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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

Letter dated 2 February 1988 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of the Philippines concerning the unabated violence and violations of human rights in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories of the West Bank and Gaza (see annex).

It would be appreciated if the statement could be issued as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Question of Palestine" and "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Emmanuel PELAEZ
 Ambassador
 Acting Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Government of the Philippines

The Philippine Government deplores the unabated violence and violations of human rights in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories of the West Bank and Gaza.

The Philippine Government urges Israel to abide by Security Council resolutions 605 (1987), 607 (1988) and 608 (1988) to safeguard the rights of the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The Philippine Government reiterates the view that the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War is applicable to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem. The Philippine Government supports the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization and the five permanent members of the Security Council, under the auspices of the United Nations.
