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LETTER DATED 9 MAY 1979 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 8 May 1979 from the  
Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization concerning the denial  
of the right to education by Israeli military authorities.

I would request you to circulate the enclosure as a document of the Security  
Council.

(Signed) Abdulmohsen EL JEAAN  
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.  
Permanent Mission of the State  
of Kuwait to the United Nations

Annex

Letter dated 8 May 1979 from the Permanent Observer of the Palestine  
Liberation Organization to the United Nations addressed to the  
President of the Security Council

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization to bring the following to your attention.

On 7 May 1979, the Israeli military authorities closed the secondary school in Bethlehem. It is critical to mention that this act is only one in a series of provocative and repressive actions used by the Israeli military authorities since the beginning of the month. In this connexion, I would like to bring to your attention that on 2 May 1979, a student at Bir Zeit University was shot and wounded during a demonstration. On 3 May 1979, Israeli troops using tear-gas closed Bir Zeit University and informed the Acting President that they were not optimistic that the University would be reopened. On the same day, Israeli troops surrounded the walled campus of Bethlehem University and closed it. It is not known if the military authorities will allow the University to reopen.

Since 3 May 1979, 70 students from Bir Zeit University have been under arrest.

The denial of the right to education and to go to school is a violation of the very basics of human rights, and such Israeli practices as mentioned above contravene the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, which is applicable to the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

I am also instructed to call upon you vis-à-vis Security Council resolution 446 of 22 March 1976, to take immediate and effective measures to put an end to these provocative, repressive and inhuman tactics used by the Israeli forces of occupation to incite reaction amongst the Palestinians under occupation and to create further problems in the area, thereby aggravating the already explosive situation in the Middle East.

(Signed) Zehdi Labib TERZI  
Permanent Observer

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