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LETTER DATED 5 JULY 1954 FROM THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF
LEBANON ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to call to your attention and to the attention of the Security Council yet another act of aggression which was perpetrated by the armed forces of Israel against the Holy City of Jerusalem. This unprovoked act of aggression, which occurred on the night of 30 June 1954, constitutes a serious threat to the peace in the area and is a flagrant violation of the General Armistice Agreement between Israel and Jordan.

On 30 June 1954, at 20.30 hours, the armed forces of Israel opened fire from three different localities on the Old City of Jerusalem. The Israelis maintained their heavy fire for more than one hour before drawing defensive counter-fire from the small arms of the armed forces of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This reaction from the forces of Jordan did not come about until after they realized that the pleas of the Truce Supervision Observers to the Israelis to stop firing had gone unheeded. The Israeli armed forces continued firing sporadically until the early hours of 1 July. Of the thirty-one mortar shells fired by the Israelis, eight hit the Church of Christ, located near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, nine hit the Armenian Convent where several priests and a number of refugees live and four hit the Citadel.

On 1 July 1954, at 11.00 hours, the Israeli armed forces again opened fire with mortars and light arms on several Arab quarters killing one woman and wounding a number of other civilians. At 19.00 hours they again directed their mortar fire at the Old City firing thirty shells. Four civilians were killed, twenty-six were wounded and several houses sustained damage.

The Government of Lebanon wishes to register, in the strongest terms, its protest against this latest act of aggression by Israel which constitutes a grave threat to the peace and security in the Middle East.

I have the honour to request your Excellency to circulate this letter to the members of the Security Council and to have it brought to the notice of all the Members of the United Nations.

Accept, etc.

s/ Edward A. Rizk
Alternate Representative of
Lebanon on the Security Council