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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 28 March 1979 from the Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter of 25 March 1979 (A/34/131-S/13192), I wish to draw your urgent attention to two further criminal acts perpetrated in Jerusalem and Lod on 26 and 27 March 1979, respectively, by the terrorist organization known as the PLO.

At about the same time as the Israel-Egypt peace treaty was being signed in Washington, a hand grenade was thrown into a hotel in the Old City of Jerusalem. As a result, nine people were injured.

In the second incident, a bomb exploded in an open vegetable market in Lod at about 8.30 in the morning. One woman was killed, and 19 men and women were wounded, four of them seriously.

Later in the day of 27 March, the news agency run by the terrorist PLO announced in Beirut that the said organization took responsibility for both of these outrages.

If further proof were needed that these latest criminal acts are being staged with the notion of disrupting and subverting the ongoing peace process, the PLO news agency claimed that the two atrocities described above were directed against the peace treaty.

Since the PLO thrives on violence and attempts at mass murder, it is being used by the opponents of peace as an instrument in their attempts to disturb any progress towards peace and reconciliation in the Middle East. As one of Yasser Arafat's henchmen, Abu Iyyad, said in a speech in Beirut on 22 March, the PLO is opposed to the peace treaty not for its own sake, but "because it constitutes peace with and recognition of Israel".

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The Government of Israel is committed to peace and to the continuation of the peace process. Consequently, it will, as I have also indicated in previous letters, take all measures necessary to frustrate the designs of the enemies of peace and to protect the lives and safety of its citizens.

I should be grateful if arrangements could be made for this letter to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 25 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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