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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Letter dated 11 October 1974 from the Permanent Representative of the
Libyan Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

As Chairman of the Arab Group for this month, I have the honour to attach herewith a list containing a sample of the criminal acts and acts of sabotage committed by the Zionist gangs against Arab citizens of Palestine and citizens of other States.

These acts reveal the criminal nature of the Zionist establishment and the terrorist policies it follows in order to achieve its racist objectives and colonizing ambitions in Palestine. They show how the Palestinian Arab people have been uprooted and slaughtered following the unjust usurpation of their lands and homes by these aggressive gangs.

I request that this list be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 108 (Question of Palestine).

(Signed) Kamel Hassan MAGHUR
Permanent Representative of the
Libyan Arab Republic,
Chairman of the Arab Group
for October 1974

ANNEX

Zionist/Israeli acts of terrorism
1939-1974

A. Zionist terrorist activities, 1939-1948

- 1939 Haganah blew up the Iraqi oil pipeline near Haifa. Moshe Dayan was one of the participants in the act. This technique was used again in 1947 at least four times.
- 20 August 1937- During this period, Zionists carried out a series of attacks
29 June 1939 against Arab buses, resulting in the death of 24 persons and the wounding of 25 others.
- 25 November 1940 The S.S. Patria was blown up by Jewish terrorists in Haifa harbour, killing 268 illegal Jewish immigrants.
- 24 February 1942 The S.S. Struma exploded in the Black Sea, killing 769 illegal Jewish immigrants. Described by the Jewish Agency as an act of "mass-protest and mass-suicide".
- 6 November 1944 Zionist terrorists of the Stern Gang a/ assassinated the British Minister Resident in the Middle East, Lord Moyne, in Cairo.
- 22 July 1946 Zionist terrorists blew up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, which housed the central offices of the civilian administration of the Government of Palestine, killing or injuring more than 200 persons. The Irgun officially claimed responsibility for the incident, but subsequent evidence indicated that both the Haganah and the Jewish Agency were involved.
- 1 October 1946 The British Embassy in Rome was badly damaged by bomb explosions, for which Irgun claimed responsibility.
- June 1947 Letters sent to British Cabinet Ministers were found to contain bombs.
- 3 September 1947 A postal bomb addressed to the British War Office exploded in the post office sorting room in London, injuring two persons. It was attributed to Irgun or Stern Gangs (The Sunday Times, 24 September 1972, p. 8).

a/ For an explanatory note on the three terrorist organizations, see appendix below.

- 11 December 1947 Six Arabs were killed and 30 wounded when bombs were thrown from Jewish trucks at Arab buses in Haifa; 12 Arabs were killed and others injured in an attack by armed Zionists on an Arab coastal village near Haifa.
- 13 December 1947 Zionist terrorists, believed to be members of Irgun Zvai Leumi, killed 18 Arabs and wounded nearly 60 in Jerusalem, Jaffa and Lydda areas. In Jerusalem, bombs were thrown in an Arab market-place near the Damascus Gate; in Jaffa, bombs were thrown into an Arab café; in the Arab village of Al Yahudia, near Lydda, 12 Arabs were killed in an attack with mortars and automatic weapons.
- 19 December 1947 Haganah terrorists attacked an Arab village near Safad, blowing up two houses, in the ruins of which were found the bodies of 10 Arabs, including five children. Haganah admitted responsibility for the attack.
- 29 December 1947 Two British constables and 11 Arabs were killed and 32 Arabs were injured at the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem when Irgun members threw a bomb from a taxi.
- 30 December 1947 A mixed force of the Zionist Palmach and the "Carmel Brigade" attacked the village of Balad al Sheikh, killing more than 60 Arabs.
- 1947-1948 Over 700,000 Palestinian Arabs were uprooted from their homes and land; since then, they have been denied the right to return or to be given compensation for their property. After their expulsion, the "Israeli Forces" razed to the ground 385 Arab villages and towns out of a total of 475, and obliterated their remains.
- 1 January 1948 Haganah terrorists attacked a village on the slopes of Mount Carmel; 17 Arabs were killed and 33 wounded.
- 4 January 1948 Haganah terrorists wearing British Army uniforms penetrated into the centre of Jaffa and blew up the Serai (the old Turkish Government House), which was used as a headquarters of the Arab National Committee, killing more than 40 persons and wounding 98 others.
- 5 January 1948 The Arab-owned Semiramis Hotel in Jerusalem was blown up, killing 20 persons, among them Viscount de Tapia, the Spanish Consul. Haganah admitted responsibility for this outrage.

7 January 1948 Seventeen Arabs were killed by a bomb at the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem, three of them while trying to escape. Further casualties, including the murder of a British officer near Hebron, were reported from different parts of the country.

16 January 1948 Zionists blew up three Arab buildings. In the first, eight children between the ages of 18 months and 12 years, died.

13 December 1947-
10 February 1948 Seven incidents of bomb-tossing at innocent Arab civilians in cafés and markets, killing 138 and wounding 271 others. During this period, there were nine attacks on Arab buses. Zionists mined passenger trains on at least four occasions, killing 93 persons and wounding 161 others.

15 February 1948 Haganah terrorists attacked an Arab village near Safad, blew up several houses, killing 11 Arabs, including four children.

3 March 1948 Heavy damage was done to the Arab-owned Salam building in Haifa (a seven-storey block of flats and shops) by Zionists, who drove an army lorry up to the building and escaped before the detonation of 400 pounds of explosives; casualties numbered 11 Arabs and three Armenians killed and 23 injured. The Stern Gang claimed responsibility for the incident.

22 March 1948 A housing block on Iraq Street in Haifa was blown up, killing 17 and injuring 100 others. Four members of the Stern Gang drove two lorry-loads of explosives into the street and abandoned the vehicles before the explosion.

31 March 1948 The Cairo-Haifa Express was mined, for the second time in a month, by an electronically-detonated land mine near Benyamina, killing 40 persons and wounding 60 others.

9 April 1948 A combined force of Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Gang, supported by the Palmach forces, captured the Arab village of Deir Yassin and killed more than 200 unarmed civilians, including countless women and children. Older men and young women were captured and paraded in chains in the Jewish Quarters of Jerusalem, 20 of the hostages were then shot in the quarry of Gevaat Shaul.

16 April 1948 Zionists attacked the former British army camp at Tel Litvinsky, killing 90 Arabs there.

19 April 1948 Fourteen Arabs were killed in a house in Tiberias, which was blown up by Zionist terrorists.

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3 May	1948	A book bomb addressed to a British Army officer, who had been stationed in Palestine, exploded, killing his brother, Rex Farran.
11 May	1948	A letter bomb addressed to Sir Evelyn Barker, former Commanding Officer in Palestine, was detected in the nick of time by his wife.
25 April 13 May	1948- 1948	Wholesale looting of Jaffa was carried out following armed attacks by Irgun and Haganah terrorists. They stripped and carried away everything they could, destroying what they could not take with them.

B. Israeli terrorist activities, 1948-1974

17 September	1948	Count Folke Bernadotte, United Nations Mediator in Palestine, was assassinated by members of the Stern Gang in the Israeli-controlled sector of Jerusalem. Bernadotte's aide, Col. Serot, was also killed.
November	1948	The Arab villages of Iqrit and Birim were attacked and destroyed, killing and injuring countless unarmed Arabs, including women and children. All the Arabs were forcibly expelled from their homes and land.
February	1948	All the Arabs were forcibly expelled from their homes in the villages of Anan and Kafr Yasir by Haganah terrorists.
	1950	Zionist agents threw bombs at a synagogue in Baghdad, Iraq, and other Jewish targets in order to pressure Jews into emigrating to Israel.
28 August	1953	Armed Israelis attacked the UNRWA refugee camp at Bureij in the Gaza Strip. The Israelis threw grenades through the windows of the huts and gunned down the fleeing refugees, killing 30 and wounding 62 others.
14 October	1953	The Jordanian village of Qibiya was attacked by Israeli troops, killing 42 villagers.
July	1954	American and British consular and information offices in Cairo were sabotaged by Israeli agents operating under the Israeli Ministry of Defence.
4/5 April	1956	The Israelis shelled Gaza with 120 mm mortars, killing 56 Arab civilians and wounding 103 others.

