

# UNITED NATIONS



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY SECURITY COUNCIL

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/34/258  
S/13334  
17 May 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Thirty-fourth session  
Item 24 of the preliminary list\*  
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 17 May 1979 from the Acting Chairman of the  
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of  
the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

As Acting Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 9 May 1979 addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Israel (A/34/231). In that letter, Israel once more publicly affirmed that it intends to continue to act in violation of basic principles of international law, the United Nations Charter and General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and with complete indifference to world opinion.

This attitude cannot but give rise to the most serious concern on the part of States Members of the United Nations.

In this connexion, I draw your attention also to the fact that Israel's declared refusal to withdraw from the territories it has occupied since 1967, as well as its stated intentions concerning those territories, as detailed in the letter under reference, ignore the recommendations of this Committee, which have been endorsed by the General Assembly.

In particular, its statement that "Under no circumstances will Israel contemplate or permit the establishment of a 'Palestinian State' in Judea, Samaria and Gaza" is a flagrant denial of the right of self-determination and a provocative reiteration of Israel's plans to annex and colonize those occupied territories in violation of international law.

Israel's refusal to withdraw from the territories it has illegally occupied since 1967 is manifestly a violation of Security Council resolution 242 (1967), the terms of which Israel often selectively quotes, ignoring the fact that the preamble of that resolution emphasizes the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war.

---

\* A/34/50.

Furthermore, Israel's declaration that Jerusalem will always remain "one indivisible city - the eternal capital of our country" ignores the terms of Security Council resolution 252 (1968), which reads in part as follows:

"The Security Council,

...

"Bearing in mind the need to work for a just and lasting peace,

"Reaffirming that acquisition of territory by military conquest is inadmissible,

"1. ...

"2. Considers that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, including expropriation of land and properties thereon, which tend to change the legal status of Jerusalem are invalid and cannot change that status;

"3. Urgently calls upon Israel to rescind all such measures already taken and to desist forthwith from taking any further action which tends to change the status of Jerusalem;

"4. ..."

Such continued open defiance of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions constitutes a stark contrast to the statement by the Permanent Representative of Israel in his letter to you dated 28 March 1979, wherein he stated: "The Government of Israel is committed to peace and to the continuation of the peace process" (A/34/151-S/13206).

I state once again that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People is convinced that the principles on which it based its recommendations, and which have been endorsed repeatedly by the General Assembly, are a sine qua non for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Briefly, those principles are: the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homes and to achieve self-determination, national independence and sovereignty; the participation of the PLO, the representative of the Palestinian people, in all efforts, deliberations and conferences on the Middle East and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force.

On behalf of the Committee, therefore, I wish to express my disagreement with regard to the contentions of the Permanent Representative of Israel, since they are intended to deny the Palestinian people their inalienable rights, as defined by various organs of the United Nations, and pose obstacles in the way of

/...

implementing those rights, thereby aggravating the Palestinian problem, which is recognized as being at the heart of the Middle East conflict.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 24 of the preliminary list of the Security Council.

(Signed) Raúl ROA KOURI  
Acting Chairman of the  
Committee on the Exercise  
of the Inalienable Rights of  
the Palestinian People

-----