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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 17 October 1986 from the Permanent Representative of
Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my previous letters relating to the continuous Israeli attacks on Lebanon and Israel's violation of the integrity of Lebanese territory, airspace and waters, and on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

Beginning at 3.45 p.m. on Thursday, 16 October 1986 (Lebanese time) Israeli fighter aircraft bombed the town of Sidon and the neighbouring area in southern Lebanon on four successive occasions. The Israeli Navy participated in the raid, its units patrolling the Lebanese coast. During the operations Israeli troops were landed in Lebanese territory, while helicopters fired at random on the area.

This new Israeli act of aggression, by air, sea and land, in the heart of Lebanese territory, which resulted in heavy human and material losses and during which military operations continued until evening, falls within the framework of Israel's ongoing policy of aggression against Lebanon and the continuation of its violation of the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. The statement of the Israeli spokesman yesterday evening also constitutes a proof of Israel's persistence in pursuing this policy and also constitutes blatant intervention in the internal affairs of Lebanon aimed at further inflaming the disputes among the Lebanese for the purpose of achieving Israeli ambitions in Lebanon's territory and waters.

The Lebanese Government, in condemning this new Israeli act of aggression against southern Lebanon, calls upon the Security Council to assume the full weight of its responsibilities in order to put an end to Israel's acts of aggression and its inadmissible intervention in the internal affairs of Lebanon and warns of the

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consequences of these assaults for international peace and security. The Lebanese Government reserves its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council at the appropriate time.

I request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rachid FAKHOURY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