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- 11 January 1952-
25 September 1956 Israelis carried out violent raids against Arab villages of Beit Jala, Falame, Rantis, Qibiya, Nahalin, Bani Suhaila, Rahwa, Gharandal, Wadi Fukin (in Jordan and Syria) and refugee camps at Bureij and Gaza in the Gaza Strip, killing 220 Arab civilians.
- 29 October 1956 Forty-seven Arab inhabitants, including seven children and nine women, were massacred by Israeli border guards in the village of Kufr Kassem. The guards arrived and announced that there would be a curfew as of 5 p.m. that very evening. Most of the men were working in the fields and did not know of the curfew. When they returned in the evening, they were summarily shot.
- 3 November 1956 The town of Khan Yunis was occupied by Israeli forces. Two hundred and seventy-five persons were killed.
- 12 November 1956 One hundred and eleven civilians were killed by Israeli forces at Rafah refugee camp.
- 6 October 1959 The Egypt-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission condemned Israel for expelling several hundred bedouins of the Azazmah tribe from the Negev.
- 13 November 1960 A large Israeli force, including tanks and armoured cars, attacked the Jordanian village of Samu', destroying 125 houses, a school and a clinic; 15 houses were destroyed in another village, killing a total of 18 and wounding 54 others.
- 1959-
1963 Israeli armed forces attacked refugee camps at Rafah and villages at Nugeib, Rafat and Shaikh Hussein in Syria and Jordan, killing 47 civilians.
- 12 June 1967 Four hundred families were evicted from the Moroccan Quarter in Jerusalem, after three hours' notice to evacuate their homes. Similar incidents took place at Qalqilya.
- 12 June 1967 The villages of Beit Nuba, Yalu and Amwas of the West Bank were razed to the ground after the forced eviction of the population.
- June/July 1967 During the June 1967 war, Israeli forces deliberately attacked UNEF Indian staff on five occasions, killing 11 and wounding 24. The United Nations Secretary-General reported that Israeli troops also ill-treated UNEF officers and looted their property.

June/December	1967	As a result of the June 1967 war, over 400,000 Palestinian Arabs living in Gaza and the West Bank and over 100,000 Palestinians and Syrians living in the Kuneitra area were uprooted from their homes and not allowed to return while the area was under Israeli occupation.
12 December	1968	Israeli commando units transported by helicopter, attacked the Beirut civil airport and destroyed 13 civilian aircraft, causing damage of 22 million pounds sterling.
4 September	1967	Israeli artillery shelled residential areas in Ismailia, Suez and Port Said. The Egyptian Government announced that 600 persons had been killed and 1,000 wounded in Ismailia since the June 1967 war.
29 September	1967	
8 July	1968	
8 September	1968	
11 May	1969	
12 February	1970	Israeli plans bombed a factory near Abou Zaabal, Egypt, killing 70 civilian workers and injuring 98 others.
31 February	1970	Israeli planes bombed the city of Mansoura in the Nile Delta, killing 12 civilians and wounding 35 others,
8 April	1970	Israeli planes bombed the Bahr el Baqar school in Sharkia province, 80 kilometres north of Cairo, killing 46 school-children.
11 March	1971	Thirty-four families from the Gaza Strip were expelled to Abou Zuneima, in the Sinai Desert.
1 August	1971	Israeli military occupation authorities in the Gaza Strip embarked on a house-demolition and terror campaign designed to force the 400,000 Palestinian refugees living in the Strip to move out.
28 April	1972	An Israeli Piper plane flew over the Arab village of Akraba, spraying a chemical defoliant over the villagers' wheat crops. Previously the Israeli Army had forcibly confiscated 100,000 dunums of arable land. In May 1971, the villagers were asked to sell the remaining land. When they refused, their crops were thus destroyed.
8 July	1972	Ghassan Kanafani, a Palestinian novelist and editor, was killed in Beirut when a bomb planted by Israeli agents exploded in his car. Also killed was his 16-year old niece.

