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MESSAGE DATED 17 SEPTEMBER 1948 ADDRESSED BY RALPH BUNCHE,  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF SECRETARY-GENERAL, TO MR. M. SHERTOK,  
FOREIGN MINISTER OF ISRAEL, CONCERNING ASSASSINATION  
OF UNITED NATIONS MEDIATOR

"MURDER IN COLD BLOOD OF COUNT BERNADOTTE UNATIONS MEDIATOR PALESTINE  
AND OF COLONEL SEROT IN KATAMON QUARTER OF JERUSALEM TODAY BY JEWISH  
ASSAILANTS IS OUTRAGE AGAINST INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND UNSPEAKABLE  
VIOLATION ELEMENTARY MORALITY. THIS TRAGIC ACT OCCURRED WHEN COUNT BERNADOTTE  
ACTING UNDER AUTHORITY OF UNITED NATIONS WAS ON OFFICIAL TOUR OF DUTY IN  
JERUSALEM AND IN PRESENCE OF LIAISON OFFICER ASSIGNED TO HIM BY THE JEWISH  
AUTHORITIES HIS SAFETY THEREFORE AND THAT OF HIS LIEUTENANTS UNDER THE  
ORDINARY RULES LAW AND ORDER WAS A RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT  
ISRAEL WHOSE ARMED FORCES AND REPRESENTATIVES CONTROL AND ADMINISTER THE A  
THIS ACT CONSTITUTES A BREACH OF THE TRUCE OF UTMOST GRAVITY FOR WHICH  
PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ISRAEL MUST ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY

IN THIS CONNECTION I FEEL OBLIGED TO RECORD VIEW THAT PREJUDICIAL AND  
UNFOUNDED STATEMENTS CONCERNING TRUCE SUPERVISION ATTRIBUTED TO YOU AND  
COLONEL YADIN AS HAVING BEEN MADE AT YOUR PRESS CONFERENCE IN TEL AVIV  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER SIXTEEN AND AS REPORTED IN PALESTINE POST SEPTEMBER 17  
ARE NOT THE KIND OF STATEMENTS WHICH WOULD BE CALCULATED DISCOURAGE  
REPREHENSIBLE ACTS THIS KIND"

SEP 28 1948