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LETTER DATED 30 JULY 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to refer to the letters to you from the Permanent Representatives of Jordan and Sudan of 25 July (A/7144, S/8691) and 26 July (A/7145, S/8693), respectively.

The allegations made in the letters with regard to Palestinian refugees in the Jabalia camp in the Gaza area are false. These allegations were the subject of a letter from Ambassador Comay addressed yesterday in Jerusalem to the Commissioner-General of UNRWA. The letter stated, inter alia:

"I am now in a position to assure you that there is no substance to the charge conveyed to you that a concerted effort is now being made to expel numbers of refugees from Jabalia on the ground that the heads of families are abroad. The policy of my Government remains as I have previously indicated to you, namely, that no pressure is exerted on Gaza residents to leave nor are they prevented from leaving. They are free to remain or depart in accordance with their own wishes. Nothing has been done by the military government authorities in the Gaza Strip which is inconsistent with that policy.

"... It is worth noting that last Thursday, 25 July, the Minister of Defence, General Dayan, officially visited the Gaza Strip and had a meeting with the town mayors and other representatives of the local population. In the course of a two and a half hour discussion these Arab notables were encouraged to raise every question of concern to them and did so with the greatest freedom. The allegations regarding Jabalia camp were not even mentioned as they would undoubtedly have been if there had been any basis to them."

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

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

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