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LETTER DATED 20 OCTOBER 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Further to my letter of 20 October 1969 (A/7718-S/9479) concerning charges that the United States encourages United States citizens to serve in the armed forces of certain foreign States, Department of State officials today clarified the situation for the Ambassadors of Arab countries. Specifically, the State Department officials stated:

(a) There is no foundation to the charge or insinuation that the United States encourages United States citizens to serve in the armed forces of foreign countries. In fact, the reverse is true; the United States seeks to discourage this.

(b) No United States military personnel are serving in Israel's armed forces.

(c) Some few Israeli citizens who have dual United States citizenship may be serving in Israel's forces. This situation obtains also in some other countries.

(d) The United States consular officials on a world-wide basis lend assistance to United States dual citizens abroad seeking to avoid induction into the armed forces of another State.

Once again, I would like to emphasize that United States citizenship laws are world-wide in application and no country in the Middle East or elsewhere is accorded any special status.

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I would appreciate your circulating this letter as an official document of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

(Signed) Charles W. YOST

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