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LETTER DATED 20 OCTOBER 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I request a meeting of the Security Council to discuss the dangerous and explosive situation in the occupied Arab territories as a result of continuing Israeli repressive measures against the inhabitants of these territories.

As you recall, Mr. President, the Council had met last May upon the request of Egypt to discuss the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories. The majority of the Council members expressed their opinion, in a statement by the President of the Council (S/PV.1922), about these measures taken by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian inhabitants. In spite of that, the Israeli authorities continued in their repressive measures ignoring any resolution by the United Nations and in violation to the Geneva Conventions. To date curfews are still imposed on several Palestinian towns in the West Bank. Many people were arbitrarily arrested or severely beaten in recent weeks in the West Bank and Gaza by the occupying forces. Furthermore, the Israeli authorities are condoning the acts of desecration to the Holy Places in Al-Khalil by extremist Israeli elements. The Israeli Government, in defiance of all norms of international law and behaviour, is continuing in its policy to establish new Israeli settlements and consolidating the old ones in the occupied territories at the expense of the inhabitants and the legitimate owners of these lands. These acts demonstrate clearly once again the expansionist policy followed by Israel.

Such serious and grave actions by the Israeli occupying authorities must be discontinued immediately and Israel bears heavy responsibility for this explosive situation which impedes the realization of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. For these reasons, I therefore, request, Mr. President, a meeting of the Security Council to discuss this explosive and dangerous situation in the occupied Arab territories.

(Signed) A. Esmat Abdel MEGUID  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative