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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EASTSECURITY COUNCIL
Twenty-ninth yearLetter dated 27 September 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions of my Government, I have the honour to refer to my previous letters regarding repeated terror attacks from Lebanon against Israel and to draw your attention to another armed incursion which occurred on 25 September 1974.

On that day, the eve of Yom Kippur, two breaches of the border fence were found, approximately 1.5 km north of Kibbutz Malkiya. Footprints of a group of terrorists were discovered leading from Lebanon into Israel and back to Lebanon. At one of the breaches in the fence, the terror squad left behind weapons, magazines, ammunition, food, an axe and barbed-wire cutters, as well as leaflets in Arabic and Hebrew. The leaflets demanded the release of 10 persons detained in Israel for activities connected with terrorism, including Oudi Adiv and Archbishop Capucci, and that they be flown to Cairo or Damascus, following arrangements to be made through the representative of the Vatican or the Ambassador of France. The leaflets were signed in the name of El Fatah.

It will be recalled that on 4 September 1974 an Israeli patrol intercepted near the village of Fasuta a murder squad which had infiltrated from Lebanon and whose objective was also to try to obtain the release of terrorists detained in Israel.

This was borne out by the leaflets, signed by the so-called "Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine" and found on the bodies of two of the terrorists shot by the Israeli patrol. The objective of the incursion was announced by the aforesaid terrorist organization, on the same day, on Radio Beirut. (The incursion was reported in the letter addressed to you on 4 September 1974 by the Acting Permanent Representative of Israel (A/9680-S/11487).)

On 8 September 1974, the Zarit area was shelled from Lebanese territory.

On 11 September 1974, an Israeli patrol north of Zarit was attacked by automatic fire directed at it from across the Lebanese border.

These criminal attacks demonstrate time and again that the Palestinian murder organizations in Lebanon maintain what is, in fact, a régime of their own, completely unfettered in its odious operations.

Of late, these organizations have increased their activities, causing friction between various Lebanese political parties, the resignation of a number of Lebanese Ministers and even the threat by the Lebanese Prime Minister to resign. There have also been armed clashes between various political factions and assaults by the terrorists on American and Iranian institutions in Beirut, followed by yet another decision by the Lebanese Government to prohibit the carrying and use of arms in Lebanon. The decision was completely ignored by the murder gangs which are continuing to expand their arsenals of arms. This was evidenced again on 12 September 1974 when a truck with Kuwaiti number plates went out of control in the area of al Kekhala and was found to contain trench mortars, an anti-aircraft gun and a quantity of other weapons. On 13 September 1974, the Beirut papers al Anwar and al Birag wrote that these arms were intended for the so-called "Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine".

Even Kamal Jumblatt, a well-known Lebanese politician and strong supporter of the terrorist organizations, found it necessary to declare, as reported by the Beirut daily al Hayat on 17 September 1974:

"I regret that some of the Fedayeen in the south are not implementing the clear orders and instructions of several months ago to withdraw from the villages."

Lebanon's Minister of Justice, Kazem Khalil, went as far as to state, on 11 September 1974:

"It is not just that the Palestinians should conquer a small country like ours and turn us into a scapegoat."

All this is taking place at the very time that pressure is being brought to bear upon the General Assembly of the United Nations to accord some kind of standing to the murder squads grouped together under the umbrella of the so-called "Palestine Liberation Organization".

Israel, on its part, is defending and will continue to defend the lives of its citizens by taking appropriate measures against the murder organizations.

The Government of Lebanon which permits the terror activities to continue on and from Lebanese territory must bear sole responsibility for the consequences of this situation.

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

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