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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Letter dated 29 March 1976 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat

I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's attention the following.

On 27 March 1976, the Israeli authorities of occupation, persisting in their repressive measures against the Arab population in the occupied territories, expelled two Arab personalities from the occupied West Bank, namely, Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Asa'ad Hamzah from El-Khalil and Dr. Abdul-Aziz Haj Ahmad from El-Birah, under the pretext that they were responsible for the current uprising of the Arab population against the Israeli illegal occupation of the Arab territories.

The hasty expulsion of these two personalities, in spite of an application to the High Court against their deportation, is a new act of violation of human rights and individual freedom committed by the Israeli authorities of occupation. It represents also a flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949, 1/as well as of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Such repressive colonialist measures taken by the zionist authorities against the Arab inhabitants are the direct result of the encouragement which the Israeli aggressors are receiving from certain colonialist Powers, as portrayed in the latest United States veto at the end of the Security Council debate on the situation resulting from the Israeli illegal occupation and Israel's oppression of the Arab population in the occupied territories.

^{*} A/31/50.

^{1/} United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

A/31/72 English Page 2

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic requests Your Excellency to take the immediate necessary measures in order to enable the two aforementioned deportees to return to their homes and land, and to ensure the non-recurrence of such illegal repressive practices by the Israeli authorities of occupation.

I kindly request that the text of this letter be communicated to the Commission on Human Rights and to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories for their speedy consideration. I should be grateful also if you would arrange for the text to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 28 and 54 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda.

(<u>Signed</u>) Mowaffak ALLAF Ambassador Permanent Representative