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correspondence with Syria**

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Print Name of Person Submit Image

Signature of Person Submit

567  
JH/146  
Unofficial translation

Clear cable to Salah el Dine Bitar

President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Syria

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of 10 March, in which your Excellency informed me that the National Council of the Command of the Syrian revolution has entrusted to you the duties (responsibilities) of President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Republic.

I (am happy to) note that the Government of the Syrian Republic has expressed its desire to continue the relations which exist between Syria and the United Nations Organization.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

PROJET

Télégramme en clair

destination:

<sup>H</sup>  
SALAH EL DINE BITAR  
PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL ET MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES  
DE LA REPUBLIQUE SYRIENNE

J'AI L'HONNEUR D'ACQUIESCEMENT RECEPTION DU TELEGRAMME DU 10 MARS PAR LEQUEL VOTRE  
EXCELLENCE M'A FAIT CONNAITRE QUE LE CONSEIL NATIONAL DU COMMANDEMENT DE LA  
REVOLUTION SYRIENNE LUI AVAIT CONFIE LES CHARGES DE PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL  
DES MINISTRES ET MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES DE LA REPUBLIQUE SYRIENNE.

JE SUIS HEUREUX DE PRENDRE NOTE QUE LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
SYRIENNE AIT EXPRIME LE DESIR DE POURSUIVRE LES BONNES RELATIONS QUI  
EXISTENT ENTRE LA SYRIE ET L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES.

VEUILLEZ AGREER, EXCELLENCE, LES ASSURANCES DE MA HAUTE CONSIDERATION.

This is duplicate of message sent to you  
by Pres. Bitar. This text sent to all  
Member States UN "...to pursue friendly relations  
now existing between our two countries based  
on respect of UN principles..."

*Syria* *12/13*



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

405 LEXINGTON AVENUE, ROOM 4001-03  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TEL: YUKON 6-3666, 7

No. 307/63.

La Mission Permanente de la République Arabe Syrienne auprès des Nations Unies présente ses compliments au Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies et a l'honneur de porter à sa connaissance le message adressé par Son Excellence Monsieur Salah El Dine Bitar, Président du Conseil des Ministres et Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, aux Ministres des Affaires Etrangères des pays accrédités auprès des Nations Unies.

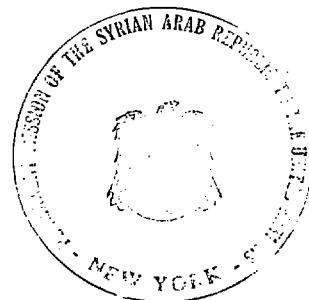
"J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que le Conseil National du Commandement de la Révolution m'a confié les charges de Président du Conseil des Ministres et Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de la République Arabe Syrienne.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous exprimer le désir de mon Gouvernement de poursuivre les relations amicales qui existent entre nos deux pays sur la base du respect des principes des Nations Unies en vous priant de porter ce qui précède à la connaissance de votre Gouvernement.

Je vous prie de croire à l'expression de ma haute considération."

La Mission Permanente de la République Arabe Syrienne saisit cette occasion pour renouveler au Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies les assurances de sa très haute considération.

New York, le 11 mars 1963.



*Syria*

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1446/Rev.1  
11 March 1963

EXCHANGE OF CABLES BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE SYRIAN  
ARAB REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL

(Unofficial translations from French)

Following are the texts of cables exchanged between Salah El Dine Bitar, President of the Council of Ministers (Prime Minister) of the Syrian Arab Republic, and United Nations Secretary-General U Thant:

Cable from the Syrian Prime Minister to the Secretary-General:

10 March 1963

"I have the honour to bring to your attention that the National Council of the Command of the Revolution has appointed me Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic.

"I take this opportunity to express to you the desire of my Government to continue the good relations which exist between my country and the United Nations. Please accept the expressions of my highest consideration."

Cable from the Secretary-General to the Syrian Prime Minister:

11 March 1963

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of 10 March, in which your Excellency informed me that the National Council of the Command of the Syrian Revolution has entrusted to you the duties of President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic.

"I am happy to note that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has expressed its desire to continue the good relations which exist between Syria and the United Nations.

"Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration."

UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/5258  
11 March 1963

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 1963 FROM THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the latest series of aggressive acts committed by Israel along the entire length of the Armistice lines and particularly along the Eastern and North-Eastern shores of Lake Tiberias. These acts are in violation of the Syrian-Israeli Armistice Agreement and gravely endanger the peace of the area:

- (1) On 30 January an armed Israeli patrol, composed of eleven soldiers, crossed the Armistice line at 2 p.m. in the eastern section and penetrated about 300 meters inside Syrian territory, whereupon it was intercepted by a Syrian patrol which forced it to withdraw. This action constitutes a violation of paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 3 of the Syrian-Israeli Armistice Agreement.
- (2) On 24 January and subsequently on 16, 17 and 18 February, Israeli gun boats approached the eastern shores of Lake Tiberias and carried out provocative actions against Syrian citizens. This action constitutes a violation of Section 3 of Annex 4 of the Syrian-Israeli Armistice Agreement.
- (3) On 7 February an Israeli gun boat approached the village of Al-Masadiyah on the eastern shore of Lake Tiberias, kidnapped a Syrian citizen and stole a Syrian boat from the waters of the river Al-Masadiyah, within Syrian territory. This action constitutes a violation of Section 3 of Annex 4 and paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 3 of the Armistice Agreement.
- (4) On 25 February and 3 March, four Israeli fishing boats, protected by an Israeli gun boat, steamed into the waters of the Syrian river, Al-Masadiyah, crossing the Armistice line to within 50 meters on the Syrian side and attempted to fish in the river. This action constitutes a violation of Section 3 of Annex 4 and paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 3 of the Armistice Agreement.

These aggressive Israeli incursions and provocations constitute a grave danger to peace in the area and reflect planned aggressive policy rather than haphazard incidents.

In view of this dangerous situation, I request that this information be contained in an official document and circulated to the members of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Dr. Najmuddine Rifai  
Ambassador  
Acting Permanent Representative  
of the Syrian Arab Republic  
to the United Nations

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UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/5329  
10 June 1963  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 10 JUNE 1963 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

On 9 June 1963, at 11.10 a.m. (local time), an Israeli gunboat approached the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee. After reaching a point 150 metres from the shore, it opened fire with automatic weapons and a mortar at Syrian positions in the village of El Douga and, as a result, these positions returned the fire.

Five minutes later, that is, at 11.15 a.m. (local time), two Israeli jet aircraft overflowed Syrian territory and attacked the village of El Douga with machine guns and rockets.

I cannot but draw your attention to the situation thus created in violation of the General Armistice Agreement between Syria and Israel. This situation is aggravated by:

- (1) the use of the mortar;
- (2) the aerial bombing of Syrian territory with rockets.

I should be grateful if you would transmit this communication to the members of the Security Council.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Salah El Dine Tarazi  
Permanent Representative of the  
Syrian Arab Republic



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

405 LEXINGTON AVENUE, ROOM 4007-23  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TEL: YUKON 6-3666, 7

*Copy being translated  
for S. N.*

*L.  
10/6/63*

No. 363/63.

New York, le 10 juin 1963.

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

Sur instructions de mon Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance ce qui suit :

Le 9 juin 1963, à 11 heures 10 (heure locale), une péniche blindée israélienne se dirigea vers la berge Est du lac de Tibériade. Etant parvenue à une distance de 150 mètres de la côte, elle déclencha un feu automatique et un tir de mortier sur les positions syriennes installées au village de El Douga, ce qui amena les dites positions à retourner le feu.

Cinq minutes plus tard, c'est-à-dire à 11 heures 15, heure locale, deux avions israéliens à réaction survolèrent le territoire syrien et, faisant usage de mitrailleuses et de fusées, bombardèrent le village de El Douga.

Je ne saurais qu'attirer l'attention de Votre Excellence sur la situation ainsi créée en violation de la Convention d'Armistice Général syro-israélienne. Cette situation a été aggravée par :

- 1) l'emploi du mortier;
- 2) le bombardement aérien du territoire syrien à l'aide de fusées.

Je vous serais reconnaissant de bien vouloir transmettre la dite communication à MM. les membres du Conseil de Sécurité.

.../...

.../...

- 2 -

10 juin 1963.

Veillez agréer, Excellence, l'expression de ma très haute considération.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tarazi', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Salah El Dine Tarazi  
Représentant Permanent de  
la République Arabe Syrienne.

A Son Excellence  
Monsieur U Thant  
Secrétaire Général des  
Nations Unies  
NEW YORK.

UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/5332  
11 June 1963

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 11 JUNE 1963 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF ISRAEL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to make the following observations on the letter addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, dated 10 June 1963 (S/5329).

1. On 9 June 1963, fortified Syrian army positions overlooking the eastern shore of Lake Tiberias opened fire with machine guns and recoilless guns at an Israel police launch engaged on a routine patrol on Lake Tiberias. The vessel returned the fire in self-protection.
2. The allegation in the Syrian letter that two Israel jet planes overflew Syrian territory and attacked the village of El-Douga with machine guns and rockets, is a frivolous untruth.
3. The statements in paragraphs 1 and 2 above are borne out by the evidence of the UNTSO investigators.
4. The Syrian attack on 9 June is the latest of the series of Syrian armed attacks from across the border, directed at Israel fishing vessels and police patrols on Lake Tiberias. In the Note from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the Secretary-General, dated 15 March 1963 (S/5261), attention was drawn to the constant harrassment of Israel fishermen on the Lake, and the constant illegal Syrian incursions on to the Lake across the armistice demarcation line. In that Note eighteen such incidents were listed between 1 January and 15 March 1963. This harrassment continued until the end of the winter fishing season.
5. These self-same Syrian gun positions are now reverting to a practice which has created a tense and dangerous situation in the past, namely, shooting with machine guns and artillery at Israel police launches carrying out normal patrol

duties on the waters of the Lake. This happened on Friday, 7 June, and again two days later, on Sunday, 9 June, as set out in paragraph 1 above.

6. The same pattern of aggression and harrassment continues to be evident also in the recurrent shooting incidents, in which Syrian army positions on the high ground near the border have directed fire at Israel farmers working in their fields. Since 21 May five incidents of this kind have occurred in the Tel Katzir area alone, on the following dates: 21 May (with fire opened also on the village of Beit Katzir); 22 May; 30 May; 2 June and 3 June.

7. The above incidents add up to the systematic use of weapons by the Syrian Army in order to disrupt Israel civilian activities in the border area, to drive away Israel fishermen, farmers and policemen by putting their lives in danger and destroying their property, and ultimately to try to establish Syrian territorial control beyond the borders of Syria. These actions constitute a gross violation of the Israel-Syrian General Armistic Agreement and the United Nations Charter, and their cumulative effect is a serious threat to the peace.

8. All these incidents were the subject of Israel complaints to the Mixed Armistice Commission and to the Secretariat. On numerous occasions representations have been made to the Syrian Government by United Nations authorities, in an attempt to bring a halt to this aggressive and provocative behaviour and to allay the tensions to which it gives rise.

The Permanent Representative of Israel is instructed by his Government once more to draw the attention of the Secretary-General to the gravity of the situation which is being created.

9. The culpability and responsibility of the Syrian Government in the matter cannot be evaded by putting out false and unfounded stories such as are contained in the Syrian letter of 10 June 1963 to the Secretary-General.

10. It is requested that this Note be circulated to members of the Security Council, as a United Nations document.

The Permanent Representative of Israel avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of his highest consideration.

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Le 16 juin 1964

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre No 645/64 du 11 juin 1964 par laquelle vous me faites savoir qu'appelé à d'autres fonctions par votre Gouvernement, vous allez quitter votre poste de Représentant permanent de la République arabe syrienne auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. Votre départ est certes une cause de vif regret pour moi-même comme pour mes collaborateurs, avec qui vous avez travaillé dans une atmosphère de coopération si étroite et amicale. Je souhaite que nous continuions à travailler dans le même esprit de coopération et d'amitié avec votre successeur.

Je tiens aussi à vous offrir tous mes vœux de succès dans vos nouvelles fonctions.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

U Thant

Son Excellence  
Monsieur Salah El Dine Tarnai  
Ambassadeur extraordinaire et plénipotentiaire  
Représentant permanent de la République  
arabe syrienne auprès de l'Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
757 Third Avenue, Room 2505  
New York 17, N.Y.

cc: Mr. C.V. Narasimhan  
Mr. S. Korte  
Mr. L. Lemieux  
Registry

D R A F T

For SG's signature,  
in French  
CIV  
15/6

For translation into French

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 648/64, dated 11 June 1964, informing me that you have been called upon by your Government to take up other duties and you are relinquishing your position as the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations.

Your departure will naturally be received with feelings of regret by myself and my colleagues, with whom you have worked in such close co-operation and friendship. I hope that *we shall continue to work in* the same spirit of co-operation and friendship will continue with your successor.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you every success in your new assignment.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant

His Excellency  
Mr. Salah El Dine Tarazi  
Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic  
to the United Nations  
757 Third Avenue, Room 2505  
New York 17, N.Y.

13106

Unofficial translation from French

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

No. 648/64

New York, 11 June 1964

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, having been called upon by my Government to take up other duties, my tour of duty here is at an end.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express my wholehearted appreciation and gratitude for the spirit of co-operation and friendship which has grown up between us.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Salah El Dine Tarazi

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab  
Republic to the United Nations

His Excellency U Thant  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
New York 17, N.Y.





**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**707 THIRD AVENUE, ROOM 2503  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.**

**TEL: PLAZA 2-2200. 1**

**New York, le 11 Juin 1964**

**No. 648/64**

**Monsieur le Secrétaire général,**

J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance qu'ayant été appelé par Mon Gouvernement à d'autres fonctions, ma mission a pris fin.

Je profite de cette occasion pour exprimer à Votre Excellence toute ma gratitude et ma reconnaissance pour l'esprit de coopération et d'amitié qui s'est développé entre nous.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire général, l'expression de ma haute considération.

**Salah El Dine Tarazi, Ambassadeur  
Représentant Permanent de la  
République Arabe Syrienne**

**Son Excellence U Thant  
Secrétaire générale des Nations Unies  
New York 17, N. Y.**



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

757 THIRD AVENUE, ROOM 2505  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TEL.: PLAZA 2-4250, 1

A/C.6/28

April 7, 1967

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of 3 April 1967 and the letter enclosed with it, addressed to His Excellency the Foreign Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic.

This letter has been forwarded today to the Foreign Minister with my appropriate recommendations. I have the firm hope that the reply will be quick and constructive.

Accept, Sir, the expression of my highest consideration.

George J. Tomeh  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

H.E. M. U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York

*Original to Mr. Stavropoulos  
7 April 1967  
em.*

3 April 1967

My dear Mr. Ambassador,

I have the honour to refer to my letter of 30 November 1966 enclosing a letter of the same date to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic in which I proposed that the United Nations Legal Counsel should visit Damascus in order to find solutions for the problems being encountered by United Nations operations in Syria. By letter S/128 of 5 December 1966 you acknowledged receipt of my letter and informed me that the enclosed letter had been forwarded to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. As I have not yet had a reply to my proposal from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I should  
..... greatly appreciate your transmitting to him the enclosed letter.

I remain, dear Mr. Ambassador,  
Yours sincerely,

U Thant

His Excellency  
Dr. George J. Tomah  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Syria to the  
United Nations  
New York, N. Y. 10017

3 April 1967

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to my letter of 30 November 1966 concerning a matter which has arisen over the past few years with respect to United Nations bodies functioning in the Syrian Arab Republic. In this letter I pointed out that some of the attitudes taken by Syrian officials if continued would make it impossible for these bodies to discharge their responsibilities effectively.

In view of the misunderstanding about control over United Nations activities in Syria which appeared to exist, I proposed that the United Nations Legal Counsel should visit Damascus as my personal representative in order to discuss this question with you and with the President and the Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic. I must express my disappointment that there has not as yet been a reply to this proposal. I continue to believe it would be to the advantage of all concerned that the situation be clarified as soon as possible. I would therefore greatly appreciate an indication of the date on which it would be agreeable to you for the proposed discussions to take place.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant

His Excellency  
Dr. Ibrahim Makhos  
Vice Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Damascus  
Syria

AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

His Excellency  
The Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York

*Copy sent to R. K. P. +  
Am. S. 12/14*

C.V.

Excellency:

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's letter addressed to us on 30 November 1966, concerning International Officials on service in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to Your Excellency's second letter dated 3 April 1967.

I have the pleasure to reply on each of these two letters noting that the delay in answering the first was due to the fact that we were in the process of collecting the information to which Your Excellency referred. This unintended delay was meant to have our reply fully comprehensive of all aspects of the problem.

As to the conditions of International Officials referred to in Your Excellency's first letter, we find it necessary to point out that we are particularly careful in establishing the closest cooperation with the United Nations Organization, its Secretariat, and all its Organs. We believe that this co-operation strengthens international understanding, which we endeavour to develop and promote, and of world peace based on justice, about which we are equally concerned; we are fully aware of Your Excellency's eagerness to maintain it to the farthest extent.

.... /

However, we would like to respectfully draw Your Excellency's attention to an aspect of the problem to which we accord importance - and which we are sure you give the same consideration - namely, the problem of some International Officials serving in the United Nations Organs in Syria. These officials, who belong as they do to some great powers, undertake activities which serve more the interests of their respective countries, by virtue of original positions in the armies or information services they previously held.

The result is that such officials take advantage of the immunity and responsibilities accorded to them by the United Nations, to undertake activities incompatible with the Organization's regulations, and which impair our newly won independence and endanger our security.

Our country - like yours - as Your Excellency undoubtedly know, has struggled long and hard to obtain independence and security, and continues to strive, like other smaller nations of Asia and Africa, to protect this independence and economic freedom.

In fact, it is much better for the interest of our country as well as the smooth performance of duties of the United Nations Organs, if the Organization's officials commissioned to Syria were selected from small nations in Asia and Africa, or from European countries that have no colonial background and are not considered greater powers with colonial or imperial interests in this part of the world.

In our eagerness to see that United Nations officials in our country should abide by the Organization's high aims, dedicated to its principles and free of private and outside

.... /

obligations, we are inspired by our respect for the Organization, our consideration of its message, and our eagerness to place it <sup>in</sup> the best objective conditions and proper atmosphere for the discharge of its tasks and fulfilment of its ideals.

If Your Excellency considers that the visit to Syria of Mr. Constantin A. Stravopoulos, Under-Secretary and Legal Adviser, as Your Excellency's personal representative to discuss these matters with us here in Damascus, we welcome this proposal and suggest the first week of May for this visit. The date could, however, be agreed upon with Ambassador Dr. George J. Tomeh, Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic in New York.

Accept, Your Excellency, the expression of my highest regards and consideration.

(Sgd.)  
Dr. Ibrahim Makhos  
Vice-Premier  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Damascus, April 24, 1967

5

S/42

9 June 1967

Excellency:

Further to my letter No.S/41 of today, I wish to draw your attention that at 6.15 p.m. local New York time, I received a telephone call from Damascus informing me that:

(1) Israeli Air Force has bombarded the Villages of Al-Yaquteh and Al-Ouyun near the town of Fiq inside the Syrian territory.

(2) At the moment of the telephone conversation with Damascus, namely, at 6.15 p. m. New York time, the Israeli military aircrafts were still overflying the Syrian territory.

(3) The Israeli tanks and armored cars are still being massed inside the Syrian territory for further attack.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

George J. Tomeh  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary General  
United Nations  
New York



Sent on from (Beirut)

9 June

11.59 a.m.T.

Recd at 9 June (N.Y.)

8.21 a.m.

Unofficial translation from French

IMMEDIATE

PLEASE COMMUNICATE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL NEW YORK FOLLOWING:

HIS EXCELLENCY U THANT SECRETARY-GENERAL UNITED NATIONS

DESPITE OUR ACCEPTANCE OF TWO APPEALS FOR CEASE FIRE CONTAINED IN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS WHICH WAS NOTIFIED BY OUR CABLE ADDRESSED TO YOU THIS MORNING AND BROADCAST BY RADIO DAMAS, ISRAEL CONTINUES ITS AIR AGGRESSION AGAINST SYRIAN TERRITORY COMBINED WITH GENERAL OFFENSIVE BY ARMY AND TANKS STOP WE REQUEST IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO AVOID NEW OUTBREAK OF WAR. HIGH CONSIDERATION STOP DR. IBRAHIM MAKHOS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

9 June 1967

At 5:25 p.m. today I received the following message from  
Ambassador Daoudy of Syrian Arab Republic:

Amb. Daoudy said that he just had a telephone conversation with  
his Foreign Ministry in Damascus and he transmitted to me the following  
information:

1. The Israeli forces are still firing at the civilian population in Banias  
inside Syria.
2. The Israeli aircraft are still in Syrian skies.
3. The Israeli helicopters are ~~landing~~<sup>dropping</sup> paratroopers behind the Syrian  
lines in order to carry out sabotage activities.
4. There are huge number of tanks and armored cars which have taken  
positions for attack.

Orders have been given to the armed forces of Syria to stop military  
operations forthwith.

rec'd. 2400 h. ✓

L.T.

17/6

original (L.T.)

15 June 1967

Excellency,

Acting on instructions from my Government, I have the honor to transmit to you a cable I just received, detailing atrocities committed by the Israeli forces of invasion in the occupied Syrian territory:

1. They forced Syrian war prisoners to dig graves, and executed and buried them in those same graves. They killed seven male nurses in Kuneitra.

2. All civilians who had at one time served in the army have been deported by the Israelis to unknown areas.

3. Civilians accused of having been in the army are being subjected to inhuman torture, in order to force confessions out of them.

4. All able-bodied Syrian young men were taken and deported to unknown areas. Their fate is still not known. Moreover, the Israelis have submitted to degrading humiliation many of the aged. A woman was raped by Israeli soldiers and died next morning.

5. They have indiscriminately looted all Kuneitra's houses and shops. They removed household goods and merchandise, including women's garments and jewelry.

6. The number of civilians expelled from the occupied areas has exceeded at the present time forty thousand people.

7. Thousands of children were taken from their parents and left to

wander, and thousands of parents were subjected to the same fate.

8. The Israelis seized and drove off all the cattle of the occupied areas.

9. They systematically expelled all men from the occupied areas, while keeping women behind, especially in Boteha.

10. The whole population of the occupied areas has cynically been subjected to hunger and destitution.

In bringing these inhuman acts to your attention, I need hardly emphasize the fact that these Fascist atrocities committed by the Israeli invaders violate all norms of the civilized world, let alone violation of Security Council Resolution No. 237 (1967) of June 14, 1967.

In accordance with Paragraph 3 of this Security Council Resolution No. 237, I request Your Excellency to urgently contact UNTSO to investigate these barbaric acts and to promptly report to the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

George J. Tomeh  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

H. E. U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York



SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 August 1967

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 9 August 1967, outlining the results of the conversations that you and representatives of your Government held in Damascus during the period 7 to 9 August 1967 with my representative, the United Nations Legal Counsel, concerning matters of common interest to the United Nations and to Syria. I am most grateful for the warm reception and full co-operation which Mr. Stavropoulos tells me that you and your Government accorded to him.

I wish to express my great satisfaction at your statement that:

"... the Syrian Arab Republic welcomes the presence of UNTSO, UNRWA and other United Nations bodies operating within Syria and is fully prepared to co-operate with them pursuant to the UN Charter, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the General Armistice Agreement with respect to UNTSO and the Bernadotte Agreement with respect to UNRWA."

I am also highly gratified by your remarks regarding the recognition by your Government of my authority over United Nations staff, its respect for Articles 100 and 101 of the United Nations Charter and its acceptance of "the practice followed by the other Member States regarding the principle of persona non grata."

I wish to take this opportunity to assure you, on my own behalf, that I fully understand the preoccupations of your Government regarding both the security and sovereignty of Syria and the standards of impartiality, integrity and competence which it expects of United Nations

Dr. Ibrahim Makhos  
Vice-Premier and Minister  
for Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Damascus  
Syria

staff in Syria. In these respects I want to let you know that I shall, of course, give full and sympathetic consideration to legitimate representations by your Government and will ensure that prompt action is taken on such representations.

You are most kind in offering the good offices of your Ministry regarding the clarification, through information media, of the correct facts relating to United Nations operations in Syria, regarding the facilitation of the freedom of movement of United Nations personnel and goods, and regarding a speedy solution of outstanding matters and claims with the appropriate authorities. In these, and all other respects, I am sure that we can now look forward to a period of close and harmonious co-operation, during which both the United Nations and Syria will give prompt consideration to any problems which they may respectively raise with each other.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant

REPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE

MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

8/21  
DAMAS, le 9 August 1967

U Thant  
Secretary-General,  
United Nations,  
New York

Dear Secretary General,

I have the honour to refer to your letter dated the 30th of November 1966, in which, having referred to a number of operational problems, you proposed sending Mr. C.A. Stavropoulos, Under-Secretary and Legal Counsel, as your personal representative to discuss these problems with the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic. You will recall that I readily concurred in this proposal, and it was a matter of regret for my Government that, due to the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, the visit of Mr. Stavropoulos had to be postponed until very recently.

However my Government in fact received Mr. Stavropoulos during the period 7-10 August and I wish to place on record my Government's satisfaction with the outcome of the visit. The discussions which took place were friendly and constructive, and I believe they afford a basis upon which closer and effective co-operation between my government and the United Nations can be established.

I wish to reaffirm that the Syrian Arab Republic welcomes the presence of UNESO, UNRWA and other United Nations bodies operating within Syria and is fully prepared to co-operate with them pursuant to the UN Charter, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the General Armistice Agreement with respect to UNESO and the Bernadotte Agreement with respect to UNRWA.

Without altering the practical arrangements which have so far been applied in our relationship with UNESO and UNRWA, my Government recognises your authority over the United Nations staff in conformity with the United Nations Charter, respects articles 100 and 101 of the Charter and accepts the practice followed by the other Member States regarding the principle of persona non grata.

However the United Nations on its part, must also recognize that my government expects United Nations staff to be of the highest calibre and to demonstrate the impartiality, integrity and competence which the Charter in turn requires of them.

In this connection, I particularly wish to emphasize that the Syrian Arab Republic faces a situation in which its security, as a sovereign state, is its primary concern.

For this reason, it expects from the United Nations full co-operation in protecting its security and sovereignty. Mr. Stavropoulos assured me that sympathetic consideration will be given and the necessary prompt action taken to the legitimate representations by my Government

concerning United Nations staff, arising from the exigencies of our national security; this is particularly important at the stage when the UN is considering appointments.

On this basis the United Nations can expect full co-operation.

Our Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be glad to use its good offices with the appropriate organs every time its attention is drawn to baseless and unwarranted attacks, in order to clarify matters through the media of information.

Our Ministry is also ready to facilitate freedom of movement of United Nations personnel and goods, and to help find a speedy solution of outstanding matters and claims with the appropriate authorities. On the other hand we expect the United Nations to give its prompt consideration to any problem which the Syrian authorities might raise with them.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Dr. Ibrahim Makhos  
Minister of Foreign Affairs



FTL/tm

29 May 1969

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23 May 1969 concerning the situation in the Middle East.

As you have requested, the text of your letter and its annexes has been circulated as a document of the General Assembly (A/7558) and the Security Council (S/9220).

As to the request in the penultimate paragraph of your letter for a report from me relating to cultural properties, I may point out that the United Nations at present has no means of obtaining information of this kind. The United Nations Military Observers are in the area solely for the purpose of seeking to ensure observance of the cease-fire in this sector called for by the Security Council in its resolutions 235 (1967) and 236 (1967) of 9 and 12 June 1967 respectively.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant

His Excellency  
Dr. George J. Tomah  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab  
Republic to the United Nations  
757 Third Avenue, Room 2505  
New York, N.Y. 10017

13 October 1969

Dear Ambassador Tomeh,

Please be so kind as to transmit the enclosed personal message to the President of Syria as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely yours,

U Thant  
Secretary-General

His Excellency  
Dr. George J. Tomeh  
Permanent Representative of the  
Syrian Arab Republic to the  
United Nations  
757 Third Avenue, Room 2505  
New York, N.Y. 10017

13 October 1969

His Excellency  
Dr. Nourreddine Al-Attassi  
Chief of State  
Syrian Arab Republic

Your Excellency will be aware of the appeal which I made on 1 September to Your Excellency's Government through its representative at the United Nations for the release of two passengers of the TWA airliner who still remained in Damascus. It was good to know at that time that all of the other passengers and crew members had been permitted to leave. It is now gratifying to learn from your representative here that the hijacking was done without the knowledge of your Government, that the perpetrators of that crime are being detained, that an enquiry continues with regard to the two passengers and that the aircraft will be free to leave when the necessary repairs are completed.

I am sure that Your Excellency will understand that it is in an entirely friendly and respectful spirit that I at this time address directly to you an appeal for an expeditious conclusion of the enquiry and the release of the two men still being detained. I do so on two grounds. The first is humanitarian in the sense that innocent civilians should not be made to suffer unduly when no security factor is involved, however hostile the relations may be between the two States concerned. Secondly, Your Excellency will appreciate that in the interest of international order and the preservation of international air traffic, I must stand firmly on the principle that no advantage of any kind should be sought or gained by any party from the unlawful act of hijacking a civilian aircraft flying in international airspace. Otherwise, the repetition of such acts would be encouraged.

May I also take the liberty, Excellency, of expressing to you my purely personal view that since Syria is a candidate for a seat on the

Security Council and would seem certain of election to it on 20 October, the release by your Government of these two detainees, or at least an announcement of its intention to do so on completion of the enquiry, prior to that date would be greeted with fullest approbation here. It would also constitute a fine testament to the regard for international law and morality with which Syria would assume its new responsibilities in the Council.

I assure Your Excellency that this approach is exclusively personal and confidential and will be kept in strict confidence here.

With high esteem and personal regards,

U Thant  
Secretary-General

13 November 1969

Dear Ambassador Tomeh

I refer to my letter to you of 13 October 1969 covering a personal message to His Excellency the President of Syria from me with the request that it be transmitted urgently to him. You have assured me that this was done.

You will no doubt recall that this message and my hope for an early reply to it have been referred to orally several times in our meetings since that date. As you are also aware, I am still awaiting a reply to my written message which I assume will likewise be written and which will indicate a response to my appeal, one way or the other. I trust, Mr. Ambassador, that my expectation in this regard is sound and may soon be fulfilled.

Sincerely yours,

U Thant

His Excellency  
Dr. George J. Tomeh  
Permanent Representative of Syria  
to the United Nations  
757 Third Avenue, Room 2505  
New York, N.Y. 10017

3 Dec.

SG:

Mr. Stavropoulos called Amb. Yost and the Ambassador already had a report about the incident at the Syrian Mission. He did not know, however, about tomorrow. Mr. Stavropoulos sent him a photocopy of the circular that Amb. Tomeh had with him. Amb. Yost said he would take care of the matter and keep you informed.

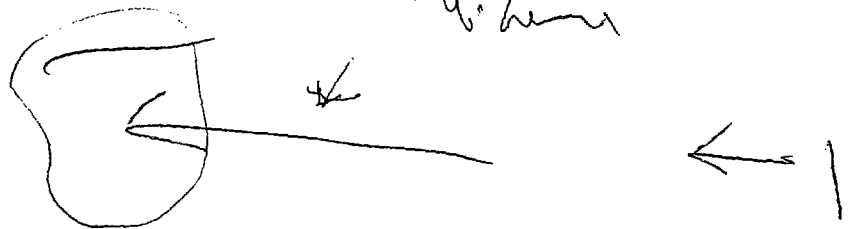
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757 3rd Av. 4784

~~3~~ 25th floor

→ from 130 - 345  
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5 PM. Mon



Ad Hoc Studies Committee  
To free The Damascus 2.

4 p.m. Thursday -  
Galtier 42 St. + 10th Ave.

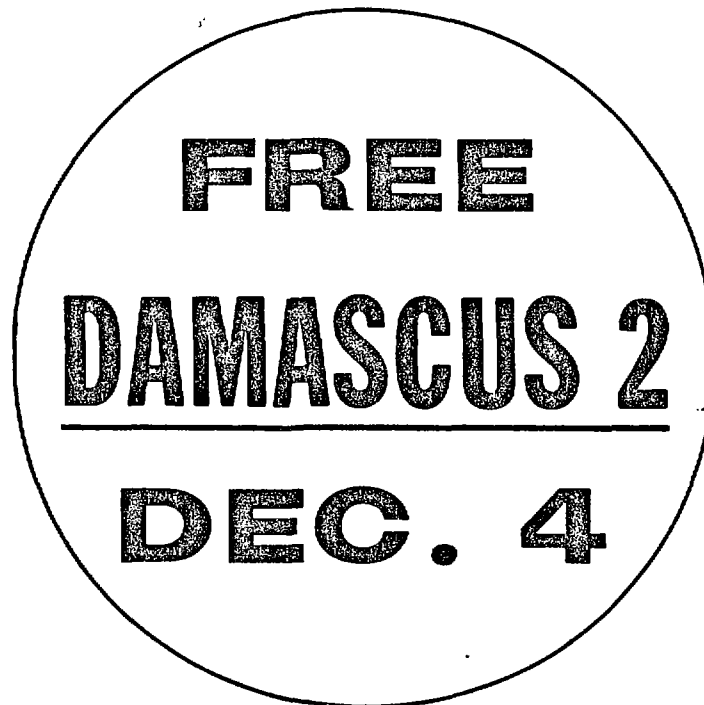
Minute -

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**Ad Hoc Student Committee  
To Free The Damascus Two**

On the  
Festival  
Of  
Freedom  
Chanukah  
5730

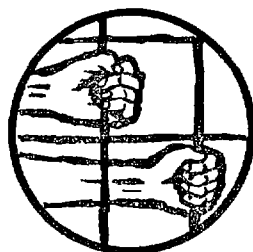


Thursday  
December  
4,  
1969  
4 P.M.

**JOIN OUR MARCH FOR FREEDOM**

**RELEASE  
SAMUELOFF & MOUALEM  
FROM SYRIAN JAILS**

**FORM AT  
"ISAIAH WALL"  
42nd ST. & FIRST AVE.**



**FLASHLIGHT PROCESSION  
TO SYRIAN MISSION  
757 THIRD AVE.**

✓

FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY

3 December 1969

PRESS BRIEFING BY THE DELEGATION OF SYRIA

Ambassador Georges J. Tomeh said that a grave incident had occurred, and that it was of such gravity that he had found it necessary to call in the press and the media. At about 1:30 p.m. while he was away from his office and only three secretaries were there a group of about 40 young persons had occupied the Mission of Syria which was located on the 25th floor of 757 Third Avenue.

Upon his return to the Mission, the Ambassador said that he found a detective in his office who told him that the persons who had occupied the premises had come up to the 25th floor in groups of three and five and that by the time that they had all assembled there, the one policeman on duty at the Mission was unable to prevent them from occupying it by force.

Ambassador Tomeh continued by saying that those who were at the United Nations in 1966 would recall that on 4 or 5 October of that year, while the Security Council was meeting, the Mission had been invaded by a group of young American Zionists and that it had taken 30 or 40 policemen to remove them. Later, when the same group was taken into court the case was dismissed with a warning to the defendants not to repeat their actions. Now the story had been repeated and the premises of the Mission had been occupied for two hours and ten minutes.

Only five or six policemen had come, and this was a clear violation of international law and the traditions of civilized law, the Ambassador added.

The detective whom he found when he returned had informed him that around 4:00 p.m. tomorrow, a march composed of thousands of persons would assemble in front of the United Nations and proceed to the Syrian Mission. The detective advised him to close the Mission tomorrow, but the Ambassador replied that tomorrow was a working day at the United Nations, and that the Mission would be opened for business. He would be there at the time the demonstrators had announced that they would march.

(more)

After investigating the incident, Ambassador Tomeh said he had immediately contacted the Secretary-General (around 4:00 p.m.) and had informed him about this grave act of "gangsterism", and asked him to protest to the Department of State through the Mission of the United States.

The Ambassador said that as far as he was concerned, there was only one question to ask, "were the 40 persons who had occupied the Mission of Syria citizens of the United States or of Israel, and if they were Americans, was this not a clear case of neglect on the part of the authorities"? He added that after he had refused to close the Mission tomorrow, the detective told him that all efforts would be taken to safeguard the Mission and its personnel.

In response to a question concerning why the demonstrators had occupied the Mission, the Ambassador said that by the time he arrived the demonstrators had already left, but that the secretaries and one member of his staff were there in a near state of panic. There had been no damage done to the Mission and no documents had been taken.

A correspondent then said that he had read in a dispatch that the Mission had been occupied in reprisal for the detention by Syria of two Israeli citizens. He wanted to know whether this was true. The response was that those persons who had occupied the Mission had perhaps explained their purposes in such a way, but that the only question Syria had raised was the violation of its diplomatic mission. In response to a further question, the Ambassador said that the detective had told him some of the persons who had occupied the Mission were known to the police department and to the United Nations Security Forces and had been involved in similar troublesome incidents at the Missions of various Arab countries.

Another questioner then asked whether in view of the detention of the two Israelis in Syria and the alleged threat by the demonstrators to take hostages at the Syrian Mission tomorrow, the Ambassador thought that the holding of hostages had become an international pattern of action.

Ambassador Tomeh repeated that he would not connect the two cases in any manner, and said that this was a clear case of the violation of the privileges and immunities of a diplomatic mission in a foreign land. In 1966, when the first occupation of the Mission occurred, there were no hostages in Syria, yet the United Nations had protested this and the Permanent Representative of the United States had apologized publicly to Syria as did other United States representatives in other United Nations committees. Today, the United States

(more)

representative in the Special Political Committee had apologized for the most recent of these incidents.

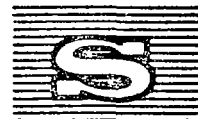
The Ambassador went on to say that he and his staff had received threats of kidnapping and threats against their lives, and that following the kidnapping threat security had been doubled.

The demonstrators had not left the Mission of their own free will, the Ambassador said. The fact that they had remained on the premises for over two hours attested to this. They left only after the police had arrived.

In response to additional questions, the Ambassador said that any formal charges in the case would have to be brought by the City of New York, which had prosecuted the demonstrators after the first such incident. The policeman on duty at the Mission had remained on the premises during the time that it was occupied and had called others to assist him. Five policemen had come but he did not know how long it had taken them to arrive.

Another correspondent asked whether it was the Ad Hoc Committee to Free the Damascus Two which planned to march against the Mission of Syria tomorrow. The Ambassador replied that he did not know, and that it was not within his power to tell who would join the marchers. He added that no arrests, whatsoever, had been made after the occupation today.

\* \*\*\* \*



UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/9532\*  
4 December 1969

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 4 DECEMBER 1969 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIA,  
IRAQ, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, LIBYA, MOROCCO, SAUDI ARABIA,  
SOUTHERN YEMEN, THE SUDAN, SYRIA, TUNISIA, THE UNITED ARAB  
REPUBLIC AND YEMEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL

We have the honour to bring to your attention the following grave violation to which a Permanent Mission to the United Nations was subject yesterday.

At 1.30 p.m., on Wednesday, 3 December 1969, about forty members of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Jewish Defense entered the premises of the Permanent Mission of Syria to the United Nations and staged a "sit-in" for one and a half hours. The policeman posted to guard the Syrian Mission called in other policemen to help him get them off the premises. This is the second time since October 1966 that the Syrian Mission has been subjected to such humiliation by American zionists. None of these zionists has been arrested. The zionist attackers threatened to occupy the premises of the Syrian Mission today after the march, which will form at 42nd Street and First Avenue at the Israeli Wall. And, in answer to a threat that the Mission should be closed today, Ambassador Tomeh affirmed that in no circumstances will the Syrian Mission to the United Nations be closed under any threat of occupation, and that the Mission is here to carry on its normal work during the General Assembly and after.

During this year and in the past, several Arab Missions to the United Nations and Arab offices have been subject to more violent acts, continuous threats of killing or kidnapping, threats to the lives of the Arab Ambassadors and the members of their families. This is to mention only a few instances of the

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\* Also issued under the symbol A/7827.

continuous threats of intimidation to which our Missions and offices are being subjected.

We are sure that you, Sir, will certainly take into full consideration the gravity of this outrageous violation of immunities of diplomatic Missions accredited to the United Nations; under such circumstances, our work is rendered difficult - if not, indeed, at times impossible - by such continuous actions by gangsters and trouble-makers. The detective, Mr. Walter Kirby, who was at the Syrian Mission when the Permanent Representative of Syria arrived, stated to him that some of those who staged the occupation yesterday at the Syrian Mission were familiar and could possibly be the same ones who had participated in similar previous actions against Arab Missions and offices and that they might be among the marchers today.

Is it not high time that the American authorities should take the necessary steps to arrest the criminal perpetrators of these grave violations?

We, therefore, protest most strongly and request Your Excellency to convey our protest in the strongest terms to the host country of the United Nations and to demand that all necessary steps be taken to protect our Missions.

We furthermore request that this letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and Security Council.

(Signed) H.A. AZZOUT (Algeria)  
Adnan RACUF (Iraq)  
M.H. EL FARRA (Jordan)  
M.M. AL-MUDAF (Kuwait)  
Edouard GHORRA (Lebanon)  
Wahbi EL BOURI (Libya)  
A.T. BENHIMA (Morocco)  
J.M. BAROODY (Saudi Arabia)  
I.S. NOAMAN (Southern Yemen)  
A.A. SAHLCUL (Sudan)  
G.J. TOMEH (Syria)  
M.S. EL GOULLI (Tunisia)  
M.H. EL ZAYYAT (United Arab Republic)  
M.S. AL-ATTAR (Yemen)

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## SYRIAN MISSION HERE IS TARGET OF A SIT-IN

Thirty students identified as members of an "Ad Hoc Committee to Free the Damascus Two" held an hour-long sit-in demonstration yesterday at the Syrian Mission to the United Nations.

The group entered the offices on the 20th floor of the Harcourt Brace Building, 757 Third Avenue, at 47th Street, at 1:30 P.M. to protest the Syrian Government's continued detention of Prof. Shlomo Samueloff and Salah Muallem. The two Israeli citizens have been held since Aug. 29, when Arab terrorists hijacked a Trans World Airlines jet enroute to Tel Aviv and forced it to land at Damascus.

Under persuasion by police men called to the mission offices, the group left. No incidents or damage were reported and there were no arrests.

Syria's chief representative, George J. Tomeh, protested formally to Secretary General Thant. At a news conference he denounced the sit-in as gangsterism.

Mr. Tomeh said he had asked the Secretary General to protest to the State Department through the United States delegation over "this grave violation of international law."

cc: Ambassador Tomeh

19 December 1969

Excellency,

You will recall the case of Mr. Samuel Andre Marmoul, Deputy Director, UNHWA Affairs, Syria, which was the subject of an aide mémoire transmitted by me to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic on 29 August 1969. Since that time I have discussed this case on several occasions with the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations. I am now taking the liberty of approaching you directly and personally on the matter. In doing so I wish to make it clear at the outset that I do not question in any way the sovereign right of your Government to make decisions on matters which it believes to involve the security of the Syrian Arab Republic, and I am aware of the difficult and sometimes delicate situations which occasionally arise in the relations between the governments of States Members of the United Nations and international employees of the Organization. At the same time, I am sure that you will appreciate the position of the Secretary-General and his responsibilities to United Nations staff members in such situations. It is in this spirit that I am sending you this personal letter.

I would first draw attention to the procedures for consultations agreed between the Secretary-General and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic in their exchange of letters of 9 and 17 August 1967. In this regard, Articles 100, 101 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations are also relevant. I understand the difficulties which the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic may have in providing

His Excellency  
Dr. Mustafa Al-Fayed  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic



information on security matters. However, in the light of the above considerations, I am sure that you will understand why I am unable, and indeed have no right, to accept a procedure under which not even the Secretary-General himself is apprised of the facts on the basis of which he is expected to take a major action in relation to a United Nations staff member. Were the Secretary-General to accept such a procedure, it would be contrary to his responsibilities and authority under the Charter, and would also raise very serious administrative and practical problems, since the allegation that a United Nations staff member has become a security risk to a Member State, would, if proven, raise the question not only of removing him from a particular country but even of whether he should be retained in the service of the United Nations at all. The Secretary-General in making administrative decisions of this kind is required by the Charter to exercise his own judgement. He cannot exercise such judgement arbitrarily and without the necessary information, and in fact he has no right to do so.

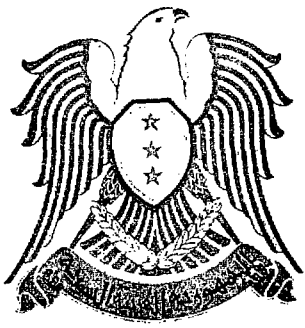
In the particular case of Mr. Mermoud, I would very much hope that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic would either now acquiesce to his return to his duty station or would give the Secretary-General personally the information necessary to him in order to form his own opinion and fulfill his responsibilities in the matter as explained above. In making this request personally to you, I would have in mind that Mr. Mermoud has now been stationed in the Syrian Arab Republic for several years and that it is the normal practice in the United Nations to transfer its officials from time to time. In due course this process would naturally be applied to Mr. Mermoud.

I am sure you will understand, Excellency, my concern over what is both a matter of principle and an important practical question. While appreciating the difficulties that may exist on your side I would express in conclusion my earnest hope that we may now come to an agreed solution on this case in the shortest possible time. I may add that in the course of my talks with Ambassador Touch I have given in greater detail my views as to how an agreed solution might be reached.

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Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant  
Secretary-General



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**  
to the United Nations

*[Handwritten mark]*

**NEWSLETTER**

757 THIRD AVENUE, ROOM 2505, N. Y. 10017

PRESS RELEASE

September 15, 1970

H.E. Ambassador George J. Tomeh of the Syrian Arab Republic, current Chairman of the Arab Group, accompanied by the Ambassadors of Kuwait and the United Arab Republic, called today, September 15th, on the Secretary-General of the United Nations to bring to his attention the recent arbitrary measures taken by Israel in the occupied territories. This latest act by the Israeli occupying authorities adds a new dimension to Israel's policy of terror. The unlawful detention of 450 Arabs, among whom are professional men and women, and their use as hostages, constitutes a flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Civilians in Occupied Territories, to which Israel is a party, and is contrary to the spirit and letter of all humanitarian resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly, as well as to all norms of civilized conduct.

18/9/70

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

September 18, 1970

PRESS RELEASE

On behalf of the Arab Group, representatives of Kuwait, Morocco, and the United Arab Republic and the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic in his capacity as current Chairman of the Arab Group, called on the Secretary General of the United Nations to bring to his attention the serious implications for international peace and security inherent in the recent statements made by high officials of Israel and certain other countries threatening intervention in what is exclusively an intra Arab question in Jordan.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTING SLIP

FICHE DE TRANSMISSION

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FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER
FOR APPROVAL		POUR APPROBATION
FOR SIGNATURE		POUR SIGNATURE
PREPARE DRAFT		PROJET A REDIGER
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MAY WE CONFER?		POURRIONS-NOUS EN PARLER?
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NOTE AND FILE		NOTER ET CLASSER
NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

I am sending you herewith, for your information, a brief paper on the recent events in Syria.

*Seen. Thanks.*  
*B*  
*19/11/70*

Date:

17 November 1970

CR. 13 (11-64)

FROM:

DE:

*L. Kutakov*  
L. Kutakov

17 November 1970

SYRIA'S RECENT EVENTS

On Friday 13 November it was reported from Syria that a coup d'etat had taken place, that General Assad, Minister of Defence, had become president and that a number of civilian members of the Baath Party were placed under arrest including former President Al-Atassi. However, other reports circulated today indicated that those arrested on Friday were released and that only a small number of civilians were arrested. Behind this new political shake-up in Syria is the Congress of the Baath Party which had met two weeks ago under turbulent conditions to discuss, among other things, the resignation of President Al-Atassi a few weeks ago, the issue of Syria's interference in the civil strife of Jordan, the consequences of Nasser's death and the future relations with the Baath ruling party in Iraq.

It should be recalled that Al-Atassi submitted his resignation several weeks ago in exasperation over the dispute between the ruling faction of the party which is militarily dominated and between the civilian faction, which had supported the Palestinians in Jordan. It should be recalled also that when Syrian tanks crossed into Jordan in September, it was said that they belonged to the Palestine Liberation Army stationed in Syria as well as to As-Sahiqua commando groups backed by the Syrian régime. As the military faction in power denied the protecting air cover, the Syrian tanks had to withdraw and Syria in general and the civilian faction of the party in particular, fell into a political discredit both inside and outside Syria. In the meantime, Al-Atassi was requested by the party to remain in power until the Congress was convened to decide on the future direction of Syria's politics. One of the decisions of the Congress was the transfer of the Minister of Defence and Chief of Staff, General Assad, to another post in the party and the formation of a new government consisting of party

and other progressive elements. This means a rebuke to General Assad who decided to offset the decisions of the party by placing its dominant members under arrest.

The situation is still fluid and very confused because without the civilian faction, the army will become void of its political arm. Similarly, should the civilian faction have won the fight, it would have been unable to rule without the army. The situation might develop into a compromise similar to that of last year's Congress when the civilians were kept nominally in power. If the civilians remained adamant in their position Assad may have to form a government from any civilian elements available to him. Either way, the tendency represented by him will prevail as long as he has the army under control. This will result in a more flexible policy vis-a-vis other Arab countries, and will definitely be less hostile to the Baath Ruling Party in Bagdad. For, Assad has excluded from the Government the hard liner and dogmatic elements in the belief that what is most needed in Syria as well as in the Arab world, is a closer cooperation regardless of ideological beliefs. Thus he regarded with favour the new federation project of the United Arab Republic, Sudan and Lybia and still maintains some working relations with King Hussein who is always regarded with disfavour by the dogmatic civilian faction.

It should be said that barring any miraculous change of heart on the part of the army which supports General Assad, Syria will continue the moderate policy it has been following ever since he took control of power in March 1969. The announcement made today by the new Chief of Syria to form a new leadership of the party and the confirmed reports of releasing most of the arrested civilians indicate that General Assad, with this quasi-mandate will embark on a more open moderate policy with all the Arab countries in particular the United Arab Republic's efforts for a peaceful

settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the newly planned federation between the United Arab Republic, Sudan and Lybia while stressing the necessity to support the struggle of the Palestinians in their inalienable rights to self-determination.



AL-ASAD REJECTS PEACEFUL SOLUTION CONCEPT

Beirut AN-NAHAR 17 Mar 71 p 9 M

['Alya' as-Sulh interview with Syrian President al-Asad]

[Excerpts] Question: Will you accept a political opposition or will you use the one-party system and say that your regime is by the people and for the people?

Answer: We are working to create a national front composed of all the organized forces in our society. We hope this front, toward which certain steps have been taken, will represent a step toward a single political organization or political party.

Question: What about an opposition?

Answer: If all the people belong to the same organization, where would opposition come from? Criticism is something else, and I welcome it.

Question: You mean the Ba'th Party will be expanded?

Answer: We call for unity, freedom, and socialism. The forces that believe in these ideas can merge into one party.

Question: Under the name of Ba'th Party?

Answer: There is no objection to the name. The objection is to the political anomalies in it and to the incorrect implementation of its principles.

Question: While awaiting the future let us talk about today, today's parties and freedoms. What about the Communist Party?

Answer: We have not recognized any party officially, but the Communist Party exists and is represented in the government and in the Council.

Question: What about the Syrian Nationalist Party?

Answer: It does not exist here and never will.

Question: And freedom of the press?

Answer: The press is open to every writer and to all criticism.

Question: What will happen now? Will it be war or a peaceful solution?

Answer: There can be no peaceful solution.

Question: Then why Rogers and Jarring? Why this humiliating perseverance on our part?

Answer: Politics may be useful, but political action does not fulfill the other requirements of the battle. We must neither underestimate the importance of political struggle nor give it more emphasis than it deserves. Nothing will ultimately settle the issue except our ability to fight.

Question: Since you have chosen the military solution, better sooner than later. Why not attack today?

Answer: Our war will be defensive, not offensive.

Question: And Golan?

Answer: When we regain Golan, we will be defending ourselves.

Question: AL-AHRAM says that Egypt will be alone in the next battle. What is your opinion?

Answer: AL-AHRAM was not accurate. Egypt will not be alone in the next battle. We will do our duty.

Question: Despite your noninvolvement in the search for a peaceful solution, let us assume that it succeeds and Golan is returned to you. What would be your attitude toward the Palestine resistance?

Answer: Our problem with Israel is not Sinai or Golan. The crux of the issue is the Palestinian Arab people. Any solution that ignores them will fail.

Question: If Israel does withdraw from Golan, you will have to give a written undertaking to prevent freedom of fedayeen action in your country.

Answer: I repeat: We have nothing to do with these negotiations for peaceful solutions. We have not given and will never give an undertaking to anyone to check fedayeen action. Syria is the lungs of fedayeen action and it will remain so.

Question: How then will Syria unite with the UAR, which seeks peaceful solutions?

Answer: I see no contradiction. Any step toward unity serves Arab interests. Anyway, there is no peaceful solution, and the battle is in the interests of the people.

Question: What about after the battle?

Answer: A secular democratic state of Moslems, Jews, and Christians.

Question: The Fatah concept?

Answer: Exactly.

Question: Do you think the Russians and Americans are agreed on a solution, or are the Arab victims of their conflict?

Answer: I do not believe there can be agreement between the Russians and Americans on this Arab issue.

Question: It is said that increasing U.S. influence is the cause of certain changes in our region, including the Syrian regime.

Answer: The United States has no influence in Syria.

Question: What is the USSR's position on noncommunist revolutionary regimes? Does it really cooperate with these regimes against local communists?

Answer: The USSR befriends and does not interfere in the domestic affairs of friendly states. Each state is sovereign and independent. We have never felt that the USSR was interfering in our affairs.

Question: What about China? How much of a Chinese presence is there in Syria, ideologically, revolutionarily, and military?

Answer: There is absolutely no foreign presence in Syria. There is Syrian-Chinese friendship.

Question: Cut-and-dry?

Answer: No, irrigated with economic projects and aid.

Question: And arms?

Answer: Sometimes.

Question: If the USSR and China were to confront each other, which side would Syria take?

Answer: We do not interfere in family affairs.

Question: And Syria's relations with Iraq?

Answer: They are within normal limits.

#### ATH-THAWRAH SAYS WAR ONLY ANSWER TO ZIONIST AGGRESSION

Damascus MENA in Arabic to MENA Cairo 0835 GMT 21 Mar 71 M (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Damascus--The semiofficial newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says that war will be the only reply to imperialism and Zionism if the Israeli aggression against the Arabs continues.

In an editorial entitled "Unlimited Determination To Liberate the Occupied Territory," the newspaper asserts that the liberation of the occupied territory is a goal that cannot be relinquished, it adds that the attempts of imperialism and Zionism to continue the aggression cannot be met by either acquiescence or silence.

The paper emphasizes that the Arab people's resolve to achieve liberation has become an unshakable, firm attitude, and the only alternative to liberation is withdrawal by the aggressors.

#### CP CALLS FOR END TO MEASURES AGAINST SUDANESE COMMUNISTS

Damascus MENA in Arabic to MENA Cairo 0850 GMT 20 Mar 71 M (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Damascus--The Syrian Communist Party has described the recent developments in Sudan as disturbing. In a statement distributed here today, the party accused "responsible officials of interfering in purely internal matters of the Sudanese Communist Party." It added that a number of progressive forces and Arab communist parties have tried to deal with the matter in the right way.

The party called on progressive Arab forces to raise their voice in calling for the abolition of all the measures taken against the Sudanese Communist Party, for the release of its Secretary General 'Abd al-Khaliq Mahjub and his comrades, and for the creation of a favorable atmosphere for solving the dispute within the framework of "cooperation and alliance dictated by the battle to eliminate the consequences of the aggression and to secure Israel's withdrawal."



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

150 EAST 58th STREET, ROOM 1500  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022  
Tel: PLaza 2-4250, 1

*Recd 14 30  
28/5/71*

*Original sent  
to Mr. T. Gazarian*

*28/5/71*

S/19

May 28, 1971

Excellency,

Acting upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to state that despite repeated complaints and pleas to Your Excellency on Israeli unlawful behaviour in the Golan Heights since June 1967, the Israeli occupying authorities never desisted from continuing their systematic policy aiming at the colonization of Arab land with intensive settlement coupled with the demolition of Syrian towns and villages and the forcible eviction of the inhabitants.

Despite numerous resolutions condemning Israeli violations of international law and norms of civilized behaviour, the occupiers have persisted in their adventurist course. Following are some samples of their sinister behaviour:

1) The Israel Digest, American Edition, an official publication of the Israeli Government, in its issue of 30 April, 1971, reported the following:

BUILDING ALLOCATION  
FOR GOLAN HEIGHTS

"The Housing Ministry has allocated IL50m. (50m. Israeli Pounds) for building in the Golan Heights in 1971, the Ministry's Director-General, Mr. Yosef Sharon, announced recently. The new houses would fill the needs of the present population, and allow for a 20 to 30 per cent growth. Seven new settlements will be started and three existing ones expanded, while a village center is to be established."

2) In a special dispatch from Tel Aviv dated May 18, 1971 it is stated that,

"An auxiliary plant of Israel Aircraft Industries, which is owned by Israel's Defense Ministry, is being built on the Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the June 1967 war.

.../2

cc SG  
Mr. R. J. Bunche  
Mr. R. Gagarian

"This first construction by a military industry in an occupied territory was regarded by observers as a diplomatic signal of Israel's determination to keep the Golan Heights an integral part of Israel.

