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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Agenda items 38, 40 and 78
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 8 November 1994 from the Permanent Representative of
Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter addressed to you by the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations dated 7 November 1994 concerning the measures that have been taken by the Israeli authorities to divide Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi in the city of Al-Khalil in the occupied Palestinian territory, and in my capacity as the Chairman of the Group of Arab States, I would like to affirm the Group's position on that issue.

Al-Khalil and all its religious shrines are part of the territories occupied by Israel in 1967. Therefore, Israel, as the occupying Power, has to respect its legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 12 August 1949. Consequently, it should avoid any attempt to change the status of the occupied territories and, accordingly, Israel should not limit the access of Palestinians to their holy places.

Moreover, Israel should avoid any actions that may reflect negatively on the ongoing peace process or hinder the full implementation of the Declaration of Principles signed on 13 September 1993 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel.

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I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 38, 40 and 78, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nabil ELARABY
Permanent Representative
