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LETTER DATED 9 NOVEMBER 1973 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions of my Government I have the honour to refer to the letters addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Egypt on 5 November 1973 (S/11080) and 7 November 1973 (S/11083) and to state the following:

All the Egyptian accusations alleging that Egyptian civilians have been expelled from their villages are completely baseless and unfounded.

As a result of Egypt's war of aggression, the civilian population close to the front line has naturally experienced a great deal of suffering, particularly as the Egyptians blew up the sweet water canal near Ismailiya. Because of the damage thus caused to the water supply, and not wishing to stay in areas of danger, some of the inhabitants apparently preferred to move into areas under Egyptian control. This they did of their own free will, taking with them their property and livestock.

Those who have remained are receiving every possible assistance, especially supplies of water and food, to enable them to continue their daily pursuits.

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

(Signed) Yosef TEKOAH
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations