

UNITED NATIONS



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

A/34/110

S/13149

7 March 1979

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thirty-fourth session

Item 25 of the preliminary list*

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL

Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 7 March 1979 from the Permanent Representative of
Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the following documents, which I kindly request Your Excellency to circulate as a document of the General Assembly, under item 25 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council:

1. Map showing the Israeli settlements on the West Bank as at 31 December 1978 (annex I);

2. Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank of Jordan, 1967-1979 (annex II);

3. Letter dated 12 December 1978 from the Chairman of the Islamic Commission in Jerusalem to the Prime Minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan concerning the Mosque of Hebron (Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi Ash-Sharif) (annex III);

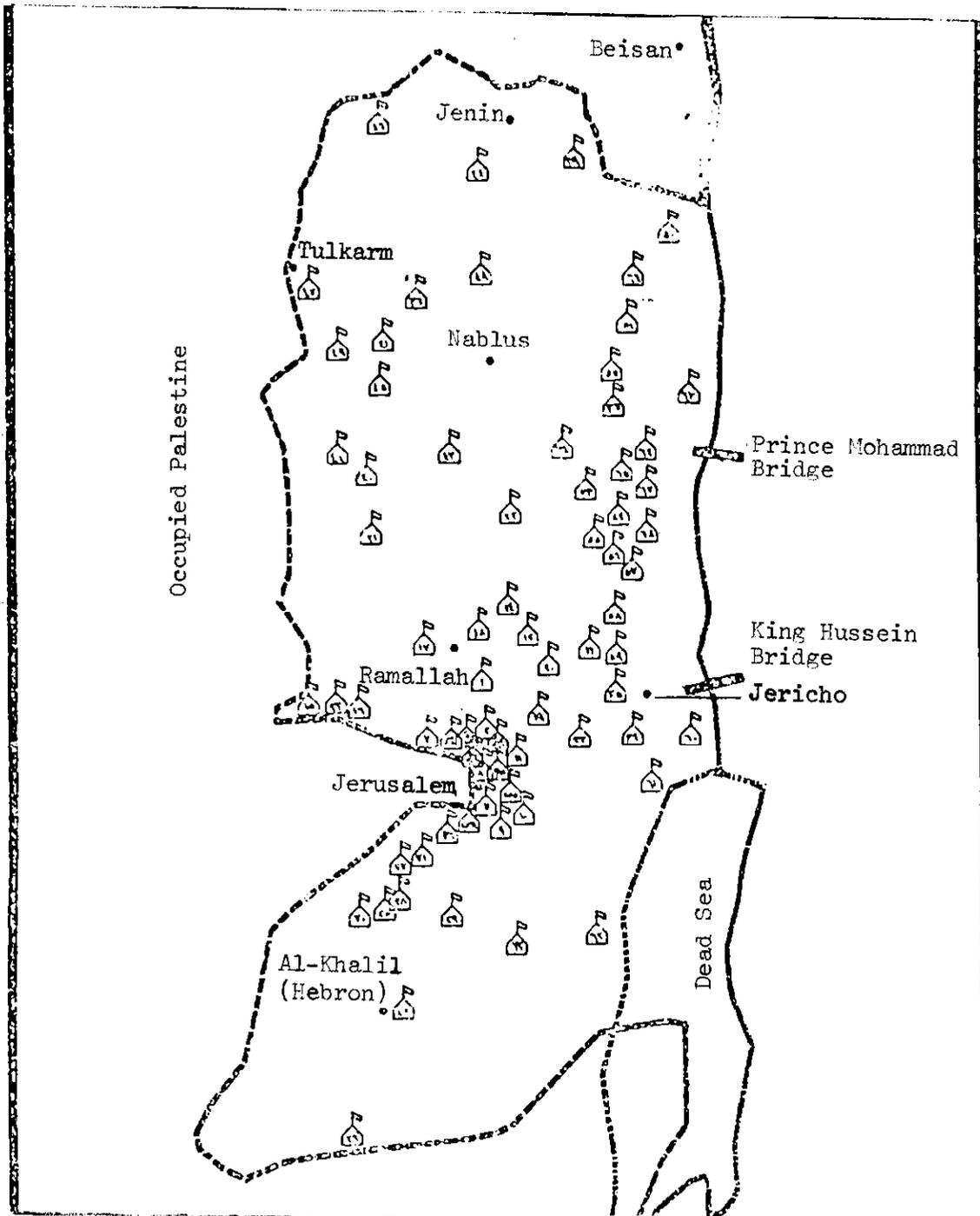
4. Letter from Mr. Mustafa I. Elayan of Decatur, Alabama, to His Excellency Mr. Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America (annex IV).

(Signed) Hazem NUSEIBEH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/34/50.

ANNEX I

Israeli settlements on the West Bank as at 31 December 1978



LEGEND

Area of Jerusalem and environs

1. Atrot
2. Neve Ya'acov
3. Ramot-Neve Samu'el
- 4 (a). Ramat Eshkol
- 4 (b). Mahalat Devna
- 4 (c). Sanhedria
- 4 (d). Givat Hamivtar
- 5 (a). French Hill
- 5 (b). Hebrew University
- 6 (a). Gilo Sharafat
- 6 (b). Har Gilo
7. East Talpiot
8. Jewish Quarter
9. Nevo Horon Dalet
10. Kfar Ruth
11. Tel Anatot

Area of Ramallah and El-Beireh

12. Nevo Shiloh
13. Kochav Hashanar
14. Ofra
15. Nevo Horon
16. Canada Park
17. Ramonim
18. Beit El
19. Giv'on
20. Shayelet
21. Neve Zuv (Nabi Saleh)
22. Shiloh
23. Beit Horon

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Area of Al-Khalil (Hebron), Bethlehem and Jericho

24. Qiryat Arba
25. Kfar Etzion
26. Miami
27. Rosh Tzurim
28. Alon Shvot
29. Miqdal Oz
30. Efrat
31. Elazar
32. Tekoah
33. Ma'ale Adomin (Al-Sahl El-Ahmar)
34. Al Dhahiriya-Zohar
35. Mitzpe Jericho

Area of Nablus, Tulkarm and Jenin

36. Shomron
37. Mekhora
38. Gitit
39. Malki Shua
40. Haris
41. Qaddum-Elon Moreh
42. Mes'ha Pe'erim
43. Tapuah
44. Dotan-Sanur
45. Qarnev Shomron
46. Reihan
47. Sal'it-Kufr Sur
48. Natal Ma'ale (Silat El Dhahr)
49. Tsur Nathan Bet

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Jordan Valley area

50. Mehola
51. Dak'ot
52. Hamra
53. Ma'ale Ephraim
54. Phatza'el
55. Tomer
56. Gilgal
57. Netiv Hagdud
58. Efrat
59. Yitav
60. Almog
61. Kalia
62. Mitzpe Shalem
63. Argaman
64. Massuam
65. New Massuam
66. Nahal Ro'I
67. Mivsom
68. Phatza'el B

ANNEX II

Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank of Jordan,
1967-1979

A. Jerusalem area

1. Atrot was established in 1970 near Jerusalem Airport. Ten thousand dunums of land, owned by the Arab residents of Beit Hanina Village near a pre-1948 Jewish settlement, were confiscated.
2. Neve Ya'akov (Nabi Ya'akob) was founded in 1973 north-east of Jerusalem. Ten thousand dunums of land were confiscated from the Arab residents of Beit Hanina, near a pre-1948 Jewish settlement.
3. Ramot was founded in 1973 north-west of Jerusalem, near Nabi Samwil. Thirty thousand dunums of land were confiscated from the Arab residents of Beit Ikse village and 100 Arab homes were demolished.
4. Ramat Eskhkol was founded in 1968 north of Jerusalem. Six hundred dunums of Arab land were entirely expropriated.
5. French Hill was founded in 1969 on the northern side of Jerusalem along the Jerusalem-Ramallah road. Fifteen thousand dunums of Palestinian Arab land were expropriated. Some of the land was owned by a Catholic convent and a small number of Jews, who owned a few dunums before 1948.
6. Nahalat Defna was founded to the north of Jerusalem. Two hundred and seventy dunums of land, owned by a number of Arab families, including Waqf of Aminah Al-Khaledi and Aref el-Aref, were expropriated.
7. Gilo Sharafat (Gilo) was founded in 1973 south of Jerusalem. Four thousand dunums of land, owned by Palestinian residents of Jerusalem, Beit Jala, Beit Safafa and Sharafat, were expropriated.
8. East Talpiot (Talpiot) was founded in 1973 on the east side of Jerusalem, south of Jabal Al-Mukabber, where the United Nations headquarters was situated. Twenty thousand dunums of Arab land, owned by residents of Jerusalem, Sur Bahir, Sheikh Sa'd and including the United Nations enclave, were expropriated.
9. Jewish Quarter (Old City Jerusalem), is located between the Western Wall of the Aqsa Mosque and the Latin Convent. Construction began in 1967, when 160 Arab houses were demolished and 600 Arab homes were expropriated. By 1977, 6,500 Arab residents were evacuated and Islamic and private Arab Awqaf, private Arab and Jewish land was expropriated.

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10. Hebrew University is located on the north side of Jerusalem. Construction began in 1969 on Mt. Scopus, including expansion of the pre-1948 old university campus and hospital, but additional land was also expropriated.

11. Sanhedria Extension is located on the north-east side of Jerusalem. A former demilitarized zone, it was entirely expropriated and expansion began in 1973.

B. Settlements in the area of Ramallah and El Beireh

12. Shiloh, located east of the Nablus-Ramallah road, was founded in 1976 on 15,000 dunums of expropriated Arab land. An additional 80 to 90 dunums were closed off, almond trees were cut down and Arab villagers were denied their water wells. It adjoins Turmus Ayya, Qaryut, Abu-Elfalah and El-Maghireh.

13. Kochav Hashahar was founded in 1975 on land owned by Arab residents of Deir Jarir and Kufur Malik. Four thousand dunums were expropriated. Water is supplied from Ain Samia, Ramallah's sole water source.

14. Ofra (Ba'Al Hatzor) was founded in 1975 east of Ramallah on the road to Jericho. One hundred dunums were expropriated from Arab residents of Ain Yabrud and 250 dunums from Silwad.

15. Mevo Horon was founded in 1969 in the Latrun area. Sixteen thousand dunums were expropriated, including land from Yalu, Imwas and Beit Nuva, villages destroyed by the Israeli army after the June 1967 war.

16. Beit Horon, founded in December 1977, is mid-way on the Ramallah-Latrun road, near Tira. The initial takeover was 150 dunums of Arab land.

17. Mevo Horon Dalet (Matatyahu) was founded in September 1977 in the Latrun area, three kilometres from the armistice line. It covers an area of the demilitarized zone, where the Arab village of Midya was located prior to 1948.

18. Kfar Ruth (Mevo Horon Gimmel or Be'er Tal) was founded in September 1977 in the Latrun area, one kilometre south-east of Shayelet settlement in the demilitarized zone, the site of Midya village, where there are several thousands of dunums of irrigated lands.

19. Givat Hamivtar was founded on the north side of Jerusalem. All 350 housing units were completed in mid-1975 and occupied. The land area was entirely expropriated.

20. Canad Park officially opened in 1976 in the Latrun area on the Latrun Ramallah road. It comprises 4,200 dunums of Arab land, including 1,500 dunums from the three destroyed villages.

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21. Ramonim was founded in 1977 north-east of Taybeh and Rammun villages and north of the Ramallah-Jericho road. Three hundred dunums of land were expropriated from Taybeh village residents.

22. Beit El was founded in 1977 north of Ramallah on the road to Nablus. It is on 35 dunums of land, but eventually will be expanded to over 250 dunums of expropriated Arab land, for which preparations began in June 1978.

23. Giv'on was founded in December 1977 north-west of Jerusalem near el-Jib village, an ex-Jordanian military base. Some land was purchased by Jews, but most of the 5,000 dunums needed will be expropriated from el-Jib village.

24. Shayelet (Mevo Hori'im) was founded in September 1977 in the Latrun area, a partly demilitarized zone (1948-1967), where the Arab village of Midya was located before 1948.

25. Neve Zuf (Nabi Saleh) was founded in November 1977 north-west of Ramallah near Beir Nidham. Four hundred dunums were closed off, including 100 dunums of wheat fields and almond trees of Nabi Saleh villagers.

C. Settlements in the Jordan Valley and other areas

26. Mehola was founded in February 1963 as the first Israeli settlement in the valley at the north end of the West Bank. Three thousand dunums of land were expropriated from Bardala and Ain el-Beida villages. The water supply of the villages was depleted by wells of the Mehola settlement.

27. Argaman, founded in November 1968 near the end of the Damya-Nablus road, covers 5,000 dunums of expropriated Arab agricultural land, including 1,000 dunums from Marj al-Na'ja and five water wells from absentee Arab owners.

28. Massuah was founded in 1970 on 3,000 dunums of expropriated Arab land owned by Al-Ajajra and Jiftlik residents. It is supplied with water from the wells of the Arab village of Bal-Naqab near Damya Bridge.

29. New Massuah, founded in 1976 just south of the Nablus-Damya road, covers 800 dunums of expropriated Arab land from Al-Ajajra and Jiftlik villages.

30. Phatza'El B (Hotzorim or Yegith), founded in 1977 just south of the settlement of Massuah, covers 1,500 dunums of expropriated Arab land.

31. Phatza'El, founded in 1970 at the end of the south-west road from Agraba, covers 3,000 dunums of land from the Arab village of Fasayil. Three water wells were dug, which pump 600 cubic metres per hour.

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32. Tomer was founded in 1976 just south of the Phatza'El settlement. The amount of Arab land expropriated is still unknown, since construction is still going on.

33. Gilgal, founded in January 1970 just south of Tomer settlement, covers 3,300 dunums of Arab land. The plan is to pump water from the Jordan River.

34. Netiv Hagdud was founded in 1976-1977 south of Gilgal. The amount of Arab land seized is unknown, since it is still under construction.

35. Mivsom (Na'aran) was founded in 1977 near the Arab village of Awja. The area of land expropriated is unknown, but it was seized from the village residents of Awja.

36. Yitav, founded in December 1970 west of Al-Awja village, covers 2,000 dunums of Arab land from Al-Awja, including that of absentee owners. It is supplied by water from Ain Al-Awja and from two wells near Ain Al-Awja.

37. Almog was founded in January 1977 north-west of the Dead Sea. The amount of land seized is unknown, but the settlement's water supply is drawn by a 12-inch pipeline from a well near Aqbat Jaber, a refugee camp in Jericho.

38. Kalia was founded in February 1968 north-west of the Dead Sea near site of a pre-1948 Jewish settlement and Jordan army camp. The water supply is from Wadi Keit west of Jericho.

39. Mitzpe Shalem was founded in December 1970 on the west shore of the Dead Sea. The land seized is over 50 dunums.

D. Israeli settlements on the hills overlooking Jordan Valley

40. Malki Shua, founded in January 1976 at the north end of the West Bank is a military settlement with an access road leading to the city of Baisan in Israel proper.

41. Ro'I, founded in 1974 and inhabited in March 1976 is south of Mehola settlement. It covers 2,500 dunums of land seized from the Arab residents of Tubas, who cultivated it with wheat.

42. Beqa'Ot, founded in July 1972 south of Ro'I settlement, covers 5,000 dunums of Tamun village. The land was closed off.

43. Hamra, founded in May 1971 on the Nablus-Damyra road in lush valley farm land, covers land seized from Bal al-Nagab village. Valley land near Damyra Bridge includes 450 dunums of absentee owners' groves.

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44. Mekhora, founded in March 1973 south of Hamra settlement, covers 4,000 dunums of land seized from Bal al-Nagab, Beit Dajan and Beit Furik villages. The water supply includes one well and two reservoirs.

45. Gitit, founded in August 1972 south of Mekhora and near the East-West Aqraba valley road, covers 5,000 dunums of land, which was sprayed with defoliants in early 1972. The land was closed off and seized from Aqraba village.

46. Ma'ale Ephraim, founded in July 1972 on the east-west Aqraba valley road, covers 200 dunums of Arab land.

47. Nevo Shiloh (Givat Aduma), founded in November 1976 south of Ma'ale Ephraim settlement, covers 1,300 dunums seized from the residents of Turmus Ayya, Abu-Fallah and Al-Mughayyir villages. Five cisterns were closed to Palestinian shepherds.

48. Mishor Adomin (Ma'ale Adomin), founded in November 1974, dominates the Jericho-Jerusalem road. In October 1972, the Israeli army closed off 70,000 dunums. In addition, 700 dunums were taken from the Arab villages of Abu dis, Umaryya and Issawyya, 10,000 dunums from Silwan, and 300 dunums from Silwad and Anota.

49. Mizpeh Jericho, founded in early 1978 east of the settlement Mishor Adomin overlooking Jericho, covers land expropriated from the previously mentioned villages.

50. Reihan (Mei'ami Bet) was founded in 1977 north-west of Jenin, three kilometres across the armistice line. The public land seized is unknown, but plans are under way to transform it into an Israeli Kibbutz by 1978-1979.

51. Dotan (Sanur), founded in October 1977 along the Nablus-Jenin road in the Sanur valley, covers lands of a pre-1967 Jordanian police station near Sanur village.

52. Natal Ma'ale, founded in January 1978 east of the Nablus-Jenin road, covers 550 dunums of land confiscated from the village of Silat Al-Dhahar, including 25 olive trees.

53. Shomron was founded in October 1977 on the Nablus-Jenin road. There were 100 dunums of Arab land.

54. Sal'it (Tsur Nathan Bet) was founded in August 1977 south-east of Tulkarm. One thousand dunums of land were confiscated from the Kufr Sur village; half of the land was privately owned (cultivated) and half was common land for grazing.

55. Elon Moreh (Qaddum) was founded in December 1975 near the Nablus-Qalqilya road. Three hundred dunums were taken from the Arabs of Kufr Qaddum village.

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56. Qarney-Shomron, founded in October 1977 on the south side of the Nablus-Qalqilya road, near Jinsafut village, covers 150 dunums taken from the villages of Jinsafut, Hajja and Kufr Laqif.

57. El Qana (Mes'ha, Pe'erim) was founded in April 1977 south-east of Qalqilya. Ten dunums formed the site of a former Jordan police station, and 300 dunums were taken from Mes'ha village.

58. Tapuah (Bareget) was founded in January 1978 along the Nablus-Ramallah road 13 kilometres south of Nablus. One hundred and fifty dunums were taken from Arab villagers of Yasuf.

59. Haris was founded in February 1978 two kilometres west of the Nablus-Ramallah road, near the junction with Salfit. Three hundred dunums were expropriated for the military camp and 500 dunums of pasturage were closed off from the villages of Kufr Haris, Harda and Salfit.

60. Har Gilo, founded in 1976 in the village area of Beit Jala, covers 400 dunums of grapevines and fruit trees expropriated from Beit Jala residents in June 1976. Further expropriation was threatened in 1978.

61. Efrat, founded in 1978 on the road south of Bethlehem, covers 7,000 dunums of expropriated land, most of which was cultivated.

62. Takoah, founded in June 1975 south-east of Bethlehem near Hebron, covers 3,000 dunums expropriated from Rafidya village.

63. Elazar, founded in October 1975 south of Bethlehem, covers 350 dunums of vineyards expropriated from Hadar village in 1973.

64. Rosh Tzurim founded in July 1969, covers an area of 3,000 dunums, including the site of a pre-1948 settlement (Bir Tzurim) plus expropriated land from the village of Nahalin.

65. Alon Shvot, founded in July 1969, covers 1,200 dunums expropriated in 1969.

66. Kfar Etzion, founded in September 1967, was the first settlement on the West Bank. It was the site, from 1943 to 1948, of a Jewish settlement and cultivated land (vineyards).

67. Miqdal Oz, founded in 1977 to the west of Hebron, covers the site of 1,000 to 2,000 dunums taken from residents of Beit Umar village. It was closed as a military area, and 600 plum and almond trees were uprooted in December 1977.

68. Qiryat Arba, founded in 1970, covers 4,250 dunums, of which 1,500 were expropriated from Hebron and Halhul.

69. Yattir. Plans are under way to build, as part of the establishment of a string of Israeli settlements in the foothills areas to the south of Hebron.

70. Zohar - unknown.

71. Sailat Dhahr, founded in 1978, covers 550 dunums of land expropriated from Arab village residents of Sailat Dhahr on the Nablus-Jenin road.

72. Anatot, founded late in 1978, covers 3,000 dunums of land expropriated from residents of Anata village around Jerusalem.

73. Ya'afu Horom was founded in 1978 near the Arab village of Yatta west of Hebron.

74. Tretseh. Plans are under way to establish it on the Nablus-Damya road. The Government approved it at the end of 1978.

