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LETTER DATED 5 AUGUST 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JORDAN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the Israeli representative's letters of 30 July<sup>1/</sup> and 31 July 1968,<sup>2/</sup> addressed to Your Excellency.

The Israeli representative tried to avoid the issue in question, namely, the intention of the Israeli authorities to expel the 50,000 refugees of the Jabalia Camp in Gaza Strip and the actual commencement of this mass expulsion on 28 July 1968.

The attached photostat of a protest, a true translation of which is enclosed, submitted by the Mukhtars of Jabalia Camp to the Director of UNRWA in Gaza Strip against such Israeli deportation leaves no room for skepticism about the Israeli premeditated plans for the expulsion and deportation of these refugees. It also shows the strong will of the people of Jabalia Camp to stay, and their resistance against such illegal expulsion.

By referring to the first group of expellees and the closing of King Hussein Bridge as "an incident on 29 July 1968 in the Allenby Bridge area", the Israeli representative was only trying to undermine the whole issue. The Israeli authorities are still adamant in carrying their sinister plans for the

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2/ A/7158, S/8701.

deportation of the 50,000 refugees in the Jabalia Camp. Not a single Israeli official statement was heard to the contrary. All that we heard was talk about "free movement" which happens to be to the East Bank of Jordan.

I have the honour to request that this letter together with its enclosures be circulated as official documents of the Security Council and General Assembly.

(Signed) Muhammad H. EL-FARRA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative



Gaza, 12 July 1968

To the Director of United Nations Relief and Works Agency - Gaza Strip.

Greetings and respects,

We, the undersigned, submit this protest in connexion with the different measures being taken by the Israeli authorities in the Gaza Strip to deport the Jabalia Camp refugees. The Israeli authorities are using all sorts of pressures, intimidation and threats to achieve their goals. We bring these facts to your attention and request you to convey them to H.E. the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the Commissioner-General of UNRWA, Mr. Michelmore.

1. On 9 July 1968, the Department of Immigration and Passports attached to the administration of the Israeli Military Governor's office in Gaza called the Mukhtars of Jabalia Camp. Among those present were: Shihada EL-Kahlout (Ni'lya), Ahmad Deeb Abdul Raheem (Barbara), Abdul Fatah Hussein (Deir Suneid), Ahmad Al Tari (Herbya), Mustafa Abu Auwn (Yibna), Saleh Tafish (Yibna), Abdul Fatah Abul Aish (Huj), Baraka S. Thabit (Thawabta Tribe), Muhammad Al Bahouh (Beit Tima), Mahmoud Al Asi (Al Sawafir), Othman A. Othman (Sumsum).

The Mukhtars were met by two Israeli officials, namely Yuda, in military uniform, and Haoliv in civilian clothes.

2. The two Israeli officials asked the Mukhtars for the following:

(a) Co-operation with the Israeli authorities and in particular with the Immigration Department to deport the refugees of Jabalia Camp.

(b) Submission of list of families to deport them to the East Bank of Jordan under the pretext of joining their bread earners.

(c) Submission of these lists at the utmost speed.

3. On 11 July 1968 some of the Mukhtars submitted lists of families. The Israeli authorities contacted the families and ordered them to leave to the East Bank of Jordan by 14 July 1968. The women protested against these orders and illegal deportation. We understand that these women submitted a protest to Your Excellency to this effect.

4. Today, 12 July 1968, a delegation of Mukhtars met with the Israeli official, Yuda, and informed him on behalf of Jabalia Camp that the families ordered to leave

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do not wish to do so and cannot go to Amman. The Mukhtars further asked that a delegation, if given permission by the Israeli authorities, will go to Amman and look for the heads of those families threatened with deportation.

The deportation was postponed. We resorted to such postponement merely to inform Your Excellency of this matter.

5. The Department of Immigration informed us that it will pay money for families to be deported from the Gaza Strip into Jordan. We objected against such an operation but were threatened with imprisonment and were asked to submit all the lists of families in Jabalia Camp.

6. The Israeli authorities pay ten Israeli pounds in the Gaza Strip to every member of the family and another ten Israeli pounds on the Allenby Bridge on the River Jordan. Transportation is all paid and facilitated by the Israeli authorities.

But people do not wish to leave and object to these Israeli measures no matter how much pressure they are subjected to.

We, the undersigned, the Mukhtars of the Jabalia Refugee Camp, request Your Excellency's intervention to halt the deportation of the Jabalia Camp refugees which, if allowed to happen, may be followed by the deportation of other refugee camps.

The Palestine refugees are the responsibility of the United Nations. We, therefore, request the United Nations to halt these inhuman Israeli acts which are in direct violation of the United Nations Charter and its spirit, Declaration of Human Rights, International Law, the humanitarian Security Council resolutions, pertaining to the safety, welfare and security of the inhabitants in the occupied areas.

We request you to transmit the details of our new tragedy to H.E. the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General of UNRWA to stop these inhuman and deliberate Israeli acts. We had already been expelled from our homes and villages once and we do not wish to be expelled again. We, therefore, ask you to take firm and positive action and ask the United Nations to halt these inhuman acts.

Please accept our highest regards and respect.

Signatures and seals of 22 Mukhtars.

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