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LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 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 report to you the following:

On 26 February 1969, at about 0900 local time, the Israeli occupation forces set fire to the Syrian village Khisfine located approximately at 2265-2506 co-ordinates. This Israeli action constitutes a flagrant violation of part III, section III, article 53, of the Geneva convention relative to the protection of civilian persons and properties in occupied territories.

It thus appears that there is no law which can make Israel respect recognized international obligations as shown by its continued flagrant violations of human rights. The senior Syrian Arab delegate to the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission (ISMAC) submitted to the Chairman of ISMAC on 28 February 1969, in accordance with the Armistice Agreement, a complaint about this new dreadful action by the Israeli army of occupation.

I would be grateful to Your Excellency if this letter is issued as an official document of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

(Signed) George J. TOMEH  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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\* Also issued under the symbol A/7522.