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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF
THE POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 8 November 1979 from the Permanent Representative of
Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon urgent instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the latest Israeli confiscation, usurpation and impending colonization of vast areas of agricultural lands in the Jenin area of the West Bank amounting to 70,000 dunums of land, belonging by title-deeds to their legitimate Palestinian Arab inhabitants of seven villages in the Jenin district. This latest of the large-scale confiscations of Arab lands, in the tiny West Bank, does not only constitute a flagrant violation of the Hague Convention and of the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the protection of civilians under occupation, it also reflects the fiendish character and magnitude of the settler-colonizer policy which the Israeli occupation authorities are continuing ruthlessly to carry out, in an avalanche of relentless expansion, racism and total illegality.

It should be stressed here that, in using the term "vast areas of agricultural land" to describe the latest confiscation of 70,000 dunums, it can only be understood within the context of the fact that the West Bank is a very tiny portion of Palestine and the least endowed in arable lands. The policy is quite clearly and categorically to deprive the remaining inhabitants under occupation of their means of existence and to force them either to turn to landless floating workers, to be exploited by Israeli vampires, or to emigrate outside their ancestral homeland.

Following is the communication received from my Government on this most serious issue:

"Please bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, the President of the Security Council and the States Members of the United Nations that Israel has taken a decision to confiscate 70,000 dunums of land belonging to seven villages in the occupied region of Jenin. These agricultural lands

are the only source of livelihood to the inhabitants of the said villages. The villagers have no other source of income. The decision of the Israeli occupation has been taken notwithstanding the fact that these lands are registered in the Department of Land with title-deeds which prove the ownership of their legitimate proprietors. The area affected has a very high population density estimated at about 20,000 people.

"Likewise, the Israeli Government has begun preparations for the establishment in Galilee, during the year 1980, of 10 new Israeli settlements on Palestinian Arab lands and has earmarked one and a half billion Israeli liras for exploitation of this usurpation."

In view of the seriousness of these Israeli decisions and actions, it is my Government's request that this be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 51, and of the Security Council.

It is needless to reiterate that the Government of Jordan and the United Nations in its entirety regard all such measures as blatant highway robbery, null and void and without legal validity.

(Signed) Hazem NUSEIBEH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative