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GRS 307
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FM FCO 151730Z DEC 81
TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1939 OF 16 DECEMBER
INFO CAIRO, TEL AVIV.

GOLAN HEIGHTS

1. THE US EMBASSY HERE HAVE PASSED US MATERIAL ILLUSTRATING THE STRENGTH OF US FEELINGS ABOUT THIS SURPRISE ISRAELI DECISION. THEY AND WE ARE LIKELY TO BE FACED WITH A DIFFICULT DECISION OVER ARAB CALLS FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IT WILL NOT BE EASY TO VOTE AGAINST OR EVEN ABSTAIN ON MEASURES AGAINST ISRAEL IN THE CONTEXT OF AN ISRAELI ACTION WHICH HAS CAST GRAVE DOUBT ON THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.
2. YOU SHOULD SPEAK TO THE ADMINISTRATION AT A SUITABLY HIGH LEVEL AND SAY THAT WE SUPPORT THE STRONG US REACTION TO ISRAEL'S DECISION TO ANNEX GOLAN. THE AMERICANS WILL HAVE SEEN THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE TEN ON 15 DECEMBER. WE ARE MAKING OUR CONCERN KNOWN TO THE ISRAELIS BUT WE HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE THEM IS VERY LIMITED. ALTHOUGH IT IS UNLIKELY THAT EVEN THE AMERICANS CAN NOW REVERSE WHAT THE ISRAELIS HAVE DONE WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL DO THEIR UTMOST TO PREVENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISRAELI DECISION AND IF POSSIBLE SECURE ANNULMENT OF THE KNESSET LAW. IF IT APPEARS IMPOSSIBLE WE HOPE THAT THE AMERICANS WILL AT LEAST BE PREPARED TO DEMONSTRATE IN A PRACTICAL WAY THAT THE ISRAELIS CANNOT ACT AS THEY HAVE WITH IMPUNITY.
3. WE APPRECIATE THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE US/ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP AND THE DIFFICULTY FOR THE AMERICANS OF TAKING ANY ACTION WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS JEOPARDISING ISRAEL'S SECURITY. BUT YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE THE POINT THAT WHEN THE ARAB (JORDANIAN, QATARI, ALGERIAN AND SYRIAN) AMBASSADORS CALLED ON ME THIS MORNING THE MODERATES AMONG THEM STRESSED THE VERY DIFFICULT POSITION IN WHICH THEIR GOVERNMENTS

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WOULD BE PLACED IF THE US MADE NO CONCRETE RESPONSE TO THIS
LATEST ISRAELI MOVE.

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