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LETTER DATED 29 JULY 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose the text of an appeal made by the Minister of National Economy, Mr. Khaled Jumlat, and the Minister of Industry and Petroleum, Mr. Mohammad Youssef Beydoun, on behalf of the Government of Lebanon.

I have the honour to request that this appeal be distributed as a letter of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ghassan TUENI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

The siege of West Beirut, imposed by the Israeli forces a fortnight ago, is continuing despite all intensive diplomatic efforts and efforts by the International Committee of the Red Cross, the representatives of the United Nations and United Nations agencies.

Food and fuel supplies have not been allowed to enter West Beirut, with the exception of negligible quantities of bare necessities. The siege has dramatically affected the life of the civilian population and created conditions of hardship for innocent men, women and children, let alone conditions in hospitals, orphanages and schools.

Such inhuman acts by Israel constitute a flagrant violation of all international law and more particularly, the Geneva Conventions, as well as Security Council resolution 513 (1982).

On behalf of the men and women, of the children and of the aged, we ask all those who are in a position to help that they urgently exert their utmost influence to lift the siege and allow food supplies and basic necessities to enter West Beirut. The civilian population of West Beirut feels entitled not only to its basic human rights but also to a concerted universal effort to alleviate the suffering of the innocent.

West Beirut, besieged and surviving without water and electricity, cries for help and is grateful to all those who will prove by their support that the world will not tolerate a systematic starvation and destruction of its people.
