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LETTER DATED 25 MARCH 1955 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to draw your attention, and that of the members of the Security Council to another attack deep inside Israel, perpetrated by marauders from the Egyptian-controlled Gaza strip, which has resulted in the wanton murder and injury of over a score of Israeli settlers. The details of the incident, as they have been received, are as follows:

On 24 March in the evening, a wedding party was in progress in the public hall of Patish, an Israeli village situated some 20 kilometres from the Israel-Egypt frontier at the Gaza strip. The happy celebrations were violently interrupted at 11.45 p.m. when the crowded hall was sprayed with machine gun fire and hand grenades from outside.

According to reports received so far, one of the guests, a woman teacher from another village, was killed on the spot, two were critically wounded, and twenty-one suffered injuries of a less grave character.

The tracks of two of the attackers, which were later joined by those of two more, were followed by the investigating team, which included United Nations observers, to the demarcation line at the Gaza strip, which they crossed in the vicinity of Sheikh Nebhan.

This brutal and obviously premeditated assault is the most grave of the Egyptian incursions into Israel which have continued uninterruptedly since the period covered by the Report of the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization of 17 March 1955 (S/3373).

Since 3 March, thirteen incursions and attacks from Egypt have occurred, most of them bearing an organized character. In two of the cases which have been considered by the Mixed Armistice Commission, Egypt was censured for her failure to terminate immediately all acts of aggression against Israel, despite the obligations imposed upon her by the General Armistice Agreement and numerous Mixed Armistice Commission decisions.

The latest attack at Patish, together with those which came before it, emphasizes the gravity of the situation on the frontier of Israel with Egypt which results from ceaseless Egyptian incursions and aggressions committed against the seventy-odd Israeli villages in the vicinity. My Government reserves its right to pursue this matter further in the Security Council.

Please accept, Sir, etc.

/s/ M.R. Kidron  
for Permanent Representative of Israel  
to the United Nations

