



**Security Council**

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LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a letter by the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, His Excellency Mr. Willibald Pahr. At the request of my Government, I should be grateful if you would have the text of the letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Karl FISCHER  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Austria  
to the United Nations

Annex

Letter dated 21 September 1982 from the Federal Minister  
for Foreign Affairs of Austria

The Austrian Federal Government has learned with abhorrence and consternation of the recent massacres in Israeli occupied Beirut. It emphatically condemns these acts as they constitute a flagrant violation of the most fundamental human rights and basic values of the international community of nations. Austria has therefore taken note with satisfaction of the unanimous adoption of Security Council resolution 521 (1982) on 19 September 1982 which condemned the criminal massacres of Palestinian civilians in Beirut.

The Austrian Federal Government holds the view that every possible measure has to be undertaken to obtain clarity regarding those responsible for these atrocities. It cannot be accepted that such crimes remain unpunished. Since an on site investigation appears to be the most effective way to achieve an early clarification, Austria suggests that you, Mr. President, resume consultations with a view to bring about a decision of the Council on the earliest possible dispatch of a commission of investigation to Beirut. As the composition of the commission should guarantee an objective investigation, it should, in the view of Austria, consist of representatives members of the Security Council as well as the necessary experts.

The Austrian Federal Government believes that such a mission as well as the already decided increase in the number of United Nations observers and the possible deployment of United Nations or other international forces would contribute to ensure the protection of the civilian population in the area concerned and to exclude a repetition of such criminal acts.

(Signed) Willibald PAHR  
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria

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