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Login Name Souleymane Soukouna



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Meeting with families of kidnapped IDF soldiers

On Tuesday afternoon the Secretary-General is scheduled to meet with the relatives of Israeli soldiers kidnapped by Hezbollah forces in the Cheeba Farms last year.

I spoke to the Secretary-General about the media aspects of this meeting more than ten days ago and he said a decision would have to be taken closer to the actual meeting date due to the sensitive nature of subject.

I would recommend that a standard photo-op be organized for the meeting and that the meeting be placed on the Secretary-General's public schedule. Any attempt on our side to hide this meeting would backfire since the family members will, no doubt, speak to reporters afterwards.

Do you agree?

Fred Eckhard 26 April 2001

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הנציג הקבוע של ישראל לאומות המאוחדות

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20 March 2001

Excellency,

I wish to thank you for your letter and for the useful information concerning the attack against IDF personnel on 7 October 2000 contained therein.

I also wish to thank you for your reference to the issue of the abducted Israeli soldiers, which is an issue of utmost importance to us. As you may know, I already requested a meeting between the Secretary-General and the parents of the missing soldiers and received a positive reply in principle. Unfortunately, due to the fact that their previous visit coincided with the Doha Summit, such a meeting never took place.

The parents intend again to visit New York and wish to meet with the Secretary-General. I would be grateful for your assistance in this regard.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my higher consideration.

Yehuda Lancry

John di

Permanent Representative

H.E. Jean-Marie Guehenno Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations The United Nations New York

