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LETTER DATED 15 FEBRUARY 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JORDAN ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw Your Excellency's attention to a deliberate and premeditated Israeli act of aggression committed against Jordan, which constitute a most serious violation of the ceasefire resolutions of the Security Council.

On 15 February 1968 at 1500 hours local time, the Israeli armed forces started shelling the northern part of the East Bank of Jordan, using heavy artillery and tanks. At the same time, Israeli jet fighters started an intensive bombardment of the villages of Deir Abou Said, Samma, Um Qais and Kufur Asad. Later on, the Israeli shelling was extended to various villages and positions in the cease-fire area.

Waves of Israeli fighter bombers continued bombarding Jordanian territories and refugee camps in an intensive and indiscriminate manner.

While the Israeli attack was going on, the Israeli Representative submitted two letters to the Security Council, using utterly false charges to camouflage Israeli preparations for a deliberate and well-planned indiscriminate assault on civilians and refugee camps.

On 12 February 1968, Premier Levi Eshkol indicated that Israeli retaliations against Jordan are contemplated.

Again, on 13 February 1968, Defence Minister Moshe Dayan, speaking before the Israeli Parliament, threatened to use force against Jordan.

What Mr. Dayan has promised, his armed forces have performed. It is not without significance, therefore, that the Israeli authorities and propaganda machinery have been busy cultivating for this attack for the last two weeks.

The human and material losses, resulting from over-seven-hour shelling and bombing, are not yet known. I shall furnish Your Excellency with more complete information about this wide-scale aggression as soon as it is available. 68-03672 S/8409 English Page 2

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

Please accept, etc.

(<u>Signed</u>) Muhammad H. EL-FARRA Ambassador Permanent Representative