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LETTER DATED 30 SEPTEMBER 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SYRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Acting upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to stress once more the fact that, despite our repeated complaints and pleas to Your Excellency, the Israeli occupying authorities are deliberately pursuing the systematic demolition of Syrian villages and the colonization of Arab lands with intensive settlement.

Between 18 September 1968 and 13 July 1969 the Israeli invaders burned down or otherwise demolished no less than seventeen new Syrian villages in the occupied Golan Heights. Names, locations and other relevant information concerning the destruction of these villages appear in annex I of this letter. Names and locations of Israeli settlements built on the ruins of the Syrian villages are listed in annex II.

Examination of the data provided in these annexes reveals anew the invaders' criminal determination to erase, in the most barbaric fashion, all traces of Arab life and property in the occupied territories.

Since the Israeli blitzkrieg of 5 June 1967, the military occupying authorities have been pursuing a three-fold objective:

1. Eviction of the 115,000 Syrian inhabitants of the Golan Heights (see paragraphs 39 and 41 of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, 1 July 1966-30 June 1967).

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2. Burning out and demolition of Syrian towns and villages, in order to obliterate the Arab character of the occupied areas.

3. Colonization of the occupied territories with new settlers imported from various parts, but predominantly from Europe and America, thus adhering to the pattern of Zionist expansion in Palestine throughout the last half-century.

It is noteworthy that Israeli activities in the Golan Heights are but a faithful implementation of the decisions of the Twenty-seventh World Zionist Congress of June 1968, whose basic theme was the call for a new Aliya to inhabit the newly occupied territories.

An article by the correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor, published 23 September 1969 under the title "Israeli Border Life - Golan Cliffs Along Syrian Border Key to Territorial Desires", indicates, on the one hand, the insatiable Israeli appetite for expansion and, on the other, extortion of funds from citizens of foreign countries indulged in by the World Zionist Organization to finance the unlawful designs of Israel. Two relevant excerpts from this article are reproduced in annex III.

While bringing to Your Excellency's attention these Israeli acts perpetrated daily, with premeditation, against my country and its people, in flagrant violation of the Charter, the many United Nations resolutions, and all norms of international law and civilized behaviour, we strongly request Your Excellency, as well as the competent organs of the United Nations, to assume in full their responsibilities with respect to ending Israeli occupation of Syrian territory. As long as Israel is able to flout the Charter of the United Nations and the decisions of its organs, and to continue to consolidate its conquest, the situation in the Middle East will not cease to deteriorate; peace and security in the area will be increasingly threatened.

I shall be grateful if this letter can be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) George J. TOMEH
Permanent Representative of Syria
to the United Nations

ANNEX I

List of Syrian villages demolished or burned out by the Israeli occupying authorities

<u>Name of village</u>	<u>Date of destruction</u>	<u>Location: co-ordinates</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Al-Adnanieh (Suraman)	18 Sept.-18 Nov. 1968	2783-2286	Continued despite Syrian protests to UNRISD
Al-Hamidieh	10-30 Oct. 1968	285-229	
Khesfin	26 Feb. 1969	2506-2265	
Group of dwellings	26 March 1969	2814-2290	Continued despite Syrian protests to UNRISD
Abou Kheit	31 March 1969	2484-2273	
Kuneitra suburbs	31 March 1969	2813-2279	
Khan El-Joukhadar	8 April 1969	2593-2297	
Al-Razzanieh	7 April 1969	2540-2290	
Tel Al-Saqi	7 April 1969	2527-2281	
Abi Zeitoun	6 April 1969	2486-2256	
Maqam Abi Daher	7 April 1969	2564-2292	
Cluster of dwellings	27 April 1969	2855-2261	
Al-Asha	27, 28 April 1969	2643-2320	
Al-Batmieh	20 June 1969	2615-2328	
Al-Rafid (5 houses)	23 June 1969	2625-2347	
Ein Al-Hamra	7 July 1969	2884-2255	
Cluster of houses	13 July 1969	2518-2292	
Cluster of houses	13 July 1969	2520-2290	

ANNEX II

Ten Israeli settlements built on the sites of partially
or totally demolished Syrian villages, or in other
locations in occupied Syrian territory

<u>Name of settlement</u>	<u>Former name</u>	<u>Date of establishment</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Shenir	Banias	14 Aug. 1967	
Golan	Kuneitra	5 Nov. 1967	
Geishur	Tel el-Faras	10 Mar. 1968	
El-'Al	El-'Al	5 May 1968	Most buildings of Arab El-'Al were demolished
Ezz Ed-Dine	Mazra'et Ezz Ed-Dine	7 July 1968	Total destruction
Fiq	Fiq	8 Aug. 1968	Most buildings demolished
Yoab	Kafar Hareb	Nov. 1968	" " "
Gibin	Jibin	28 Dec. 1968	Total destruction
Ein Zivan	Ein Ziwan	29 Dec. 1968	" "
Shalom	Jabata Az-Zeit	5 May 1969	" "

ANNEX III

Excerpts from an article published in the "Christian Science Monitor" on 23 September 1969, "Israeli Border Life - Golan Cliffs Along Syrian Border Key to Territorial Desires", by Staff Correspondent Trudy Rubin

"Agricultural sheds are visible off the road and tractors with grinning young men in shorts. These are the first settlers. Already twelve settlements, ten civilian-agricultural and two military-agricultural (nahals), dot the heights. Two more nahals are soon to rise on the Syrian borders.

.....

"The process for civilian settlement, Dina tells us, is relatively easy. Once the Israeli Government makes the decision to allow it (it has been permitted so far only in the Golan Heights and in two cases on the West Bank), the Jewish National Fund clears the land and the Jewish Agency provides loans for buildings, agricultural equipment and initial needs.

"Within Israel proper both these semi-governmental agencies are funded by money from the United Jewish Appeal, which raises funds from Jewish communities around the world. However, the agency takes pains to stress that the money for settlement in the territories comes from special government funds earmarked for the occupied areas."
