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LETTER DATED 14 NOVEMBER 1957 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL ADDRESSED
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I refer to the letter dated 8 November 1957 of the Representative of Jordan (S/3907) and have the honour to observe that this document contains at least three serious misrepresentations designed to cast an unfavourable light on the perfectly legitimate activities of my Government.

Firstly, the Representative of Jordan refers to a decision of the Security Council on 6 September 1957. The records of the Security Council do not disclose any decision on the question at issue at this or at any other meeting.

Secondly, the Representative of Jordan quotes an opinion expressed by one member of the Security Council, and endeavours to pass it off as the agreed view of the Council. The views of the Security Council were summed up by the President at the meeting of 6 September. That summing up does not include the statement quoted by the Representative of Jordan or any other expression in the same or similar sense.

Thirdly, the Representative of Jordan describes the tree planting activity undertaken on the Israel side of the civilian line in the former Government House area in Jerusalem as a violation of the Armistice Agreement. As the Acting Chief of Staff confirms in paragraphs 6 and 7 of his report (A/3892), the General Armistice Agreement contains no provisions determining the legal status of the area and does not define the respective rights and obligations of the parties in the area.

In these circumstances the list attached to the Representative of Jordan's letter, even if it were accurate, would be of no more than academic interest, as legitimate civilian activities of the kind listed have been proceeding on both the Jordan and Israel sides of the civilian line in the Government House area for the past eight years.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated to all members of the Security Council.

(Signed) M.R. KIDRON

For Permanent Representative of
Israel to the United Nations

57-31660

