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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 7 August 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter of 30 July 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon addressed to Your Excellency (A/39/365-S/16682).

With respect to the groundless allegations contained in that letter, I wish to state the following:

1. The policy of the Government of Israel in southern Lebanon is aimed at aiding and supporting the civilian population there and reducing the suffering and hardship encountered by that population in various areas. Consequently, the Government of Israel has no intention whatsoever to interfere with the matriculation examinations of the students in southern Lebanon or to obstruct them in any manner.
2. One of the main tasks of the Israel Liaison Office in Dbeye throughout its existence was to promote co-operation between the Lebanese and Israel authorities with a view to assisting the local population in the areas under Israel control.
3. By its recent unilateral decision to bring about the closure of the said Liaison Office, the Lebanese Government has taken upon itself the onus of responsibility for increasing the hardships and difficulties facing the population in southern Lebanon. Consequently, the Government of Lebanon must be held fully accountable also for the events referred to in the Lebanese letter under reply.

* A/39/150.

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I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 36 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yehuda Z. BLUM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations
