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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 28 February 1979 from the Permanent Representative
of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your urgent attention to a PLO terrorist crime which occurred in a Jerusalem market yesterday, 27 February 1979, as well as to an attempted outrage also at the same location, the day before, which providentially was averted.

On 27 February, at 1434 hours, an explosion occurred in the midst of the Mahane Yehuda open market. As a result, five people were injured. The owner of the stall near which the explosion took place was severely injured. The others injured were a man, as well as a woman and her two children (a girl of three and a boy of 11).

According to the Iraqi news agency, the terrorist organization calling itself the PLO which masquerades under the banner of a national liberation movement took responsibility for this crime.

Moreover, the previous day a sizable explosive charge was discovered also at the same location. A police sapper neutralized it in time and thus a major catastrophe was prevented.

It will be recalled that the Mahane Yehuda open market in Jerusalem has been repeatedly subjected to terrorist atrocities over the years, the purpose being to cause havoc and indiscriminate murder among shoppers, consisting mainly of women and children going about their daily chores. The last such incident occurred on 18 January 1979 and was referred to in my letter of the same date ([S/13041](#)).

Both of the incidents occasioning this letter follow the pattern reflected in the series of criminal activities referred to in my letters of 23 November 1978 ([A/33/388](#)), 21 December 1978 ([S/12978](#) and [S/12979](#)), 14 January 1979 ([S/13028](#) *), 17 January 1979 ([S/13037](#)), 18 January 1979 ([S/13041](#)), 24 January 1979 ([S/13053](#)) and 29 January 1979 ([S/13058](#)). All these crimes have one thing in common: they aim at the indiscriminate mass murder of civilians, which is the declared objective of the terrorist organisation in question.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 25 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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