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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Twenty-seventh year

Letter dated 8 November 1972 from the Permanent Representative of  
Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Israel, in a recent letter addressed to the President of the Security Council, resorted to the usual threadbare arguments advanced by the Zionist propaganda apparatus against the Palestinian people, the very people that Israel has uprooted and whose rights are grossly violated by the Zionist and Israeli acts of terrorism, aggression and lawlessness.

The Zionist propaganda campaign of falsehood is apparently determined to take out of context and accordingly exploit the item inscribed on the agenda of the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly concerning the prevention of terrorism which endangers innocent lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms, neglecting, naturally, the emphasis deliberately put on the underlying causes of the acts of violence.

In this respect, I would like to put before you as well as the membership of the United Nations, the following facts and considerations:

First: It is through terrorism that zionism has achieved the establishment of Israel. The terroristic activities of Stern, Irqon Zwei Leomi and Haganah in this field are a matter of common knowledge. This in fact was the first phase in the history of terrorism in the Middle East. Such historical fact is but a brazen example of "States established by terrorism".

Second: Since its establishment, Israel has practised terrorism and disseminated terror against the Arab civilian population, a matter which jeopardized the fundamental freedoms of these people and endangered their lives. Deir Yassin, Qibiah, El Samnu' and other massacres are cases in point. This is but a clear example of "terrorism by States".

Third: Israel has persisted and continues to persist in its policy of terror and practices of terrorism against the Arab people. The bombardment of villages and civilian concentration areas in Lebanon is but one example which underscores the true nature of Israel and its policy of "all-out terrorism".

Recent incidents confirm that Israelis have resorted to another kind of terrorism, that is, the booby-trapped letters sent to Palestinian personalities in Cairo and other Arab capitals. (Examples of such incidents are to be found in annexes 1 and 2 of this letter.)

In fact, Israel not only resorts to such acts of terrorism but attempts to cover up for them by waging campaigns of fabrications and distortions destined to defame the Palestinian national liberation movements by accusing them of applying such methods. The recent comments and articles by world newspapers reject such falsehoods. An article published in the New York Post on 27 October 1972 shows that an American tourist in Israel has been accused of mailing bombs to American leaders and officials. This article clearly demonstrates both the fallacy of the Israeli contentions that Arabs are responsible for such acts and the viciousness of the Israeli campaigns against the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular.

Finally, any study of the underlying causes of terrorism will show not only the absurdity of the Israeli arguments behind the acts of terror and terrorism committed by them but also the responsibility of Israel and the Zionist ideology for the "misery, frustration, grievance and despair... which cause some people to sacrifice human lives, including their own", in order to defend their inalienable rights and secure the attainment of this fundamental freedom.

Upon instructions from my Government, I request that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

(Signed) Dr. A. Esmat ABDEL MEGUID  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

On 24 and 26 October 1972, three letter bombs were discovered in the mail coming from Belgrade.

The letters were addressed to the following three Palestinians residing in Cairo:

Mr. Farouk Makroumy,  
Mr. H. Reda Abdel Hamid,  
Mr. Gamal Arafat.

Two of the letter bombs were immediately detonated while the third exploded in the hands of a police officer, causing the loss of his left arm.

