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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 22 March 1983 from the Chairman of the Committee
on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian
People to the Secretary-General

As Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, It is yet once again my bounden duty to bring to your immediate attention the Committee's deep concern at recent violations of legal and human rights of the Palestinians who reside in the occupied territories.

In this matter, the Committee has been reliably informed of certain matters which I am obliged to draw to your attention.

It has been reported that, on 10 March 1983, Israeli soldiers in full military uniform were discovered and prevented from detonating explosives intended for the destruction of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. On a previous occasion, on 4 March 1983, a time bomb was discovered at one of the gates of the same Mosque which had been set to explode at the end of Friday noon prayers.

In further activities, Israeli troops wounded a Palestinian youth as they opened fire on Palestinian demonstrators in Jerusalem on 12 March. On that occasion, a Palestinian woman and her five children were beaten by the Israeli troops for offering aid to the wounded youth. On the same date, in the Shufat refugee camp, north of Jerusalem, Israeli troops broke into the local school, attacked students and beat them severely. In Hebron, the Israeli occupation authorities ordered the closing of the Polytechnic Institute in retaliation for previous student participation in demonstration against the occupation.

Al-Khalil University and schools in Halhoul, Yatta, Beit Sahour and Nablus were also ordered closed. In Yatta, on 16 March, it was reported that Israeli settlers were continuing to terrorize the population in the occupied territories. Booby trap bombs were discovered at the gate of the Haifa High School in the town of Jennine which were fortunately discovered and detonated.

On 17 March, it was reported that Israeli occupation troops opened fire on Palestinian anti-occupation demonstrators in Beit Sahour. One school was ordered closed until further notice, bringing the number of schools in the Bethlehem area closed by the Israeli occupation authorities to five.

At the same time, curfews remain on Palestinian refugee camps and Israeli troops have taken particularly brutal measures against the Dheiseh Camp.

In this entire matter, may I refer you to an item in the Jerusalem Post of 13-19 March which reviews this most serious wave of violent protests in recent months and the subsequent reactions by the occupying authorities.

This information is conveyed to you in order that you might be kept appraised of the escalating and highly intensified Israeli activities against those Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

In view of the accelerating gravity of action taken on the part of the occupying authorities, I should be most grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulates as a document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Massamba SARRE
Chairman of the Committee on the
Exercise of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

* A/38/50.