists infiltrated from Jordan into the Beit Shean Valley, south of Tiberias. One group of terrorists planted mines on roads connecting various communities in the area while another group of three heavily armed men intended to attack Israel villages in the vicinity.

Three of the terrorists were captured by the Israel security forces while the others fled across the Jordan River into Jordanian territory. The captured terrorists stated that they were members of Yasser Arafat's Fatah, which is the major constituent group operating under the PLO umbrella. This was also confirmed by the PLO in Damascus on 31 January 1982.

The terrorist infiltrators also disclosed that they had been trained by Syrian army officers at a PLO encampment near Tyre in southern Lebanon and that they had entered Jordan by way of Syria.

It will be recalled that a similar pattern was followed by the terrorist PLO when it perpetrated another outrage of this kind on 11 August 1981. In that incident, one member of the Israel Defence Forces was killed and eight others were wounded when the vehicles in which they were riding were hit by two mines planted by four PLO terrorists who had likewise infiltrated from Jordan into Israel.

In inviting Your Excellency's attention to these incidents, the Government of Israel also wishes to emphasize its grave concern about these outrageous acts.

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I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

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