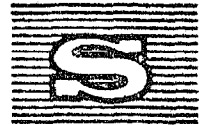


288718



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/10075*
9 January 1971

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 8 JANUARY 1971 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
OF JORDAN AND THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from our Governments, we regret to bring to Your Excellency's attention further Israeli violations and illegal measures to change the character and demographic composition of the Arab territories under Israeli military occupation since 5 June 1967.

The hasty construction for what is called "the master plan" of Jerusalem, which calls for an additional 200,000 Jewish people to be settled within five years in the occupied lands in and around Jerusalem, has brought new international cries against Israel's unilateral and illegal actions, as well as severe criticism for such plans. Such cries and criticism appeared in two articles: one by The Economist of 2 January 1971 and another by The Times of London on 21 December 1970. The editorial of The Times of 24 December 1970 under the heading "Jerusalem the Golden" is particularly relevant and important. We attach a copy of each.

The process of establishing Israeli settlements is not only limited to occupied Jerusalem and the area around it. In the rest of the occupied Bank of Jordan, the Gaza Strip, the occupied Syrian Heights and the Sinai, new settlements are being hastily constructed by the Israeli authorities with the intention of becoming "permanent Jewish villages".

This follows the undeclared official policy of the Israeli Government, as outlined in what is called the "Allon Plan", to absorb the occupied territories

* Also issued under the symbol A/8272.

by creating new "realities". The Israeli Defence Minister, Mr. Dayan, underlined this policy when he said, as quoted in Le Monde of 30 December 1970, "The best way to achieve this will be to populate the West Bank, the Golan Heights and the Sinai with Jewish people as rapidly as possible".

This explains some of the reasons behind Israel's boycotting and stalling Ambassador Jarring's Mission to implement his mandate under Security Council resolution 242 (1967). Israel and its leaders are clearly buying time to complete these plans of absorption. The same issue of Le Monde reports that "all Israeli maps printed since 1967 show Israel's boundaries as including the Sinai Desert, the Gaza Strip, the West Bank of Jordan and the Golan Heights".

The Israeli paper Ha'aritz of 4 March 1970 reported that: "Authoritative sources in the Israeli Government stated that 77,600,000 Israeli pounds were allocated this year for the maintenance of new settlements to be established this year in the occupied territories". The paper reported that since the six-day war until 1970, twenty-eight settlements were established and 87,800,000 Israeli pounds were spent for that purpose. The total amount would therefore be 165,400,000 Israeli pounds.

The Israeli paper Yadi-Out of 5 March 1969 reported: "It was learned that an additional 20,500,000 Israeli pounds will be spent by the Ministry of Agriculture in establishing new settlements in the occupied territories: two in the Golan Heights, two in the Jordan Valley and one in the area of Kfar Itzion".

A third Israeli paper, Ma'ariv of 10 March 1970, reported that 156 Jewish families are waiting to reside in the settlement to be established in Hebron.

The Israeli Government's far-reaching policy concerning Israeli settlements and enterprise in the Arab territories under its military occupation is clearly reflected in an article published in Time Magazine of 4 January 1971, of which we attach a photostatic copy.

The magazine reports one example as follows:

"Egged, Israel's biggest bus line, is now planning a 300-bed motel in Sinai at a cost of \$500,000. 'Why not?' asks an Egged spokesman. 'The Government has agreed to a forty-nine-year lease, and who's going anywhere anyway?'"

In view of these and other Israeli actions committed in continuing defiance of the United Nations Charter and resolutions, it has become imperative that the international community take the necessary steps to put an end to these continued

/...

violations, if indeed a just solution to the Middle East crisis is to be found by peaceful means.

We shall be grateful if this letter and the attached articles and editorial are circulated as official documents of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhammad H. EL-FARRA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
(Jordan)

(Signed) Mohammed H. EL-ZAYYAT
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
(United Arab Republic)

/...

THE TIMES OF LONDON, 24 DECEMBER 1970

JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN

Pilgrims who go to Bethlehen this Christmas will see a Church of the Nativity that has altered little over the centuries. Nor has the general outline of the town yet changed drastically, while it must be supposed that the Shepherds' Fields were as bleak and stony two thousand years ago as they are today. This physical consistency of the Holy Places is important. Much of the virtue of a pilgrimage lies in the pilgrims' consciousness that their acts are being repeated in the same manner and in the same setting that unbroken tradition has hallowed.

