


General Assembly Security Council

 Distr.
GENERAL

 A/44/610
S/20886
5 October 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fourth session
Agenda items 37, 39 and 77
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 5 October 1989 from the Permanent Observer
of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

Upon instructions from the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the power and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of the State of Palestine, we bring the following to your attention:

The situation in the occupied territory continues to deteriorate at an alarming pace. Israel, the occupying Power, is systematically violating the basic human rights of the Palestinian people living in the occupied Palestinian territories and is escalating its attacks against the Palestinian people.

Since 20 September 1989, the Israeli soldiers have been raiding the town of Beit Sahur, ransacking the homes of its residents and confiscating millions of dollars worth of possessions belonging to the people of Beit Sahur, among which were items such as electrical appliances, furniture, building materials, foodstuff, carpentry, etc.

Furthermore, the town has been put under curfew from 21 to 24 September and from 29 September up till the present time. Many Palestinians were beaten and arrested by the Israeli soldiers during the raids.

It is worth mentioning that the Latin Patriarch, Micheal Sabah, has visited the town of Beit Sahur after the Israeli attack and met with the town's Mayor and members of the City Council and other town officials, who briefed the Patriarch on the details of the raid.

In addition to that, the Deputy Representative of the Greek Catholic Melkite Patriarch made a public statement condemning the attacks and calling upon the Palestinian and other peoples of the world to express their solidarity with the residents of Beit Sahur, helping them to safeguard their dignity and to put an end to their dehumanization.

The people of Beit Sahur call upon the international community to provide and secure immediate international protection to Beit Sahur and its residents; they further ask the immediate release of all confiscated possessions.

Also, during this past weekend, Israeli soldiers killed six Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza.

Palestine calls upon the Secretary-General and the Security Council of the United Nations to take all appropriate and necessary measures to bring an end to the violent attacks of the Israeli soldiers against the unarmed Palestinian people living in the occupied Palestinian territories and to bring adequate pressure on Israel, the occupying Power, to ensure respect for the Fourth Geneva Convention.

We should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37, 39 and 77, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Zuhdi Labib TERZI
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations
