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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

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Letter dated 17 September 1981 from the Chairman of the Committee on
the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I should like to convey to you the deep concern caused by Israel's actions in Jerusalem, where excavations are continuing in a tunnel located underneath Al-Haram Al-Sharif (the holy mosque), despite the assertion by a spokesman for the Israeli Minister for Religious Affairs that the digging had been halted. The work being done in this tunnel is endangering Islamic buildings adjacent to Al-Haram Al-Sharif and the continuation of this excavation work can only fan tension in the Holy City.

There have apparently already been some skirmishes between Arabs and Jews about the excavations and it may be expected that tension will mount unless work in the tunnel is halted immediately. The Committee is of the firm opinion that urgent action must be taken to make Israel clearly understand the dangers of continuing the work without taking the Arabs' religious feelings into account.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be issued as a document of the General Assembly, under item 31 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

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

* [A/36/150](#).