It would be rash to assume that these conditions are likely to survive much longer. The future of the Holy Places is of course bound up with the future of the land to which they belong, and although nobody would suggest that there is any threat to the fabric of the buildings themselves the setting in which the buildings lie is in flux. For most people the site and their setting are inextricably bound up with each other.

Many Israelis themselves are worried about what is happening in and around Jerusalem, and still more worried about what may happen in the future. It was in consequence of these anxieties that a conference of international architects and town-planners has just been held in Jerusalem, and already the criticisms heard there have borne fruit. The "master plan" which had been drawn up to provide for a population of nearly a million in the space of the next forty years is to be revised, though it will still extend the boundaries of Jerusalem to include the two Arab towns of Bethlehem, five miles to the south, and Ramallah, ten miles to the north, which is outside the area which the Israeli Government declared annexed after the June war.

Criticism at the conference was mainly on the grounds of aesthetics and good order. Non-specialists inevitably have other grounds for concern - namely that all Israeli plans, whether big or modest, make assumptions about Jerusalem which the rest of the world rejects. Their position was put clearly by the American representative at the Security Council, Mr. Charles Yost, when he said on 1 July 1969:

/...

"The expropriation or confiscation of land, the construction of housing on such land, the demolition or confiscation of buildings, including those having religious significance, and the application of Israeli law to occupied portions of the city are detrimental to our common interests in the city. The United States considers that the part of Jerusalem that came under the control of Israel in the June war, like the other areas occupied by Israel, is occupied territory and hence subject to the provisions of international law governing the rights and obligations of an occupying power."

On this occasion the Security Council went on to condemn unanimously and "in the strongest terms" all measures taken to change the status of the Arab areas of Jerusalem. This condemnation had no effect on Israeli policy or, rather, it had the effect of speeding up efforts to transform the area. This indeed is what is at the heart of the argument. On the one hand is the Israeli Government, which is mainly concerned to get as many Israelis as quickly as possible into the area, and on the other are those, like the Mayor of Jerusalem, Mr. Kollek, who are no less determined that the city shall remain for all time united and Israeli, but who would also like the future city to be worthy of its past and its reputation.

The effect of government haste on the appearance of the city is only too clear. The surrounding hills are having blocks of flats built on them, and Arab land is confiscated for the purpose. A pursuance of present policy would create a spreading modern town with a native quarter in the centre preserved for the benefit of tourists. But, equally, even the most high-minded proposals for the development of a much larger area must be based on the assumption that all is to pass finally and legally into Israeli hands, and that is something that the rest of the world has not accepted.

The Christian and Muslim worlds can acknowledge the special and passionate concern of Jewry and Israel over Jerusalem without sacrificing their own deep and abiding concern. At this moment the facts of war have left Israel in total possession, just as Britain was left in possession in 1917 and thus occupying what in mandatory language was called "a sacred trust of civilization". The final status of Jerusalem must be part of a general settlement, and may well prove to be the hardest part to negotiate. Such a settlement would not only have to give Israel the absolute territorial security to which she is entitled, but also the feeling of absolute identity with Zion which is so much of the inspiration of Zionism. But this would be a settlement for Jerusalem more likely to endure if it was in an international framework rather than a framework of sole ownership.

/...

Meanwhile, the city and its surroundings remain, as always, not simply a home for many people of many faiths, but also, particularly on festivals such as Christmas, a focus for the prayers and affections of many millions who think of it as a place uniquely beautiful as well as uniquely blessed.

THE TIMES OF LONDON, 21 DECEMBER 1970

WORLD ARCHITECTS ARE INVOLVED IN JERUSALEM PLANNING DISPUTES

From Eric Marsden

Tel Aviv, 20 December

Thirty-one leading architects, town planners and art experts, who opened a three-day conference here last night on the building of the new Jerusalem, found themselves plunged into controversies over the city.

These began two weeks ago when a forum called by the Council for the Beautification of Israel was told that international politics were bedevilling city planning.

Israel architects accused the Government of rushing Jewish settlements in former Jordan-held areas. Further criticism and warnings were given against skyscrapers and sprawling housing estates at a conference in Tel Aviv last week of the Congress of Architects and Engineers.

The present meeting in Jerusalem is of the town planning sub-committee of the World Advisory Council on the Jerusalem master plan set up last year by Mr. Teddy Kollek, the mayor, to advise on the city's restoration and beautification.

In an opening address last night, Mr. Kollek referred to criticisms made by the engineers and architects and asked for the town planners' advice.

Some was given by Professor Buckminster Fuller, of the United States, the inventor of the geodetic dome. He expressed concern at investments for profit by "remote speculators" which, he said, could undercut the idealism which made Jerusalem unique. Jerusalem was the centre of the world and all humanity was concerned in its development.

/...

Experts taking part include three Britons, Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, Sir Philip Hendy, advisor to the Israel Museum, and Mr. Denys Lasdun.

The meeting will discuss details of the master plan, which was drawn up in 1964 but revised after Israel occupied the old city in 1967. It charts Jerusalem's growth in carefully planned stages to 1985 and to 2010 without detriment to its historic and religious interests.

Since the American peace initiative in the summer the Israel Ministry of Housing has brought out new plans of its own which clash with those of the city's master planners.

They call for the speedy settlement of 50,000 people on empty, rocky ridges in the Nebi Samwel (tomb of Samuel) area. The planners fear this can only be done by putting tall blocks of flats on the hills from which the Crusaders first saw Jerusalem.

The city master plan provided for only between 4,000 and 8,000 settlers there, in two-storey houses and villas harmonizing with the hills' contours.

Jewish residents were the chief critics of the Ministry at the public forum. An architect claimed four-storey buildings would ruin Nebi Samwel's landscape and asked: "Will it be more Israeli if there are 50,000 living there instead of 5,000?"

The chairman of the Jerusalem branch of the council accused the Government of taking a hasty decision to expropriate the area and build massively to create Jewish presence. He gave a warning that it was bad politics to ignore the aesthetics of Jerusalem, which the British had gone to great lengths to preserve.

He said there were plans for eight-storey buildings which would look like cigarette packets and waffles.

The Ministry also intends to build in two other districts, commanding magnificent views of the city. One is on the old Government House hill, where the United Nations local headquarters now stand. Long-range developments will add 100,000 people to the three areas.

When the peace talks were proposed the Government disclosed that 3,000 acres of empty land had been expropriated, most of it in east Jerusalem, but the building plans were kept secret until recently. The mayor is worried by the Ministry move and has urged the Government to consider the implications of a major change in the master plan.

/...

He pointed out that the crowded city would have worse traffic problems and streets might have to be widened to cope with 15,000 extra cars. Mr. Kollek said the Ministry has agreed to investigate the cost involved and to consider the objections.

THE ECONOMIST, 2 JANUARY 1971

INTERNATIONAL REPORT

JERUSALEM

CONCRETE JUNGLE

At a three-day meeting just before Christmas, a world committee of architects, town planners and art experts roundly condemned Israel's master plan for "greater Jerusalem". The meeting had been convened by the mayor of Jerusalem, Mr. Teddy Kollek, who had his own doubts about the plan - particularly about the new road scheme - but clearly did not expect such sweeping criticism. If the plan were carried out, the foreign experts seemed to be saying, Jerusalem would become just as ugly and just as inconvenient to live in as most of the world's large cities have already become. The Italian expert poured particular scorn on Israel's efforts to reproduce the "picturesque".

The criticisms were all made on aesthetic, not political, grounds. The experts apparently swallowed the fact that the master plan takes in great chunks of the West Bank including both Bethlehem and Ramallah, and ends up with an area about eight times as big as the present municipality. Mr. Kollek has promised that the plan will be revised - but the revision will presumably cover the same area.

The plan is in any case being overtaken by the determination of the Israeli Government to stake its permanent claim to Arab Jerusalem. The Israelis have said that their withdrawal from Jerusalem is "not negotiable": their ministry of housing has set about turning this statement into concrete. Tall apartment buildings for Israeli Jews are already springing up on the hills beyond the Old City. Arab residents of Jerusalem see their part of the city being encircled by what could eventually turn out to be new Israeli suburbs.

The Israelis, to judge by the architectural mess they have made of their country, are fine roadbuilders but rotten architects. They work fast and, given a free hand, could quickly and irrevocably spoil the singular beauty of Jerusalem's landscape. The aesthetic opposition may induce them to create better buildings. It will not stop them building. Since early zionist days, the policy has been to create physical facts and Israeli Jerusalem is now in the process of creation.

