



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 14 November 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention to the following information.

I refer to Security Council press statement SC/11626 of 31 October 2014, in which the members of the Security Council expressed concern at shelling and aerial bombardment, including the use of barrel bombs, which were reportedly dropped on a displaced persons camp in Idlib governorate on 29 October 2014. I wish to make the following points:

1. There are no displaced persons camps in Idlib governorate apart from those on the Syrian-Turkish border or in Turkish territory.
2. The Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey have an agreement that warplanes and helicopters shall not come within five kilometres of the border.
3. The Turkish authorities state that a Syrian helicopter was recently shot down for coming within the allowable distance from the border.

On the basis of those points, we can state that no warplane or helicopter has dropped barrel bombs or any other weapon on displaced persons camps. All of the camps on the Syrian-Turkish border are in areas that the Syrian air force cannot reach under the aforementioned agreement and that are beyond the range of Syrian land weapons. The Syrian Government has never targeted its own people in the camps and will never do so. Instead, it urges them to return to the motherland.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