(Daily News, Wednesday, May 19, 1971)

- 3) On 11 March 1971, two Israeli bulldozers razed to the ground all houses north of the military hospital in the occupied city El-Kuneitra.
- 4) On the 16 February 1971, the Israeli occupying authorities bulldozed all new houses in El-Kuneitra city and pulled out the doors and windows of big buildings in that city including those of the military hospital of the Golan.
- 5) On 13 December 1970, they completely bulldozed the two villages of Ain Aisha and Jwezeh.
- 6) On 19 October 1970 they opened fire at 14:15 local time on shepherds living east of El-Kuneitra killing one of them. They then took away three hundred and twenty-four sheep and 81 goats.
- 7) In mid October 1970 the Syrian delegation to the Mixed Armistice Commission learned through the Red Cross that some students from the Syrian University were captured by the Israeli occupying authorities.

Following are their names:

- 1) Adnan Ibrahim Asaad Youssef Badran  
(Department of Arabic Language - Second year)
- 2) Hamdan Ali Mahmoud Isefan  
(Department of English - First year)
- 3) Naim Mohammed Rashid Farsat  
(Faculty of Law - First year)
- 4) Adnan Abdul Rahman Youssef Omar  
(Faculty of Business Administration - First year)
- 8) On the nights of 13 and 14 of August no less than 20 houses were demolished in the occupied village of El-Rafid.

9) On August 1, 1970 they destroyed a large number of low cost houses east of the El-Kuneitra City and forced the inhabitants to cross to Syria.

To conclude, I should like to draw Your Excellency's attention to the fact that Israeli destructive and repressive acts in the occupied territory of the Golan are not only in contradiction to Security Council resolution 237(1967) and scores of other U.N. resolutions but they constitute a grave violation of articles 49 and 53 of the Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilians in Time of War.

May I also request, Your Excellency, that the present letter be brought to the attention of both the Commission on Human Rights and of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories.

I shall be grateful if this letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

*Action  
taken*

*George J. Tomeh*

George J. Tomeh  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
NEW YORK



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

13/9/71

150 EAST 58th STREET, ROOM 1500  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022  
Tel: PLaza 2-4250,1

S/33

August 13, 1971

Excellency,

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the following:

The members of the United Nations have been informed through U.N. Press Release IB/2643 of 15 July 1971 that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development granted Israel a loan of \$30 million "to expand and improve the country's highway network" and "to provide additional capacity for its expansion." This news must be shocking not only to the three member States, Syria, the UAR and Jordan, parts of whose territories under Israeli occupation, exceed three times the area of Israel, but to every U.N. member who has a minimum of respect for the integrity of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies.

This is the second loan to Israel in a little over one year; for on June 4, 1970, under the pressure of the American President of the World Bank, Mr. McNamara, and in the face of the opposition of a large number of member States, Israel was given \$25 million which we protested in our letter to you of 5 June 1970 (A/7983. S/9823).

This loan becomes all the more shocking when contrasted against the very ugly record of Israel in the United Nations. To set the record clear, the number of resolutions on the Arab-Israeli Conflict and Palestine Question adopted by the General Assembly, the principal organs of the U.N. and Specialized Agencies - UNESCO and WHO - from the first cease-fire decision of 6 June 1967 up till now totals 53 resolutions and decisions. These resolutions and decisions have on the one hand, affirmed every Arab right and confirmed on the other,

.../2..

Israel's utter disregard of these rights and its deliberate ignoring of every principle of the Charter. A record which makes Israel a candidate to be expelled from the World Organization in accordance with Article 6 of the Charter. Specifically, of the 53 resolutions referred to above, 14 "Condemn" or "Strongly Condemn" or "Specifically Condemn Israel" for "flagrant violations" of the Charter including attacks on the Arab countries, its refusal to apply the Fourth Geneva Convention and its violations of human rights. Nineteen of those 53 resolutions either "Deplore" or "Deeply Deplore" or "Strongly Deplore" or Note with dismay the refusal of Israel" to co-operate in implementing specific resolutions or "urgently calls upon the Government of Israel." To give one instance, resolution 9(XXVII) of 15 March 1971 by the Commission of Human Rights stated inter alia

Strongly deplores Israel's policies in the occupied territories aimed at placing the population in a general state of repression, fear and deprivation, and particularly deplores:

- (a) requisition of hospitals and their transformation into police stations,
- (b) abrogation of the national laws and interference with the judicial system,
- (c) refusal to allow the textbooks approved by the Director-General of UNESCO for schools in the occupied territories, and the insistence on forcing upon school children an alien system of education;

Calls upon Israel once again to comply fully with its obligations under the Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war of 12 August 1949;

Again calls upon Israel to enable forthwith the refugees and displaced persons to return to their homes;

Once again calls upon Israel to heed and implement the many resolutions adopted by the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies for the safeguarding of human rights in the occupied territories;



Reaffirms that all measures taken by Israel to colonize the occupied territories, including occupied Jerusalem, are completely null and void;

One wonders whether the President of the World Bank, Mr. McNamara, a hero of the barbaric Vietnam War, as now proved by the Pentagon Papers, knows of Israel's record. It would therefore be advisable if Mr. McNamara could acquaint himself with only the four yearly reports of the Commissioner General of UNRWA from 1967 to 1970. In the legal section of those reports, he will find that Israel has driven old refugees from their camps, damaged agencies and staff property, caused death and injury of staff members, requisitioned hospitals and schools for military training and demolished to the ground refugees' buildings all of which constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The claims by UNRWA against Israel for losses and damage now standing, are well over one and a quarter million dollars.

Mr. McNamara might as well acquaint himself with two reports of the International Red Cross Committee published in the August and September issues of 1970, (No. 113 and 114) of the International Review of the Red Cross. The Sunday Times of London, on 11 October 1970, stated under the title Israel Guilty of Geneva Breach, Says Red Cross by Philip Knightley and Alan Macgregor,

The International Committee of the Red Cross in an outspoken report released last week accuses Israel of blowing up Arab towns, villages, camps, and houses in its occupied territories in defiance of the Geneva Conventions.

The report lists the following villages and camps which (according to the former inhabitants in interviews with ICRC delegates) have been destroyed: Yalou, Beit Nuba, and Imwas, in the Latroun area; Surif, Beit Awwa, Beit Mirsem, and Il Shuyoukh, in the Hebron Area; and Jiflik, Agarich, and Nuseirat-Jordan Valley.

Moreover, Israel with its majority population of European colons and settlers took by force more than two billion dollars worth of Arab Palestine property and real estate in 1948.

From then on, in addition to this source of illegally acquired and permanent assets billions of American dollars poured into it to consolidate the work of usurpation and advance the settlers to a super status, a status of privileged social, economic and technological development in relation to that of the region as a whole.

Surely Israel is being well rewarded for such criminal acts by loans from the World Bank "to expand and improve the country's highway network." This consolidation from the U.S. to Israel's expansionism and colonialism has continued unabated to the present time. The second loan by the World Bank is part of the same U.S. pattern. Even from 1967, after Israel's aggressive third War against the Arabs, America's assistance to Israel, including the most sophisticated armaments and tax deductible money has run by the billions in spite of the severe indictments of Israel by the United Nations and Specialized Agencies.

I shall be grateful if this letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council. I would specially be grateful if a copy of it is brought to the attention of the President of the World Bank.

action  
taken  
Copy to  
Mr. Inghart

*George J. Fouch*  
George J. Fouch  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y.



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

150 EAST 58th STREET, ROOM 1500  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022  
Tel: PLaza 2-4250,1

S/25

June 15, 1971

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit an envelope  
addressed to you from the Greek-Catholic Patriarch of  
Antioch, Alexandria and Jerusalem.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest  
consideration.

*George J. Tomeh*

George J. Tomeh  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
NEW YORK

*Thant*  
*17/6/71*

*done*  
*17/6/71*  
*B.*

*Mr. Guyon*  
*Brian*



Melkite-Greek Catholic Patriarchate  
of Antioch and all the East,  
of Alexandria and of Jerusalem

His Beatitude Patriarch  
Maximos V Hakim

P.O.B. 50076 - Beirut - Lebanon

His Excellency U Thant  
Secretary General U.N.  
New York

Dear U Thant,

May 27, 1971

On behalf of all the Christian Heads of Syria, I have the honour to enclose the document hereto annexed concerning Jerusalem and to request that your good offices take such measures, as may be possibly taken, to safeguard the city of Jerusalem against any changes that may affect its status as a holy centre for the three monotheistic religions particularly the Christian religion we represent.

Such measures as your Excellency may see fit to take to achieve this end will be highly appreciated by the Christian religious heads in Syria and the Middle East.

Yours truly,

Maximos V Hakim  
Patriarch of Antioch and all the East  
of Alexandria and of Jerusalem

## AN APPEAL TO CHRISTIAN CONSCIENCE

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The events which are currently taking place in the city of Jerusalem are so grave that their dimensions and implications go beyond the local aspect to the framework of which biased propaganda is trying to confine them. Spiritually and morally, however, they are of the level of human civilization, which they are seriously threatening with destruction, as they are threatening the creative power of man;

The process of expelling the Christian and Moslem inhabitants of the city, their physical liquidation and their replacement by Jews - this process, in addition to being tragic and brutal, exceeds the political and demographic aspects of the subject.

Palestine, and more specifically Jerusalem, was the cradle of civilization in its human and divine sides: Spirit was once incarnated in it and thereby gave its land a unique place in history.

For centuries the Jews, as a group, lived in this land with other communities and religious groups. There were centuries of peace and amity. Indeed, the Holy City was, and still is, the place in which the tradition of Abraham - the source of the three monotheistic religions - developed and from which it spread its light to the world. The civilization of the spirit thus replaced barbarism; man entered history and came to know the Lord of History.

