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LETTER DATED 24 DECEMBER 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a message dated
24 December 1980 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Chedli Klibi, Secretary-
General of the League of Arab States.

"Without a doubt, you share our deep concern for the fate of the two
Mayors of Al-Khalil and Halhoul, Messrs. Fahad Qawasmeh and Mohammed Milhelm,
who have resorted to a hunger strike as a means of publicizing their desire to
return to their homes and families and to resume their duties in Palestine.

"The Israeli authorities' refusal to abide by the international will as
expressed in the unanimous resolution adopted by the Security Council - the
highest authority in the United Nations - which demands the return of the two
Mayors, reaffirms once again Israel's disregard for international law, the
international organization, and all principles of human rights.

"This dangerous situation, which affects the lives of Messrs. Qawasmeh
and Milhelm, should move the international conscience. It is incumbent upon
all of us, individuals and States, to take the immediate initiative to
undertake all measures that will ensure the safe return of the two Palestinian
officials.

"We request that Your Excellency work immediately through the Security
Council, which is responsible for the maintenance of peace and security, to
take all necessary measures that would lead to the implementation of its
resolutions and the return of the two Palestinian nationalists, not only to
ensure their safety but also to ensure the dignity, the authority and
credibility of Security Council resolutions.

(Signed) Chedli KLIBI
Secretary-General
League of Arab States"

Kindly have it distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Taieb SLIM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative