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LETTER DATED 16 NOVEMBER 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith two letters from the Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations, dated 11 and 12 November 1981 respectively, and to request you to issue them as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tafeb SLIM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Tunisia

Annex I

Letter dated 11 November 1981 from the Permanent Observer of the
Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations addressed
to the President of the Security Council

Further to my letter of 5 November 1981 (S/14747), I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization to bring to your urgent attention the ongoing campaign of repression and terror by the Zionist junta in Tel Aviv against the Palestinian people under occupation. These illegal practices are, unquestionably, further examples of institutionalized state terrorism. These racist practices, which can only result in intensifying the misery, deprivation, frustration and despair of the Palestinian people under occupation, must be addressed by the United Nations.

The Israeli occupation authorities are seeking an order from the Israeli courts to prolong the closure of Bir Zeit University, which was forcibly closed last week after Israeli troops stormed the campus.

Pursuing their policy of suppressing any and all legitimate opposition to Zionist occupation and terrorism, the occupation authorities have arrested several prominent Palestinians. Among those arrested are:

Ibrahim Al-Daqaq, Trade unionist leader

Dr. Ramzi Rihan, President of Bir Zeit University

Dr. Azmi Ashuaibi, member of the Al-Bireh Municipal Council

Akram Haniyeh, Chief Editor of Asha'b newspaper

Ma'mun Assayed, ex-Chief Editor of the Al-Fajr newspaper

Geries Khuri, head of the Lawyers' Union

These arrests come in the wake of Sharon's threats against all Palestinians who oppose Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories and those who identify with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The occupation authorities have also intensified their policy of destroying Palestinian houses. Two Palestinian houses in Hebron were demolished. These houses were the property of Abdul-Wahid Abdul-Sami and Shakir Nimer Hassouni. Another house was closed down. These families have been rendered homeless and destitute. The acting Mayor of Hebron, Mustafa Annatshed, has pleaded with the occupation authorities to refrain from this policy and that the owners of these houses be allowed to rebuild them. The demolishing of the houses was reported in the

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Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Daily News Bulletin of 4 November 1981. I would also bring the demolition of another Palestinian house to your attention at this time. On 27 October 1981, the Israeli army demolished the house of Husain Abdul-Nabi from Sharafat-Bait Safafa, near Jerusalem.

In bringing this escalation in the Zionist campaign of violence and oppression to your attention and, through your good offices, to the attention of the members of the United Nations, I would emphasize that the international community cannot disassociate itself from the fate of the Palestinian people.

The failure to recognize such practices for what they are does little justice to the opinion that mankind holds of itself. However, it is understandable that the Zionist junta in Tel Aviv, with its institutionalized terrorism, feels little pressure to change when certain members of the international community deliberately overlook Israel's systematic policy of genocide against the Palestinian people.

The international community cannot be selectively indifferent in their professed moral and political views and to their obligations as Members of the United Nations. Acts of terror should not be excused because of the identity of the State, and it is equally important that no act of terror be excused because of the identity of the victim.

(Signed) Zehdi Labib TERZI
Permanent Observer

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Annex II

Letter dated 12 November 1981 from the Permanent Observer of the
Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations addressed
to the President of the Security Council

Further to my letters of 5 and 11 November 1981, I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization to draw your urgent attention to the extremely serious and violent escalation in the renewed campaign of intimidation and violence by the Zionist junta in Tel Aviv against the Palestinian people under occupation.

Today a school-boy, 15-year-old Muhammed Abdel Fattah Jarrar, was shot and seriously wounded by Israeli troops as they stormed a high school in Jenin.

This latest incident came as protests against the imposition of a so-called "civilian administration" in the occupied territories and as the forced closures of Bir Zeit and Bethlehem Universities entered the twelfth day. Demonstrations and strikes continue throughout the occupied territories as Israeli forces step-up their oppressive measures by arresting large numbers of students and prominent trade union and municipal leaders in both the occupied West Bank and Gaza areas.

A two-day curfew on the towns of Qalqilya and Beit-Sahoor was lifted today; however, Israeli troops lost no time or opportunity to harass the Palestinian population and immediately stormed the towns, carrying out lengthy house-to-house searches.

These latest provocations must be seen as manifestations of the repressive and racist nature of the Zionist junta in Tel Aviv, which assumes that it may harass, molest and violate the most basic and elementary human rights of the Palestinian people with impunity and without suggestion of guilt. One must remember, however, that the Zionist junta in Tel Aviv has always regarded violence, cruelty, terror and murder as respectable.

Chairman Arafat wishes to assert that this renewed cycle of violence can only lead to an exacerbation of the already explosive situation, and he calls on your good offices to take immediate and effective measures to put an end to this intolerable and inhuman situation.

(Signed) Zehdi Labib TERZI
Permanent Observer
