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Identical letters dated 10 April 2006 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Over the past couple of days, Israel, the occupying Power, has been intensifying its military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem As a result of this latest escalation of its military campaign, the casualties and destruction being endured by the Palestinian people continue to mount dramatically. In this regard, it is my regret to inform you that since Friday, 7 April 2006, the Israeli occupying forces have killed at least 18 Palestinians, including a 6-year-old boy, and have injured scores more, many critically.

Since Friday, 7 April 2006, Israel, the occupying Power, has carried out a barrage of military attacks against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, terrorizing the civilian population and causing more death and destruction. The latest attack occurred yesterday, Sunday, 9 April 2006, killing a Palestinian policeman when Israeli occupying forces shelled his car as he was evacuating colleagues from a security post in the border town of Beit Hanoun. On Saturday, 8 April 2006, two Palestinians were killed and a third was seriously wounded when a missile fired from an Israeli war plane destroyed their car in the densely populated Gaza Strip. Another extrajudicial execution was carried out that same day in the Gaza Strip, killing six more Palestinians. Several Palestinians were also wounded in the attack.

These two extrajudicial executions come on the heels of another extrajudicial execution carried out on Friday, 7 April 2006, in which Israel, the occupying Power, killed six more Palestinians in the southern Gaza Strip. In what has become common practice, Israeli war planes fired missiles at a car carrying the Palestinians and killed them all instantly, including a 6-year-old boy. In addition, dozens of Palestinians who were in the vicinity of the attack were wounded.

The occupying Power's continuation of its illegal policy of extrajudicial executions, which is in grave violation of international law, including international humanitarian law, must be condemned by the international community and halted immediately. In this regard, urgent measures must be undertaken by the international community to bring an end to these Israeli crimes and to stem this downward spiral of developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The international community must intervene in order to avert more death, destruction and suffering being inflicted by Israel, the occupying Power, on the Palestinian people. The international community cannot continue to stand by idly while defenceless women, children and men continue to be killed, wounded and maimed and lives continue to be destroyed as Israel continues its blatant and flagrant violations and grave breaches of international law, including the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. In this regard, the Security Council, in particular, in upholding its duty to maintain international peace and security, should take action.

The present letter is in follow-up to our previous 238 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. Those letters, dated from 29 September 2000 ($\frac{A}{55}/432-\frac{S}{2000}/921$) to 5 April 2006 ($\frac{A}{ES}-10/328-\frac{S}{2006}/220$) constitute a basic record of the crimes committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of those war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Accordingly, in follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my profound regret to inform you that since our last letter to you, at least 18 more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 3,821. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council and the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5.

(Signed) Riyad Mansour Ambassador Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 10 April 2006 from the Permanent Observers of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem *

(Friday, 7 April, to Sunday, 9 April 2006)

Friday, 7 April 2006

- 1. Wafa Ya'ish
- 2. Iyad Abu Al-Ainain
- 3. Bilal Iyad Abu Al-Ainain (6 years old)
- 4. Bassam Khalil Hussain
- 5. Adel Abdelkareem Shaath
- 6. Ibrahim Nafez Al-Aloul
- 7. Mahmoud Al-Tahrawi

Saturday, 8 April 2006

- 1. Hanifa Shobair
- 2. Ameen Barbakh
- 3. Mohammad Abu Al-Hossain
- 4. Hassan Abu Al-Hossain (21 years old)
- 5. Mohammad Samir Hamdan
- 6. Ibrahim Abdelhadi
- 7. Yasser Hassan Abu Jarad

Sunday, 9 April 2006

- 1. Sami Abu Shrei'ah
- 2. Mahmoud Ajjour (20 years old)
- 3. Jabr Al-Akhras
- 4. Sameh Nizar Al-Shaf'ei (17 years old)

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 3,821.