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LETTER DATED 26 AUGUST 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JORDAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's attention the following series of Israeli attacks against Jordan, which culminated in a mass attack on Jordan villages in the northern part of the Jordan Valley.

On 23 August 1968, several Israeli military planes flew on a low altitude over the Jordanian cities of Amman, Salt and Irbid. The planes distributed leaflets issued, in Arabic, by the Israel Defense Army, which warned that:

"This leaflet could have been a bullet, a bomb or a shell if we wanted. This is what we had done in the past and will do in the future. The death of 400 'terrorists' in the last few months should be a lesson for you."

Yesterday, 25 August 1968, at 1000 hours local time, the Israeli armed forces shelled the villages of Sama, Marhaba, Harawiah, Tal El-Arbacin, Kufur Asaad, Um Quis, Al Makhaba Altihta, Al Baqourah, and Almanshiyah, all in the northern part of the Jordan Valley, using tanks and medium and heavy artillery. Jordanian forces returned the fire in self-defence.

As a result of this treacherous Israeli attack, three Jordanians were seriously injured. A school was destroyed in the village of Um Quis. A mosque was destroyed in the village of Kufur Asaad. The East Ghor Irrigation Canal was destroyed in the area of Waqas. A number of houses were destroyed in every one of the villages subjected to the Israeli shelling, which continued for over seven hours.

All these Israeli brazen violations of the cease-fire resolution, whether in the form of Israeli arrogant violation of Jordanian air-space and threats in leaflets or in the form of direct attacks against civilians come only a few days after the Security Council had adopted its resolution 256 (1968) which condemned both Israeli massive air attacks on the Jordanian civilians of Irbid and Salt and

warned Israel not to repeat such attacks. Instead, Israel continues with its policy of intimidation, threats and aggression.

In view of these continuous Israeli threats and daily attacks and in view of the adamant Israeli attitude not to comply with Security Council resolutions, a new situation has developed which, if permitted to continue, will lead to further complications. The Security Council is, therefore, expected to meet and take more effective measures to check Israeli aggression and to remedy a situation fraught with danger.

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

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