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LETTER DATED 6 AUGUST 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, and pursuant to my letter of 23 July 1979 (S/13464), I have the honour to draw your attention to the deteriorating situation in South Lebanon. Acts of aggression by Israel have been occurring almost daily, affecting the following Lebanese villages:

1. During the night of 24 to 25 July 1979, the villages of Haddatha, Ayta ez-Zitt and Bra'sheet were subjected to heavy machine-gun firing and artillery shelling.
2. On 26 July, the Hasbani river basin and Hasbaya were shelled by Israeli artillery, and so were the villages of Rihán, Aishieyh, Aramta, Daraya and Quttrani.
3. On 31 July, artillery fire was opened against Qlaya, Kawkaba Hills, Mazra'at Beit Nawfal as well as against the vicinity of Hasbaya.
4. Late during the night of 31 July and 1 August, the Arnoun, Yohmor, Upper Nabatiyeh, Eastern Duwayr, Kfar Rumman, Habboush and Nabatiyeh were similarly shelled.
5. On 1 August, Israeli gunners directed their fire against the area between the Hasbani river and Kawkaba.
6. On 2 August, the area of Hasbaya, Kawkaba, Burghoz and Qlaya were subjected to a heavy barrage of gun-fire, to give cover to a raiding party of Israeli troops who undertook a massive motorized raid beyond the area of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which followed a route parallel to the Litani river, towards the heights of the village of Kawkaba.
7. Constant overflights of Lebanese territory are continuing, the last of which being over Beirut, yesterday, Sunday.

These acts of aggression have resulted in the death and injury of many persons - all civilians. There was also extensive damage to property.

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As in previous letters, I wish, once more, to protest very strongly against these unwarranted Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon.

All these attacks have been preceded, accompanied, and followed by acts of harassment and defiant declarations against UNIFIL which seem designed not only to further erode the credibility of UNIFIL, but also to make its whole presence appear ineffective and probably unnecessary. It is particularly disturbing that the most recent and most serious attack launched beyond UNIFIL lines, on 2 August, should have been timed to coincide with Under Secretary-General, Mr. Brian Urquhart's leaving the area after he had conducted a series of meetings to review the UNIFIL situation with Israeli as well as Lebanese leaders. Such a disturbing situation prompts my Government to ask what action the Security Council should envisage, particularly under your leadership. It is recalled here that your delegation sponsored resolution 425 which Israel has been incessantly challenging.

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

(Signed) Ghassan TUENI  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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