TIME, 4 JANUARY 1971

ISRAEL

Settling in Along the Border

A telling anomaly of the 1967 Middle East war is that Israel, in spite of capturing vast stretches of Arab territory, actually ended up with a border 68 miles shorter than before the fighting. Reason: the present de facto lines are straighter. They are also much easier for Israel to defend. In any place negotiation, therefore, a crucial question will be how much of this occupied territory Israel will be willing to relinquish and how much it will insist on retaining to preserve border security. TIME Jerusalem Bureau Chief Marsh Clark made a three-day, 465-mile tour along Israel's eastern boundaries. He discovered "a frenzy of construction and settlement activity", which suggests that Israel is not about to surrender its occupied territory. His report:

My companion on the trip, an Israeli reserve officer, started by placing a 9-mm. pistol on the ledge under the dash of our Ford Cortina. His gesture seemed symbolic of the atmosphere along much of the border. We began at Mount Hermon, the snow-covered peak that cornerstones the border between Israel, Lebanon and Syria. There we spotted the first of the yellow bulldozers that are everywhere in the occupied territories, scraping and pushing, widening and straightening, lifting boulders or rearranging sand. It is said that Israel has more bulldozers per capita than any other nation; I can believe it.

/...

Beneath Mount Hermon, dozers are shaping a road along which Israel patrols can roll. The patrols keep an eye on "Fatahland", the corner of Lebanon from which the Arab guerrillas have launched destructive attacks on Israel.

From Mount Hermon, the border road winds down the Golan Heights. Until 1967, Syrian troops used the heights as an artillery platform against kibbutzim in the northern Galilee valley below. Now the heights are largely deserted. Kuneitra, which once had a population of 20,000, has only 300 today, most of them members of an Israeli kibbutz that operates a coffee shop selling apple strudel, beverages, and busts of Golda Meir, Moshe Dayan and David Ben-Gurion. Smaller Syrian villages are being bulldozed. "They had become a health hazard", explains an Israeli officer. "They provided refuge for stray dogs, cats and fedayeen." Some Golan fields still carry red-triangle signs denoting Syrian minefields. Others are lush with wheat and cotton grown by Israeli kibbutzniks who ride in tractors with armor plating on the side.

Dead Sea Life. The rolling Jordanian border south of the heights is still Israel's most vulnerable. For that reason, the government has established there a necklace of nahals, fortified camps manned by young Israelis who are equally able to farm or to fight. But where the Dead Sea provides natural protection, Israel is developing tourist attractions. In the vicinity of Masada, the legendary fortress of ancient Hebrew history, there are now three hotels with 228 rooms as well as two guest houses and three youth hostels. Another hotel, the Pan American Dead Sea (no kin to the airline), will be finished in thirty months at a cost of \$5 million. The Pan American will have 181 rooms and an indoor pool fed by therapeutic waters from the lowest spot on the face of the earth.

Nearly finished is the road that rolls along the sea from Jericho to Eilat, which before Israel renamed it in 1949 was an Arab police post known, deliciously, as Umm Rashrash. Eilat is already a thriving resort. New motels line its shore, and hippies occupy its beaches. But Eilat is strategically important too. The glass-bottom boats that take tourists out to marvel at the Gulf of Aqaba's coral formations rock in the swells of

/...

of supertankers bringing Persian Gulf oil into Eilat to be pipelined to the Mediterranean.

See the Battlefields. The biggest adventure of a border tour occurs along the 170-mile road from Eilat to Sharm el Sheikh at the confluence of the Gulf of Aqaba and the Red Sea. All but about fifty miles of the highway have been completed; the immense effort being expended cannot be for any other purpose than to keep a permanent Israeli presence on the western side of the Gulf of Aqaba. When the road is finished, Israeli tourists will speed in three hours through the pink and purple Sinai mountains that it took commandos in 1956 three days to cross.

At Sharm el Sheikh the beginnings of another tourist mecca are already in place. For \$14 a night one can get an air-conditioned room in an eighty-bed motel, watch movies and go scuba diving. Already along another road to Sharm el Sheikh through the Mitla Pass, holiday-makers from Tel Aviv can take a five-day "See the Sinai Battlefields" tour for \$98.60. Egged, Israel's biggest bus line, is now planning a 300-bed motel in Sinai at a cost of \$500,000. "Why not?" asks an Egged spokesman. "The government has agreed to a forty-nine-year lease, and who's going anywhere anyway?"
