

Sept. 18, 2009.

The Editor,

The Halifax Herald.

Dear Editor:

Mr. Mark David {letter, Sept. 17} questions the illegality of Israel building Jewish settlements on occupied Palestinian territory. Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention[12 Aug. 1949], to which Israel is a signatory, states: " The Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies." International law determines that violation of any article of the Fourth Geneva convention is a war crime.

It is time that Israel's apologists should call on Israel to comply with international law so that peace and security will be assured for Israelis and Palestinians in this tortured Holy Land.

Yours sincerely,

Ismail Zayid, MD.