



**General Assembly  
Security Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/34/184  
S/13249  
16 April 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Thirty-fourth session  
Item 25 of the preliminary list\*  
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 16 April 1979 from the Permanent Representative of  
Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your urgent attention to the shelling last week of two towns in the north of Israel by the terrorist organization calling itself the PLO.

Early in the morning of 11 April 1979, Katyusha rockets were fired from Lebanese territory at the town of Kiryat Shmona in northern Galilee. As a result, one woman was injured.

In the afternoon of the same day, more Katyusha rockets were directed again from Lebanese territory at the town of Nahariya on the Mediterranean coast.

Later in the day the news service run by the terrorist PLO reported that the said organization took responsibility for these criminal acts.

These outrages underline the fact that the task of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon of restoring international peace and security, as set out in [Security Council resolution 425 \(1978\)](#) of 19 March 1978, is being directly challenged by the same subversive elements which have consistently endeavoured to use Lebanese territory for the purpose of launching attacks on Israel, thus undermining international peace and security throughout the region. This situation flows from the conditions prevailing not only in the south of Lebanon, but also in the country as a whole, which have been exacerbated by the massive presence and machinations of the PLO.

These criminal acts are also designed to give violent expression to the implacable opposition of the terrorist PLO and of other opponents of peace, both in the Arab world and beyond, to any step forward in the direction of peace and reconciliation. In their attempts to undermine the ongoing peace process in the Middle East, most recently manifested by the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty, on 26 March 1979, the opponents of peace use as their instrument the terrorist PLO, which has been granted irregular privileges at the United Nations, in clear violation of the Charter of the United Nations and of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and other organs of the Organization.

In these circumstances, the Government of Israel is duty-bound to take all measures necessary to protect the lives and safety of its citizens.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as a 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

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