



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/40/127
13 February 1985
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC AND ENGLISH

Fortieth session

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 12 February 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General*

Further to our letters concerning Israel's practices in South Lebanon, the western Bekaa and the Rashaya district, and on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

On the morning of 12 February 1985, the Israeli army attacked the village of "Toura", one of the seven villages in the area of operation of UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) and surrounded it with more than 90 tanks and military vehicles. We fear that a massacre could take place in Toura in view of the heavy firing that is being heard from outside the village. The Israeli army has prevented the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) from entering the village, and is still preventing all citizens from leaving it.

While drawing the attention to the gravity of the Israeli practices in South Lebanon, the western Bekaa and the Rashaya district, the Lebanese Government considers it necessary to quickly intervene, in order to have the siege of Toura lifted, and allow the ICRC delegates to enter the village immediately, and in order to stop such abusive Israeli practices.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East".

(Signed) M. Rachid FAKHOURY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Previously circulated as document S/16953.