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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Twenty-ninth year

Letter dated 2 December 1974 from the Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions of my Government and further to my previous letters drawing attention to the campaign of murder attacks from Lebanese territory against Israeli civilians, I regret to inform you that these attacks are continuing unabated.

On 28 November 1974, at approximately 2230 hours local time, an Israeli patrol encountered a PLO murder squad of five men trying to penetrate from across the Lebanese border north of kibbutz "Dan". The five terrorists were killed. Found on them were Kalachnikov automatic rifles, bazookas and other equipment.

Wafa, the news agency of the PLO murder organization, issued a statement in Beirut on 29 November announcing the clash.

During the night of 30 November/1 December, two terrorists who had crossed into Israel from Lebanon stole into a house in the village of Rihaniya, three miles south of the Lebanese border, killed a civilian and wounded his wife.

The Israeli military forces seized the two murderers, who were armed with Kalachnikov automatic rifles and carried more than 250 bullets, nine grenades and explosives. They told the Israeli investigators that they belonged to the Fatah terror organization which is headed by Yasser Arafat. They had been instructed in Beirut and in the PLO base at the Rashadiyeh refugee camp. Their orders were to kill indiscriminately, to take hostages and to demand the release of four terror agents and Archbishop Capucci, caught by the Israeli authorities in the course of smuggling arms for murder attacks against civilians in Israel and compared by Archbishop Joseph Raya of Nazareth and all of Galilee to Eichmann.

The above-mentioned attacks illustrate again the fact that the Government of Lebanon permits the existence on its territory of a murder régime which is carrying on its bloody atrocities against the civilian population of Israel. In these circumstances Israel is compelled to proceed with the appropriate measures it takes to protect its citizens.

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It is evident that the recent General Assembly resolutions which yielded to the demands of the PLO have encouraged the campaign of terror attacks against innocent Israeli civilians.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 109, and of the Security Council.

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