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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Twenty-ninth year

Letter dated 29 April 1974 from the Permanent Representative of
the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the latest acts of aggression committed against Syria by Israel in persistent and flagrant violation of Security Council resolutions and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949. 1/

1. On 27 April, at about 1420 hours (local time), the Israeli military positions situated at point 226-309 (approximate co-ordinates) bombarded the region of the village of Reme and the village of Durbol itself. One civilian was seriously wounded as a result of the Israeli aggression. An investigation has been requested.

2. On 28 April, between 1135 and 1230 hours, the Israeli air forces carried out raids against the Syrian defence lines, while at the same time the Israeli positions launched mortar fire against these same lines along the entire length of the frontier.

Israel is thus continuing to commit criminal acts against the peaceful population and civilian targets. I wish to refer to my earlier letters dated 20 March (A/9501-S/11238), 27 March (A/9505-S/11244), 15 April (A/9517-S/11265) and 19 April (A/9521-S/11269), in which I gave details concerning the Israeli criminal acts which resulted in the death of several innocent civilians and the wounding of other civilians, and the destruction of several houses in the villages of Durbol and Al-Harra, in the town of Sassa and in the village of Kalaat-Jendal. In committing these criminal acts, Israel is violating not only the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, which strictly prohibit all acts of aggression against civilians, but also international law and human rights.

In so doing, Israel is persisting in its policy of aggression, in complete disregard of Security Council resolutions 338 (1973) and 339 (1973) of

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22 and 23 October 1973 concerning the cease-fire, which called for the immediate termination of all military activity and for the return of the forces of the two sides to the positions they occupied at the moment the cease-fire became effective.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Haissam KELANI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Syrian Arab Republic to the
United Nations
