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Letter dated 11 September 1985 from the Chairman of the Committee
on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian
People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to provide you with information on recent serious measures taken by the Israeli military authorities against the Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territories. In a previous letter ([A/40/540-S/17392](#)) dated 8 August 1985, the Acting Chairman of the Committee had already expressed the grave concern of the Committee at Israel's decision to reinstate its policies of administrative detention for up to six months without trial, deportation of persons who are considered "security risks", increased censorship and other measures against the Palestinian people.

According to The New York Times of 30 August and 4 September 1985, the Christian Science Monitor of 23 and 27 August 1985 and other recent press reports, the Israeli military authorities have engaged in a massive campaign of detention of Palestinians in pursuance of the above-mentioned policy, and are now holding over 50 persons in the West Bank, 20 of whom were detained on Monday, 2 September 1985. According to The New York Times of 6 September 1985, several persons were also detained in Gaza on Thursday, 5 September 1985. Curfews have been imposed in a number of towns, including Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Hebron and Gaza, and in several Palestinian refugee camps. At least three Palestinians are threatened with deportation from the West Bank.

The New York Times of 10 September 1985 reported that four Arab youths, including a 12-year-old boy, were shot and wounded by Israeli soldiers in Hebron.

These actions by the authorities are taking place in an atmosphere of growing provocation by the Jewish settlers in the occupied Palestinian territories, which is clearly aimed at putting pressure on the local population to emigrate, thus favouring the eventual annexation of these territories by Israel.

In bringing this information to your attention, I wish once again to reiterate the Committee's deep concern at these developments and at Israel's continuing denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, which cannot but further exacerbate tensions in the area and pose a serious obstacle to international efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the question of Palestine, the core of the Middle East conflict.

I should be obliged if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

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