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LETTER DATED 15 OCTOBER 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SYRIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to my letter of 25 July 1968 (A/7142, S/8689), I have the honour to draw your attention to the continuance of Israeli atrocities committed every day in the occupied territories in disregard of the norms of international law, the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the relevant humanitarian resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The latest series of such acts was as follows:

1. Destruction of the Syrian occupied village Souraman. On 18 September 1968, about 11.00 hours local time, several Israeli bulldozers started demolishing the houses of this village. The next day, as early as 08.00 hours local time, the bulldozers resumed the demolition and on 29 September even the smallest dwellings in the village were not spared. A complaint by the Syrian authorities was lodged with the Chairman of ISMAC, who was requested to take immediate action. These provocative acts were adequately witnessed by the United Nations military observers from their hilltop post No. 5.
2. On 10 October 1968, the wrath of the Israeli demolition teams turned on the village of Ahmediye. Its houses and dwellings had the same treatment as that of Souraman. The demolition did not pass unnoticed by the observation post No. 6 of the United Nations military observers. But, in spite of the Syrian complaint lodged with ISMAC, no preventive measure was taken.

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While requesting that Your Excellency kindly take the necessary steps to ensure the compliance of the Israeli occupying forces with the most elementary norms of civilized conduct, I would be grateful if this letter would be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) George J. TOMEH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
