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Identical letters dated 14 March 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to alert you of the firing of two rockets from the Gaza Strip into Tel Aviv this evening.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad, two Iranian-backed Palestinian terror organizations, possess the type of rocket fired into Tel Aviv – the Iranian-made Fajr 5 and its local Palestinian replica, the M-75, with a range of 75 km. The terrorists that fired these high explosive rockets into Israel's most populated civilian area did so while hiding behind Palestinian civilians in Gaza and exploiting them as human shields. Such an act constitutes a double war crime.

While the details of this attack continue to emerge and be analysed by the Israel Defense Forces, it is clear that Hamas, the internationally recognized terrorist organization and de facto authority in Gaza, is directly responsible for this act of terror.

Israel will take any and all necessary actions to protect itself and its citizens from the unrelenting Palestinian terrorism we face. No terrorist organization will be immune. Any other nation facing this daily onslaught of terror attacks would not hesitate to act on behalf of the safety and security of its people. Israel must not be held to a different standard.

I call on the Security Council to condemn this terror attack unequivocally. Such attacks are clear threats to the stability and security of our region, and the Security Council must regard Hamas, the organization responsible for them, as a terrorist organization.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Danny **Danon**Ambassador
Permanent Representative