What we are witnessing today represents a complete and radical distortion of the human and spiritual significance of civilization. For the goal of Zionism - implicitly or explicitly stated - is to destroy this human and spiritual heritage in merging it in a fanatical racist state. It claims that a haven is being founded for the Jews, but the whole world knows that this is being done at the expense of the Arabs. The farther goal of Zionism is even worse and much more serious: to uproot civilization. For Abraham was not a founder of a race or a state.

\* \* \*  
Real and true civilization emanated from a covenant, a genuine covenant between God and Abraham, in which this great prophet, called "the father of the believers", represented all believers. What is the tenor of this covenant? Surely it is the belief in the one God and his message of peace and love. The message was addressed to all men; and this made them all equal before God and the sons of the same Father.

What the world is witnessing today - knowingly or unknowingly - is an abrogation of this covenant, the covenant of truth and freedom... That proves decisively that Zionism, when its logic is carried to its very limits, has in it the seeds of a new barbarism, or to use more modern terminology, the seeds of an anti-revolution.

\* \* \*  
In its political aspects, the conflict is one concerning a land and a people, who have been uprooted and replaced by aliens. But the farther goal of Zionism is in fact to destroy a civilization which is the Civilization.

\* \* \*

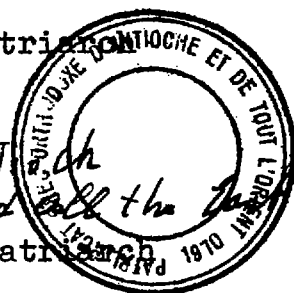
Therefore, We Patriarchs and Pastors of the Christian Communities have met at the Orthodox Patriarchate in Damascus. After revealing the true dimensions of the Palestine Conflict and its concealed aims, we address this appeal to human conscience - Christian and non-Christian alike, but Christian first, - to place it face-to-face with its historical responsibilities. The Christian, Moslem and Jewish communities, believers and unbelievers, are all equally concerned with the unfortunate consequences of Zionism. In short, it is the man as a man who is put in doubt.

We hope that our voice will break through the thick wall of zionist propaganda which is not allowing world conscience to see the truth and join with us, living witnesses of the tragedy, in defending a cause which is as universal as it is sacred.

Damascus, 10th May 1971.

Greek-Orthodox Patriarchate

*Elias IV*  
Patriarch of Antioch  
and all the East  
Syrian Orthodox Patriarch



Greek-Catholic Patriarchate

*+Maximos V Makarios*  
Patriarch of Antioch  
Alexandria and Jerusalem  
Syrian Catholic Archbishop

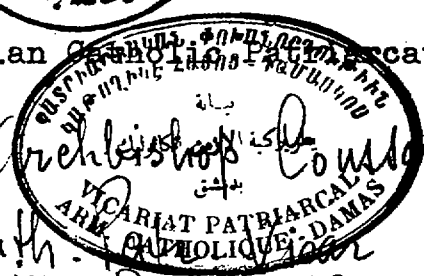


*Clement*  
Syrian Catholic Archbishop



Armenian Catholic Patriarchate

*Paul*  
Archbishop  
Arm. Cath.  
in Damascus  
Catholic Armenian Vicar



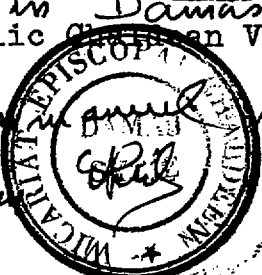
Maronite Patriarchate

*Paul Louis*  
vic.  
Damas

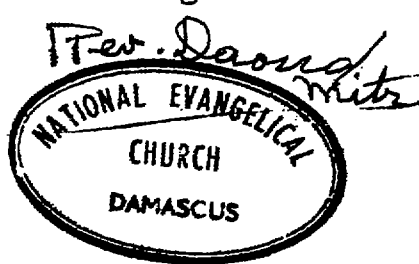
Latin Apostolic Vicar



*Rev. Emile*  
curé chedde  
AB-RAYES  
in Damascus



Protestant Evangelic Chruch



## APPEL A LA CONSCIENCE CHRETIENNE

---

Ce qui se passe actuellement à Jérusalem dépasse par ses dimensions et par sa signification l'aspect local que certains voudraient lui donner. Il est moralement et spirituellement au niveau de l'homme, puisqu'il l'atteint dans sa vitalité intime et dans sa force créatrice.

Le déplacement des populations, leur dispersion, voire même leur liquidation pure et simple qui atteint chrétiens et musulmans pour les remplacer par les Juifs, cela a, certes, un aspect dramatique dans son atrocité même; il dépasse les domaines démographique et politique.

La Palestine en général, Jérusalem en particulier, ont été le berceau d'où surgit un jour la civilisation dans son double aspect humain et supra-humain. C'est là en effet qu'un jour l'ESPRIT s'est incarné. C'est ce qui donne à cette Terre sa place unique dans l'histoire.

Les Juifs, en tant que communauté, ont vécu sur cette terre pendant des siècles, avec les autres communautés et confessions religieuses, dans une paix et un accord total. La ville sainte n'a jamais cessé d'être le lieu où le patrimoine abrahamique - source des trois religions monothéistes - a vécu et rayonné sur le monde, et a remplacé la barbarie par la civilisation de l'ESPRIT. Et c'est par là que l'homme, entrant dans l'histoire, a connu le Seigneur de l'histoire.

\* \* \*

Or que voyons-nous aujourd'hui? Un renversement radical et total. Le but - tantôt avoué, tantôt camouflé - du Sionisme, est la suppression de ce patrimoine et sa dissolution dans un Etat raciste et confessionnel. Il prétend instituer un foyer juif, mais - on le sait - c'est au détriment des Arabes. En outre, il y a là autre chose. C'est la source même de la civilisation humaine qui est liquidée. Abraham pour nous tous n'est pas le Père d'une race ni le créateur d'un Etat.

La civilisation vraie et authentique est née d'un pacte, véritable contrat entre Dieu et Abraham, dit Père des fidèles, en tant que représentant de l'humanité croyante. Or quelle est la vraie signification de ce pacte? N'est-ce pas la foi en un Dieu unique et en son message de paix et d'amour, adressé à tous les hommes, tous, de ce fait, égaux devant Dieu et fils d'un même Père.

\* \* \*

Nous, hommes de ce siècle, nous assistons consciemment et inconsciemment à l'abolition de ce pacte de liberté et de vérité... Cela ne voudrait-il pas signifier que le Sionisme, allant jusqu'au bout de sa logique, contient le germe d'une nouvelle barbarie, ou, pour employer un terme à la mode, d'une contre-révolution?

Certes, le combat se déroule autour d'un territoire. C'est là son aspect politique: on extermine un peuple pour le remplacer par un autre. Mais en vérité, on extermine une civilisation, qui est la Civilisation.

C'est bien là le but du Sionisme...

\* \* \*

En conséquence, Nous, Patriarches et Pasteurs responsables des communautés chrétiennes du Proche-Orient, réunis au Patriarcat Orthodoxe de Damas, après avoir révélé les vraies dimensions du combat palestinien, ainsi que ses buts secrets, nous voulons nous adresser à la conscience humaine, chrétienne et non-chrétienne, mais chrétienne d'abord, pour la mettre en face de ses responsabilités historiques.

Les effets néfastes atteignent aussi bien chrétiens que juifs et musulmans, qu'ils soient croyants ou non-croyants... En bref, c'est l'homme en tant qu'homme qui est mis en question.

Puisse notre voix ouvrir une brèche dans le mur épais de la propagande sioniste qui veut empêcher la conscience universelle de voir la vérité et de s'unir à nous, témoins vivants du drame, dans la défense d'une cause aussi universelle que sacrée.

Damas, le 10 Mai 1971

Patriarche Grec-Orthodoxe

Patriarche Grec-Catholique

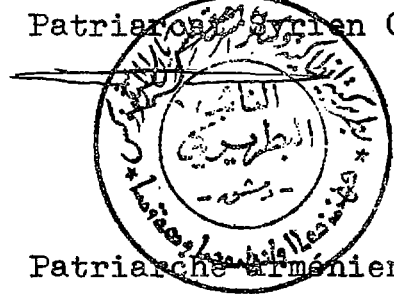
Elias IV

Maximos V

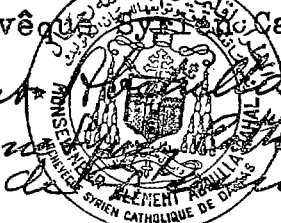
Patriarche d'Antioche et de tout l'Orient d'Alexandrie et de Jérusalem

Patriarche Syrien Orthodoxe

Archevêque Syrien Catholique



Clementine Rahal  
Archevêque Syrien Catholique de Damas



Patriarche Arménien

Patriarche Arménien Catholique



Paul Arch. Coustan  
Vicaire patr. arm. Cath. de Damas

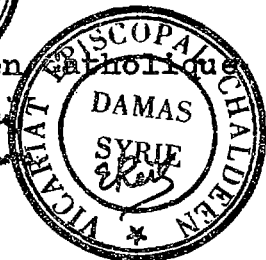
Patriarche Maronite

Vicariat Apostolique Latin

Père Louis Harfouch  
Vicaire apostolique Maronite de Damas

Vicariat Chaldéen Catholique

Père Emmanuel Reif  
Curé Chaldéen à Damas



Mgr. Gonaventure Akiki  
Administrateur Apostolique Latin en Syrie



Eglise Evangélique Protestante

David M. Fay



P A T R I A R C A T

GREC - MELKITE - CATHOLIQUE

D'ANTIOCHE ET DE TOUT L'ORIENT,

D'ALEXANDRIE ET DE JERUSALEM

الاسكندرية

His Exc. V. Thant  
Secretary General  
UNITED NATIONS

New - York

Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab  
Republic to the United Nations  
150 East 58th Street, Rm. 1500  
New York, N.Y. 10022

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

BY HAND