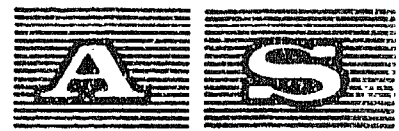


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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Twenty-ninth year

Letter dated 4 September 1974 from the Acting Permanent Representative
of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions of my Government, and further to previous letters of this Mission regarding terror activities from Lebanese territory against Israel, I have the honour to draw your attention to the continuation of the intolerable situation in Lebanon, in which the murderous Palestinian groups belonging to the so-called "Palestine Liberation Organization", as well as other such groups, are permitted to organize, plan and execute their criminal activities in and from Lebanese territory against Israel.

On 9 August 1974, an Israeli Navy patrol boat intercepted and sank a boat manned by terrorists in a brief exchange of fire off Israel's northern coast near the Lebanese border. The sunken craft was identified as being of the same type as was used by the terrorists, who had infiltrated into the Israeli seaside town of Nahariya and had killed four persons on 23 June 1974. The sunken boat was loaded with explosives.

On 3 September 1974, at 2130 hours local time, a four-man squad on a kidnapping and sabotage mission was intercepted near the Lebanese border on the Idmit plateau between the villages of Zarit and Hanita. Two of the terrorists were killed in the exchange of fire. The other two fled back to Lebanon.

Documents on the bodies of those terrorists identified them as members of one of the terror organizations. Among the documents found were pamphlets printed in Hebrew and English demanding the release of 20 terrorists in Israeli jails. The infiltrators planned to kidnap Israelis and to hold them as hostages. Kalachnikoff rifles, hand grenades, ammunition and detonating devices were found near the two bodies.

On 4 September 1974, near the village of Fasuta, an Israeli patrol encountered another terrorist squad, which had infiltrated from Lebanon into Israel in the area of Idmit. Two terrorists were killed in the exchange of fire. Two Israeli soldiers were killed and two wounded.

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As already stressed on previous occasions, the terror organizations enjoy full freedom of action and movement in Lebanon. They co-operate freely and openly there with other organizations of assassins, such as the notorious so-called "Red Army". The international media published only recently instructive details regarding the murder operations which the "Red Army" is planning from Beirut. These grim details were discovered in European and Asian capitals following the arrest of a member of this organization in Paris on 26 July 1974.

It is, therefore, the Lebanese Government that is responsible for the situation created by the very existence of the terror and murder organizations on its soil and for its consequences.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Jacob BARMORE
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative
of Israel
