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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 31 May 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you the following information, which has reached us from the competent Lebanese authorities, concerning the latest Israeli practices in southern Lebanon:

The population of the town of Jezzine, located outside the so-called "security zone", is being subjected to pressure by the Israeli occupation forces and elements of the "South Lebanon Army" who wish to conscript young men from the town into the "Army". At the beginning of last week, a joint force consisting of Israelis and the militia known as the "South Lebanon Army" terrorized the population by firing at random in the streets of the town and then detained 40 youths and sent them in a military truck to the militia's barracks at Marjayoun for the purpose of conscription.

On Friday, 26 May 1989 armed members of the same militia broadcast a call over loudspeakers to young people of the town aged between 19 and 35, stating that they should present themselves to recruitment centres if they wished to avoid prosecution.

The population of Jezzine and its political leaders expressed their disapproval and rejection of these Israeli practices by means of a general strike in which the town's markets were closed and its streets deserted in protest and anger at the occupation army and its agents.

\* A/44/50/Rev.1.

These Israeli measures are evidence of Israel's persistence in violating Lebanon's sovereignty and the rights of its citizens, as well as of its continuing efforts to increase dissension among Lebanese. The rejection of these measures by the population of Jezzine served to emphasize that all Lebanese nationals stood united, regardless of their sect or denomination, in condemning the Israeli occupation, its agents and their practices.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rachid FAKHOURY  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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