

“Telegram from Mr Yasser Arafat to Arab Kings and Presidents”. *al-Dustūr* (Amman), 21 October 1969.

Last week the Lebanese army besieged one of our combat units, while said unit was carrying out combat duties against the Zionist enemy in the north of Palestine. The siege continues to this day. The Lebanese army used heavy artillery to attack our revolutionaries, killing six and injuring eight, as well as injuring eight Lebanese civilians from the village of Majdal Shams, which was also shelled by the Lebanese army.

This dangerous sign indicates the beginning of the implementation of the American imperialist plan to backstab and attempt to liquidate the Palestinian revolution. This plan is part of Zionist colonialist manoeuvres in the Arab region designed to pave the way for imposing surrender on our Arab Nation.

In the name of the Palestinian people and their leading revolution, we present these facts to you, knowing that you understand their grave consequences for Lebanon and the entire Arab region. The Palestinian revolution affirms its commitment to its right to move and work freely on Arab lands, without interfering in the internal affairs of any Arab country. The Palestinian revolution will not hesitate to defend itself should its existence, safety and continuity be endangered.

The executive committee of the PLO presents you with these facts, and declares that we will not bear responsibility for any deterioration of the situation. We hope you will fulfil the duties attendant to your historic responsibility.

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