

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/15625*
28 February 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the meetings of the Security Council of 22 and 23 February 1983 (S/PV.2415-2418) convened in response to the letter addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of Libya (S/15615 of 19 February 1983).

In the course of the Council's deliberations on the issue under its consideration, no fewer than fourteen speakers saw fit to interject totally unwarranted and offensive references regarding my country and Government. The fact that the agenda item under discussion was entirely extraneous to the Israel-Arab conflict, and indeed had no connection whatsoever to the State of Israel, was not viewed by those speakers as an impediment to their long-standing tradition of directing all-encompassing and malicious invective at my country at all times and regardless of the merits of the issue.

Among the representatives who found it incumbent upon themselves to depart from the scheduled agenda, thereby detracting from the effective use of the Council's time and further contributing to the erosion of its status as a forum charged with the promotion of international peace and security, the statements of the representatives of Libya, Syria, Bulgaria and Jordan were particularly noteworthy for their noxious and irrelevant character. Indeed, in addition to his deliberate misrepresentation of both the letter and spirit of Security Council resolution 242 (1967), the representative of Jordan deemed it necessary to devote a significant portion of his maiden statement before the Council to the maligning of my country, apparently out of fear that he might otherwise be charged with having failed to contribute sufficiently to the effort to defame Israel.

These meetings of the Security Council have unfortunately highlighted, once again, three particularly important points:

* Reissued for technical reasons.

83-04499 0511v (E)

(a) Many Arab States are still gripped by an obsession with Israel so pervasive and relentless in character that they find it impossible to forego any opportunity whatsoever to interject wholly extraneous issues into international diplomatic discourse;

(b) Through constant repetition of their anti-Israel litany, those Arab States attempt to deflect attention from various conflicts dividing the Arab world;

(c) Certain other states continue to exploit Arab fixation with Israel and Arab manipulation of the United Nations agenda in order to prevent discussion of "inconvenient" issues. Thus, by way of example, the Soviet Union seeks to erect an iron curtain of silence around its brutal occupation of Afghanistan, Viet Nam leaps into debates in an attempt to hide its ruthless suppression of the people of Kampuchea, and Cuba strives to deflect attention from the activities of its mercenary forces in Africa by continuously spouting inflammatory rhetoric on a variety of pretexts.

This ongoing manipulation of the United Nations system and its subjugation to the cynical purposes of Arab States, the Soviet Union and its satellites, are largely responsible for the United Nations' growing disrepute in the international community, thus contributing significantly to the widespread sentiments regarding its increasing irrelevance to the issues of peace and security in our times.

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

(Signed) Yehuda Z. BLUM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations
