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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EASTSECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-third year

Letter dated 3 January 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters relating to Israel's expulsion of Palestinians and their deportation to Lebanon, particularly that contained in document A/43/548-S/20137 of 19 August 1988, in which the Lebanese Government warns against Israel's implementation of its decision to expel 25 Palestinians and to deport them to Lebanon, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

The day before yesterday, Israel proceeded to expel 13 Palestinians and to deport them to Lebanon. They were among the 25 Palestinians against whom Israel had issued an expulsion order.

The Lebanese Government reiterates its condemnation of expulsions of Palestinians, which are contrary to article 49 of the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and article 9 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Such actions are carried out in defiance of Security Council resolution 607 (1988), which calls upon Israel to refrain from deporting Palestinians and to abide by the fourth Geneva Convention.

The Lebanese Government reaffirms its complete rejection of illegal deportations across the international boundaries, since they are an encroachment on Lebanon's sovereignty and a flagrant breach of the inviolability of its borders and of its territorial integrity.

The Lebanese Government calls attention to the fact that, as shown in the letters previously sent, expulsions and deportations to Lebanon involved 48 Palestinians during 1988. Available information indicates that Israel intends to expel the remaining 12 Palestinians and to deport them to Lebanon.

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The Lebanese Government calls upon the United Nations, and particularly the Security Council and the Secretariat, to bring pressure to bear on Israel to abide by Security Council resolution 607 (1988), the fourth Geneva Convention and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to desist forthwith from deporting Palestinians to Lebanon. It reserves its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council at the time it might determine.

I request you to be so kind as to take the necessary measures to have this letter circulated as an official document of the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rachid FAKHOURY  
Permanent Representative

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