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LETTER DATED 29 MARCH 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for this month, I have the honour to draw your attention to the increasing deterioration of the situation in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem (West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights). Since the beginning of this year, Israel has been intensifying a barbarous campaign of terrorism and repression against Palestinian and Syrian civilians in the areas and is continuing to do so. Within the framework of this vicious campaign, Israel has committed many acts, including the following:

I. The criminal assault, on 11 March 1983, on the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Holy Place which has been the target of Israeli acts of desecration and campaigns of destruction ever since it came under occupation in June 1967;

II. The forcible take-over of Arab and Palestinian land for the purpose of establishing new Jewish settlements and expanding existing ones, within the framework of Israel's large-scale settlement policy, with the aim of changing the demographic and geographical character of the occupied Arab territories, in violation of the provisions of international law, including the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations on this matter;

III. Israel's persistence in its plans for the achievement of full domination over the water resources and their exploitation for its settlement projects, thus depriving the Palestinian people in the occupied territories of their vital resources;

IV. Subjection of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Arab territories to a campaign of organized terror carried out by the Israeli occupation authorities, inasmuch as schoolchildren and the inhabitants generally have to endure outrageous practices, such as repression, terrorism, arrest, detention and beating without a semblance of legality, the imposition of total curfews on their towns and villages and their isolation from the outside world. Moreover, Israeli terrorism has reached the point of the implementation of schemes for the collective poisoning of students and inhabitants.

The Arab Group, expressing its deep concern over these policies of aggression and expansion in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, which have grave consequences that threaten international peace and security, calls upon the Security Council to assume its full responsibilities under the Charter.

In conclusion, I request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Riyadh AL-QAYSI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
Chairman of the Arab Group
