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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the
rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 11 January 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues with its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, committing still more war crimes and state terrorism. Before dawn yesterday, 10 January 2002 (Palestine time), approximately one dozen Israeli tanks, accompanied by bulldozers, entered Rafah refugee camp in Gaza, demolishing and seriously damaging homes belonging to Palestinian families. According to United Nations officials, 54 homes were completely destroyed, leaving more than 500 Palestinians homeless. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East reports that nearly 200 homes have been demolished in repeated incursions into Rafah refugee camp during recent months. In the early morning hours of today (Palestine time), Israeli bulldozers tore apart, for the second time, the runway of Gaza International Airport. Furthermore, during the past 48 hours, Israeli occupying forces and special units raided several Palestinian homes and locations, abducting a number of Palestinians.

We hold Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his Government fully responsible for the above-mentioned and other actions, especially those constituting war crimes and State terrorism, committed against the Palestinian people. Those actions indicate even more clearly that the Government of Ariel Sharon wishes to ensure the failure of any attempt to end the violence and destroy any potential for real peace in the Middle East.

I write in follow-up to my previous 88 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 9 January 2002 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-

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S/2001/1239;
                 A/ES-10/134-S/2001/1261;
                                              A/ES-10/136-S/2002/18
                                                                         and
A/ES-10/137-S/2002/39).
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I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser Al-Kidwa Ambassador Permanent Observer

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