

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



SECURITY COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

A/8659
S/10518
21 January 1972

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Twenty-seventh session
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Twenty-seventh year

Letter dated 21 January 1972 from the Permanent Representative of
the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter of the Israeli representative of 17 January 1972 (A/8656-S/10511), I have the honour to state the following:

The fact that the Israeli representative avoided any reference to my letter of 5 January 1972 (A/8651-S/10495), in which I reported official Israeli Zionist statements about a new number of Israeli settlements to be established in 1972 in the Arab occupied territories, including the Golan Heights, is very significant. He ignores the basic issue by diverting attention from the arrogantly stated policy of perpetuating Israeli annexation of Arab lands. The continued occupation of Arab territories does constitute by itself a continued aggression. It is a violation of the Charter and of the law of nations. Instead of facing this issue, the Israeli representative, faithful to his usual pattern, smears the victim of aggression. And, while this letter is being written, the twenty-eighth Congress of the World Zionist Organization is meeting in Israel with the main objective of bringing into Israel and the Arab occupied territories millions of settlers from the Jewish faith "the Chosen People". This, when 3 million Arabs from Palestine and the occupied territories are still living in exile and the Diaspora, while their right to return to their homeland has been affirmed by scores of General Assembly resolutions that also condemn Israel.

It is a matter of record that Israeli occupation forces have in 1971 committed against Syria 1,491 violations of the cease-fire, which were all confirmed by United Nations military observers. The total number of violations was 4,978, including permanent encroachments and incidents.

The Security Council, in its annual report to the General Assembly covering the period between 16 June 1970 and 15 June 1971, stated that "in almost all

cases, the firing had been initiated by Israeli forces". 1/ Further supplemental information, issued as addenda to document S/7930, describes Israeli violations of the cease-fire as varying from "sporadic" to "intensive", "machine-gun fire", "artillery fire", "mortar and tank fire", "aerial activity" by Israeli phantom jets crossing the cease-fire line, firing on or close to United Nations installations etc. The reports of the Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) from 16 June to 31 December 1971 indicate the continuation of the same pattern of Israeli violation of the cease-fire.

The Israeli representative alleged that, since 1 January 1972, Syria committed "11 violations of the cease-fire". This is pure fabrication as the reports of the Chief of Staff of UNTSO since 3 January up till 20 January 1972 established two facts. First, that Israeli forces have continuously violated the cease-fire, including violation of Syrian air space. Second, that invariably all Israeli complaints to UNTSO "were not confirmed by United Nations observation", while Syrian "complaints were confirmed by United Nations observation" (see supplemental information from 3 January to 20 January 1972). 2/

In the light of these facts, it is established beyond any doubt that, while the Israeli representative ruminates his false utterances to deceive the world body, his authorities have openly and amply demonstrated their determination to carry out their expansionist designs in occupied Arab lands.

I shall be grateful if this letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) George J. TOMEH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 2 (A/8402), para. 42.

2/ See S/7930/Add.1471 to 1488.

