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LETTER DATED 25 APRIL 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to refer to the letter addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Syria on 17 April 1969 (S/9164) and to state the following:

Syria is persistent in its refusal to recognize that relations between Members of the United Nations are to be governed first and foremost by reciprocal respect for the right of each other to continue to exist in peace and security. A recent example of the extremism of official Syrian policy-makers is seen in the statement of the President of Syria, Dr. el-Attasi, on 7 April 1969, when he concluded a sabre-rattling pronouncement with a cry: "Death to the colonial Zionists".

Since the policy of the Syrian Government consistently remains one of war on Israel until it is destroyed, Syria has no moral, legal or logical basis for tendering advice to Israel on how Israel should defend itself against Syria's aggressive aims. Indeed, the very tendering of that advice is open to interpretation.

The fact that the Permanent Representative of Syria has prayed in aid some carefully chosen resolutions, distorted and rephrased to suit the particularity of his immediate thesis, will not conceal that his real objective is to deny Israel all its rights under the Charter of the United Nations.

Compatible with the eclecticism and penchant for inaccuracy characteristic of the Syrian Government is the care with which the Permanent Representative of Syria has avoided all mention of the Security Council resolution of 22 November 1967. But as is a matter of common knowledge, the Government of Syria has categorically rejected that resolution and spares no effort in undermining it.

The credibility and veracity of statements made in the name of the Government of Syria to organs of the United Nations can be assessed from its deliberately misleading reply to an inquiry on behalf of the Secretary-General regarding the presence of Iraqi forces in Syrian territory, which was the subject of my letter to the Secretary-General on 10 April 1969 (S/9146, A/7539).

I have the honour to request the circulation of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Yosef TEKOAHI  
Permanent Representative of Israel  
to the United Nations

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