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LETTER DATED 28 OCTOBER 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SYRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Acting upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter of 30 September 1969 (A/7689, S/9459), I have the honour to draw your attention to the most recent step taken by the Israeli authorities of occupation, to extend the Israeli legal jurisdiction to the Golan Heights, a Syrian territory under active Israeli colonization, a step which constitutes an additional instrument in the context of the faits accomplis long advocated by General Dayan and now being implemented one after the other.

To appease world public opinion falsely, the Israeli Attorney General was directed to state summarily that the move did not constitute a measure of annexation. But the same news media that reported his statement immediately gave details of the ceremonies which are going to take place in the inauguration of this move, details that are sufficient to remove any doubt about the Israeli sinister designs. This is in fact what the Jewish Telegraphic Agency stated in its News Bulletin of 17 October 1969:

"Inauguration of the Court at Kuneitra, the largest town in the Golan Heights, will mean the replacement of Syria's legal code by Israeli law. Opening ceremonies will be attended by Israel's Minister of Justice, Yakov Shapiro, and other ministers, Members of Parliament and Israeli dignitaries. It will be more than a routine event and observers here expect it to raise new outcries in the Arab world."

Immediately following this arbitrary Israeli decision, taken in utter disregard of all norms of civilized conduct and in defiance of all relevant United

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Nations resolutions, General Dayan, himself, placed such moves in their true Israeli perspective. He said:

"Cur struggle continues for a greater, stronger and more Jewish Israel." (Le Monde (22 October 1969), p. 5).

Giving his thought some more precision, he said, as he was elaborating on his concept of "strategic security borders", as reported by the same number of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's News Bulletin:

"Both the Syrian Golan Heights and Sharm El-Sheikh on the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula were needed to secure such borders."

As though Mrs. Golda Meir wanted to outbid her Defence Minister, she appeared on the 22nd of this month on the Israeli television to say:

"There is no halt in the process of setting up Israeli fortified villages beyond our former frontiers."

Giving more precision to her statement, she added that:

"eighteen villages of that kind had already been created, seven would be set up in the very near future and the construction of such villages would continue at the same pace".

Not completely satisfied with such a plan of his Prime Minister, General Dayan, celebrating the establishment of the first Israeli Court in Kuneitra, expressed the wish that the Israeli Government "should create conditions for permanent settlement of Israelis in the area", and he added:

"The main thing is not the occupation but the creation of a permanent presence." (Le Monde (23 October 1969), p. 6).

Your Excellency, the General Assembly, the Security Council, Member States, indeed the world at large, should draw their own conclusions as to where this defiant Israeli conduct would lead. Indeed, they are invited to do so by the very Israeli spokesman, who, to the question of whether the Israeli recent moves would constitute an annexation, had this to say:

"You may draw your own conclusions." (Le Monde (16 October 1969), (Cable of A.F.P. from Kuneitra)).

I have the honour to request that this letter be distributed as a document of both the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) George J. TOMEH

Ambassador

Permanent Representative