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SECURITY COUNCIL  
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Letter dated 26 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 of complaint against Israel and its practices relating to the expulsion of Lebanese citizens from villages situated within the so-called "security zone", the most recent of which was that contained in document A/44/70-S/20379, of 9 January 1989, I have the honour to call your attention to the following:

First: during the past week Israel proceeded, through the agency of its intelligence apparatus and the so-called "South Lebanon Army", to summon together notables from the families of Chebaa, Hasbaya District, which is situated within the "security zone" and in the area of operations of the Norwegian contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The notables were ordered to form a civil administration and a frontier guard force, failing which Israel would impose a blockade on the town and detain the notables in the Khiam prison.

Secondly: following the rejection of that demand, Israel imposed a blockade on the town of Chebaa and prevented entry and egress by way of the Zimraya and Kfartibnit crossing points.

Thirdly: yesterday morning, that is to say on Wednesday, 25 January 1989, an Israeli force made up of infantry and motorized units and accompanied by elements of Israeli military intelligence and militiamen of the so-called "South Lebanon Army" proceeded to break through the UNIFIL barrier at the entrance to Chebaa and entered the town. It raided dozens of houses and tampered with their contents in an atmosphere that terrorized and intimidated the inhabitants, arrested many citizens and expelled entire families, including elderly persons in their eighties

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and children aged between 1 and 10 years. The Israeli forces conducted the latter, estimated at 38 persons, still in their night clothes, to the Zimraya crossing and, from there, outside the so-called security zone. At the same time, three persons from the town of Rib Clacyn were expelled from the occupied area through the Kfartibnit crossing point.

The Lebanese Government condemns these arbitrary and inhumane practices in the strongest possible terms as representing a violation and a defiance of the International Bill of Human Rights and of the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, in particular its article 49, and as constituting flagrant, persistent and continuing aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and the rights of its citizens.

The Lebanese Government warns of the consequences of such practices, of their aggravation of the serious situation in the south and of the fact that they impede the task of UNIFIL, a matter which has prompted the Commander of the Force to proceed to the town of Chebaa and openly to condemn such actions carried out in violation of international law and custom and the relevant international conventions.

The Lebanese Government renews its call to the Security Council and the Secretariat to bring pressure to bear on Israel to desist forthwith from resorting to such inhuman measures and practices against Lebanese citizens and to allow those citizens to return to their villages. It reserves its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council to consider this serious matter, as well as that of the illegal expulsion of Palestinians to Lebanon.

I request you to have this letter circulated as an official document 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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