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18 July	1972	Emile Khayyat, a Rif Bank employee in Beirut, was seriously injured when a letter bomb sent by Israel's terrorist arm, the Mosad, exploded in his face.
19 July	1972	In a similar incident, Dr. Anis Sayegh suffered serious injuries to his hands and eyes in Beirut.
25 July	1972	Bassem Abou Sharif, a young Palestinian writer in Beirut, was seriously wounded when a book bomb exploded.
November September	1967- 1972	Over 1,500 civilians were killed in Israeli attacks against Arab civilians in villages and refugee camps in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt.
1 March	1972	Israel carried out attacks against civilian areas in
9 March	1972	Syria, such as Hama and Maysaloun.
8 September	1972	
12 September	1972	Three children died in a Lebanese hospital from wounds inflicted during the attack by Israeli aircraft on the Cold River Palestinian refugee camp, bringing the total to 13 from this camp alone.
14 September	1972	A Los Angeles accountant, Mohammed Shaath, was injured, together with one of his children, when a bomb planted by Israeli agents exploded in his home.
16 September	1972	Israeli armoured forces attacked southern Lebanon, pulling out after the destruction of many houses and large-scale looting.
17 September	1972	An Israeli tank deliberately drove over a taxi in southern Lebanon, crushing its nine passengers into pulp.
3 January	1970	Israelis attacked Arab villages and refugee camps
22 May	1970	in southern Lebanon.
27 February	1972	
8 September	1972	
17 September	1972	
4 October	1972	Librairie Palestine, Paris, was damaged by a bomb. Responsibility was claimed by the Massada Movement for Action and Defence, a student organization.
16 October	1972	Wael Zuaiter, a Palestinian scholar and artist, was gunned down by the Israeli Mosad at his apartment entrance in Rome.

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25 October	1972	Ahmad Wafi, a Palestinian intellectual, was seriously injured in Algiers with an Israeli letter bomb.
25 October	1972	Mustafa Awad Zaid was blinded and paralysed in Tripoli and two Libyan passers-by were injured as he opened a letter bomb.
26 October	1972	Two employees of the Import-Export Bank in Beirut were seriously wounded when a letter bomb exploded.
26 October	1972	An Egyptian police officer, who checked three suspicious-looking letters, was injured when they exploded.
29 November	1972	Omar Sufan, representative of the Red Crescent in Stockholm, lost his fingers when a letter bomb exploded.
29 November	1972	Adnan Hammad, a Palestinian student leader, was seriously injured in Germany by a letter bomb.
29 November	1972	Three employees in the Tunis Post Office were seriously injured while sorting mail, as a letter bomb exploded.
30 November	1972	Ahmed Awadallah, a Palestinian student leader in Copenhagen, lost his arm when a Mosad-despatched letter bomb exploded.
July December	1967- 1972	Israeli armed forces, in acts of collective punishment and reprisal, blew up or bulldozed more than 10,000 homes of Arab civilians in Gaza and the West Bank.
8 December	1972	Mahmoud Hamshari, a Palestinian leader and intellectual, lost a leg and subsequently died, on 8 January, when an electronically-detonated bomb, installed by the Israeli Mosad, exploded in his house in Paris. Aharon Yariv, the present Israeli Minister of Information, supervised the execution of the operation, as he was charged with Israeli special operations directed at the Palestinians.
25 January	1973	Hussein Abul Kheir was killed in Cyprus when a bomb exploded in his hotel room.
21 February	1973	The northernmost corner of Lebanon was invaded by air and sea-borne Israeli forces, causing the death of 40 Arab civilians.
22 February	1973	A Libyan civilian airliner was shot down by Israeli fighter aircraft over Sinai, killing 106 passengers and crew.
6 April	1973	Dr. Bassel Kubaissy, an Iraqi political science professor, was gunned down and killed in a Paris street by the Israeli special forces.

