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LETTER DATED 23 JUNE 1971 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to my letter of 16 June 1971 (S/10226) and on the instructions of my Government I have the honour to bring the following to your attention:

On Monday, 21 June 1971, at 1 a.m., Israeli forces crossed into Lebanese territory and reached the village of Yarine. They made the villagers leave their homes and then destroyed five houses.

By its very nature, this new act of aggression perpetrated by the regular armed forces of Israel has the effect of terrorizing the peaceful population of southern Lebanon. Moreover, it is another premeditated attack against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon in violation of the armistice agreement between Lebanon and Israel, in defiance of international law and in contempt of the United Nations Charter and the resolutions of the Security Council.

In his letter of 21 June 1971 (S/10231) the Permanent Representative of Israel follows his usual practice of giving explanations of events for which since the beginning Israel itself has been solely responsible. Yet to re-establish, in the region as a whole, peace based on justice, which is the only possible peace, all that is required is for Israel to respect international law and the resolutions of the United Nations, particularly those of the Security Council.

The obstructionist policy adopted by Israel towards all efforts to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is now, as in the past, the cause of the tension which prevails in the region. Israel cannot shirk its responsibility and persist in its attempt to wash its hands of the injustices and tragedies it has created by relying on its military arrogance and its denial of the most elementary principles of law and justice.

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

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) Edouard GHORRA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
