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LETTER DATED 28 OCTOBER 1955 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF SYRIA TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, in accordance with instructions from my Government, to request you to communicate this letter to the members of the Security Council.

There has been a constant increase recently in the number of acts of aggression committed by the Israel authorities, in defiance of the Armistice Agreement between Israel and Syria. The Security Council's attention is drawn in particular to the following acts, which constitute conclusive proof of their authors' warlike intentions:

1. Shortly before 10.30 p.m., an Israel army detachment consisting of about 150 commandos crossed the Armistice demarcation line and entered Syrian territory. The detachment was equipped with heavy arms. After penetrating two kilometres into Syrian territory, the Israelis laid an ambush in the course of which they set fire to a Syrian army car and seized an officer and a soldier. Another military car drove up and was subjected to heavy artillery fire, as a consequence of which a Syrian officer and two soldiers were killed. The Israelis then attacked and burnt a third car. They further seized a non-commissioned officer and two soldiers. During the fighting which followed the above-mentioned operations 5 soldiers were wounded.

After the Israel detachment had withdrawn the United Nations observers noted at several points in Syrian territory, traces of the acts of brigandage it had committed. The observers found, among other things, hand-grenades, mines and a large quantity of ammunition; they seized this evidence at the outset of their investigations.

2. On 16 October 1955, Israel forces opened fire on the village of Dreijate, near the Banat-Yacoub bridge in Syrian territory. Two people were seriously wounded.

3. On 14 October 1955, the Israelis threw up a dam at the point where the Jordan flows out of Lake Hule. As a result the water flooded neighbouring land damaging crops over an area of approximately 5,000 hectares.

4. On 25 October 1955, an Israel armoured car opened fire on the inhabitants of the village of Dreijate, killing a woman and wounding a Syrian soldier.

5. On 27 October 1955, an Israel patrol attacked the village of Banias, seriously wounding an unarmed civilian.

6. It should be added that since the beginning of October 1955 there has been constant Israel activity over Syrian territory.

It is clear, therefore, that the Israel authorities are continuing to commit acts of aggression in defiance of the commitments they have duly assumed. These acts can only aggravate the present situation and constitute a serious threat to the peace.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

(Signed) Rafik Asha

Permanent Representative of Syria
to the United Nations