10 April	1973	Palestinian leaders Mohammed Yusuf Najjar, Mrs. Najjar, Kamal Adwan and Kamal Nasser (the last-named was one of Palestine's foremost poets) were all gunned down and killed in their homes in Beirut by the Israeli special forces and terror squads.
2 May	1973	Mrs. Nada Yashruti, a Palestinian feminist leader and mother of two, was ambushed by three Israeli agents with machine-guns at the entrance to her apartment and killed.
29 June	1973	Mohammed Boudaiah, an Algerian poet and friend of the Palestinians, was killed when an Israeli-installed bomb exploded in his car in Paris.
21 July	1973	Ahmed Bouchiki was gunned down by Israeli agents in Oslo. The Israelis admitted responsibility for this incident, which was followed by a court case. In the proceedings, information was revealed linking the Israeli murderers to the killings of Zuaiter, Hamshari, and other Palestinian leaders and intellectuals murdered in Europe.
12 April	1974	Israeli forces attacked Lebanese villages, killing two civilians, destroying 31 houses and kidnapping 13 people.
13 May	1974	Israeli planes raided Lebanon, killing four civilians.
16 May	1974	Israeli planes raided and bombarded refugee camps in Lebanon, killing 50 civilians and wounding 200, in the Nabatiyeh and Ein-el-Helweh refugee camps. The Nabatiyeh camp was totally obliterated.
19 May	1974	Israeli naval units bombarded the Rashidiyeh refugee camp, killing eight civilians.
22 May	1974	Israeli planes bombed refugee camps in Lebanon, wounding two civilians and destroying countless houses.
18/20 June	1974	Israeli planes bombed refugee camps in Lebanon, killing 70 civilians and injuring hundreds.
8 July	1974	Israeli naval units raided Tyre and Saida, sinking 21 fishing boats.
7 August	1974	Israeli planes bombed southern Lebanese villages.
13 August	1974	Israeli naval boats shelled refugee camps, killing one civilian and wounding six.

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25 August	1974	Israeli forces shelled villages in southern Lebanon.
24 September	1974	Israeli forces shelled villages in southern Lebanon.
11 June June	1967- 1974	Israeli forces destroyed 19,000 Palestinian homes in the West Bank and Gaza, which is equivalent to 380 villages and towns, almost the same number destroyed earlier, in the period 1948-1950.

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APPENDIX

Soon after the end of the Second World War, there were three basic paramilitary Zionist organizations in Palestine working against the Arab people, with the specific purpose of driving it out of Palestine.

These were the Haganah, the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Gang.

Before the British Mandate, the Jewish settlers had formed a group of mounted armed watchmen called "Hashomar" and with the advent of the British Mandate, it became the Haganah (Defence). With a membership of 60,000 Zionist Jews, the Haganah had a field army of 16,000 trained men and a unit called the Palmach, which was a full-time force, numbering about 6,000.

The Irgun Zvai Leumi included between 3,000 and 5,000 armed terrorists, and grew out of the Haganah and its Palmach branch in 1933. The Irgun was not ready to obey the Jewish Agency, which sought to dilute the terror of the Haganah in order not to lose its respectability.

In 1939, one of Irgun's commanding officers, Abraham Stern, left the parent organization and formed the Stern Gang, numbering some 200 to 300 dangerous fanatics.
