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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 11 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters on Israeli practices and attacks on Lebanese territory, I regret to inform you once again that, on the morning of Monday, 10 July 1989, Israeli forces carried out two incursions into the southern Bekaa.

Two joint squadrons of the Israeli army and the South Lebanon Army, proceeding from the so-called "security zone", advanced along two different axes for 8 kilometres outside the zone, the first in the direction of Mimes and Zimraya and the second in the direction of Qalia and Zellaya, where the attacking forces searched and interrogated citizens in an operation that took four hours, during which they fired more than 400 artillery shells before returning to their bases.

The Israeli command had made preparations for this operation when, on Sunday, 9 July 1989, it assembled reinforcements estimated at 150, three 155-millimetre and 275-millimetre artillery batteries and six Mirkava tanks, as well as six Hawk ground-to-air missiles mounted on two military trucks at the command headquarters in the town of Marjayoun.

^{*} A/44/50/Rev.1.

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The Lebanese Government, in drawing the attention of the international community to this new aggression against Lebanese territory and Lebanese citizens strongly condemns the Israeli action because it constitutes a flagrant breach of Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity and a repeated violation of the United Nations Charter and international law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document the General Assembly, under item 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Chawki CHOUERI

Ambassador

Deputy Permanent Representati