75. Jericho. Plans are under way to establish it in the Jericho area. The Government approved it at the end of 1978.

76. Zif, founded in 1978 south of Hebron, is still under construction.

77. Nuweimeh was founded early in 1979 near Jericho.

78. New Kfar Etzion, on the road between Bethlehem and Hebron, was founded in 1979.

79. Huwara, a few miles to the east of Nablus, was founded in 1979. Six hundred settlers already live there.

ANNEX III

Letter dated 12 December 1978 from the Chairman of the
Islamic Commission in Jerusalem to the Prime Minister
of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan concerning the Mosque
of Hebron (Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi Ash-Sharif)

The subject is Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi. This Mosque is considered one of the most sacred sites of the Islamic world. In its history of 14 centuries as an Islamic Mosque it was never for one day a Jewish synagogue, nor were the Jews allowed entrance to it during all these centuries.

What has become of it now is the result of Israeli practices since the occupation in 1967. In spite of protestation and complaints, Al-Haram Ash-Sharif had been transformed into a synagogue by all means. Every day the settlers of Qiryat Arba in Hebron, and with them large numbers of Israelis, commit new aggression and foul practices in all parts of the Mosque. They molest people coming to pray and pronounce foul language at the recitations of the Qura'an and at the teachers during classes. They molest the guards and prevent them from performing their duties. They deny us Al-Azan (the call for prayer) with no consideration in regard to the feelings of Muslims in their prayers. They storm the gates and the walls of Al-Haram day and night. All this takes place with the encouragement and protection of the occupation forces and their superiors.

After every incident of aggression, a meeting of protestation is held with the Military Governor of Hebron by the Sharia Judge and with him the Mayor of Hebron, the Director of Awqaf and the guardian of Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi. Also the Council of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in Jerusalem filed numerous protestations and complaints with the Military Governor. The Islamic Commission issued many statements explaining to public opinion, inside and outside, the new sad situation of the transformation of Al-Haram Ash-Sharif by the authorities into a Jewish synagogue by all means.

Following the violent events in Al-Haram Ash-Sharif in October 1976, along with the desecration of the Holy Qura'ans, the institution of curfews in the City of Hebron, the prevention of Muslims from entering Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, which fell into the hands of the authorities and the settlers, it was discovered, after the seige had been lifted, that the Israelis had desecrated the contents of the Mosque and burned the office of its guardian. A Committee to carry out an inventory of the contents was formed, headed by the Sharia Justice of Hebron and the membership of the Director of Awqaf in Hebron, representing the municipality of the city and other Awqaf officials.

The Committee began its work under the supervision of the Chairman of the Awqaf Council and Islamic Affairs, Sheikh Hilmi Al-Muhtaseb, and the Director-General of Awqaf in Jerusalem, Mr. Hassan Tahboub. It started the inventory on

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3 January and ended on 8 March 1977. It discovered that priceless articles had disappeared sometime after the Muslims were denied entrance to Al-Haram Ash-Sharif and during the curfew, which lasted 17 days.

The Committee reported to the Chairman of the Awqaf Council concerning the missing articles, who in turn wrote to the Military Governor on 28 June 1977 with a list of the missing articles. The Chairman requested that the articles be returned, but the Military Governor never replied. Again, the Chairman wrote on 24 September 1977 to the Military Governor and, despite the frequent requests for an answer concerning the persons responsible for the missing articles, no reply was forthcoming from the Governor, except unfulfilled promises that the matter was still under investigation. This indicates an attempt on the part of the authorities to relieve itself of any responsibility and to bring the case to an end without results.

Over a period of two months, an intensified campaign was begun by the Israeli settlers, under the protection of the occupation troops in Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi, to create a situation by which they would complete transformation of the Sacred Mosque into a synagogue and prevent the Muslims even from praying on time, especially on Saturdays. They brought chairs, tables and articles of worship into the main court of the Mosque (in addition, they brought and set up in all parts of the Mosque, including the sanctuary of Ibrahim, Ya'qub and Yusof and the main court, the Jewish prayer books and Torah Cabinets). This, in addition to the desecration of the building itself and the removal of some of the centuries-old marble decorating the pillars, thus removing its Islamic character. Add to this the firing of bullets by the soldiers in an attempt to terrorize the Muslim guards and servants of the Mosque, one of whom was wounded in the foot.

The leaders of the Islamic Awqaf in Hebron repeatedly protested to the Military Governor, who hinted to them that every time these Israelis take some action in Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, they are creating a new fact. This, in fact, is a robbery of rights and an attempt to change the situation, by which the Mosque would be transformed into a synagogue.

The Chairman of the Council of Awqaf sent a letter to the Minister of Defence explaining the latest desecration of the Mosque and requesting an end to it. This was on 22 October 1978. The desecration did not stop, but in fact increased. Again the Chairman of the Council wrote to the Minister of Defence on 19 November 1978 explaining to him the worsening of the situation day after day. A copy of the letter was sent to the Military Governor-General of the West Bank. Also the Mayor of Hebron wrote a similar complaint to the Minister of Defence deploring the events taking place in Al-Haram, reaffirming the complaints by the Chairman of the Awqaf Council and demanding an end to these practices and provocations.

The situation in Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi, this great Islamic Mosque, is becoming unbearable. We have not spared any possible means available to us to stop the desecration. Therefore we put this matter into your hands to take what measures

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Your Excellency sees fit to present it to the highest of international forums, the Security Council and the Commission on Human Rights. We beg you to give the situation its deserved attention and publicity by news media and other means as you see fit. We assure you that Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi is on its way to being lost and transformed into a synagogue before the eyes and ears of the world.

The Lord be our Witness as we have informed.

Chairman of the Islamic Commission

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ANNEX IV

Letter dated 21 February 1979 from Mr. Mustafa I. Elayan
of Decatur, Alabama, to the President of the United
States of America

We the undersigned find ourselves directly appealing to your good sense of judgement and belief in human rights after all our appeals to the office of the Secretary of State for almost a year have been met with practically no action. In summary our case is as follows:

We have a dwelling Beit Safafa, Jerusalem, Israel, which is surrounded by a small piece of land no bigger than four to five acres. Our mother, in her seventies, and a brother with his five young children and wife reside in it. It belongs to all of us. Now the Israeli authorities are in the process of confiscating a part of it and, later on, all of it to make a playground for Jewish kids, even though other vacant land stands empty near by. We have explained our case in detail with letters as well as maps, including copies of letter from our lawyers in J'lem, to Mr. Jock Covey, United States Department of State, room 6247, who contacted us months ago, but so far has neither answered nor acknowledged our existence. Our plea for help in the plight of our family and the threat to their existence seems to fall on deaf ears. It is quite evident that all this gospel-like talk about human rights is actually hollow and empty. Yet, when a Russian Jew squeaks, all members of Congress, all the mass media, all the TV networks and their affiliates join hands and practically trip over one another to take up the cause. Amazing indeed! However, when United States citizens like us, who happen to be of Palestinian origin, call attention to Israeli injustice and persecution as well as threats to our mother and brother in Israel, we are told the United States Government cannot interfere in the internal affairs of Israel. What about confiscated land? What about our kin? Are they of no account in your sense of justice because they are Arab?

Mr. President, we are sorry, even if we had millions to contribute in the campaign of the select few in the Congress or Senate, we will not do so because we are God-fearing. We know without a shred of doubt that there is going to be a day of judgement and every soul shall account for what it does and says. All we ask for is that you help us with justice because you are our leader. You and you alone carry this unique platform of human rights. Its execution rests with you and your staff. There shouldn't be any fear of its execution when it is based on the principles of justice and righteousness.

Throughout history, the Almighty came to the aid of the oppressed. The history of the Jewish people is a good example. We have no doubt that the Palestinian people will have their day, God willing.

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The reason Israel continues to flout the laws of humanity, confiscate the land, and oppress the Arab people is mainly because the United States offers it billions of dollars in aid each year. Instead of gratitude, Israel, for reasons of its own, shows arrogance almost always. It is quite clear the Jewish lobby has so much influence in Washington that to speak up against Israeli policies becomes tantamount to the fear of God. In fact, Israel is feared more than God, so it would seem.

Mr. President, we appeal with all our hearts to that which is within your heart - love and compassion to fellow human beings, to help our mother and brother in Beit Safafa, Jerusalem, in the hope that your action might in the future build the hope of the oppressed for a better tomorrow.

(Signed) Mustafa I. ELAYAN
