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DESKBY 161430Z
FM FCO 161130Z DECEMBER 81
TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 886 OF 16 DECEMBER 1981
INFO AMMAN, DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV, WASHINGTON, CAIRO, BEIRUT, JEDDA.

YOUR TELNOS 1564-1567: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND GOLAN HEIGHTS.

1. I ACCEPT THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION IN YOUR TELNO 1567 IS STORING UP TROUBLE FOR A SECOND ROUND. YOU SHOULD SEEK THE SUBSTITUTION OF QUOTE CONSIDER TAKING UNQUOTE FOR QUOTE TAKE UNQUOTE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 AND SUGGEST A LONGER PERIOD THAN ONE WEEK. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ISRAELI STEP AND MY WISH TO SEND THE RIGHT POLITICAL SIGNAL TO THE ISRAELIS AND TO THE ARABS MY VIEW AT THIS STAGE IS THAT YOU SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOUR OF THE RESOLUTION EVEN IF THESE CHANGES ARE NOT ACCEPTED, ASSUMING THAT YOU WILL NOT BE ALONE IN THE WESTERN GROUP IN DOING SO. YOU SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOUR EVEN IF THE AMERICANS VOTE AGAINST. WHETHER OR NOT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TEXT ARE ACCEPTED, YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE THAT WE DO NOT REGARD OURSELVES AS COMMITTED BY THE TERMS OF THE RESOLUTION TO PARTICULAR FORMS OF ACTION BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT A LATER STAGE.

2. I AGREE THAT YOU SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOUR OF BOTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS ON GOLAN (IE THAT IN YOUR TELNO 1565 AND THE PREVIOUS RESOLUTION UNDER THE ISRAELI PRACTICES ITEM). YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN YOUR VOTE ON THE LATTER AS YOU SUGGEST, MAKING CLEAR THAT OUR CONCERN OVER ISRAEL'S DECISION HAS OVERRIDDEN DOUBTS WE HAVE ON SOME ELEMENTS IN THE DRAFT, NOTABLY OPERATIVE

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PARAGRAPH 4.

3. YOU SHOULD VOTE AGAINST THE OMNIBUS RESOLUTION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, WHICH CONTAINS A NUMBER OF UNACCEPTABLE ELEMENTS.

4. IN ALL THE ABOVE CASES, YOU SHOULD SEEK MAXIMUM COMPANY FROM THE NINE AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES.

5. PLEASE SEEK AN EARLY VIEW FROM THE ADMINISTRATION ABOUT HOW THEY INTEND TO PLAY THIS HAND NOW THAT SYRIAN TACTICS HAVE GIVEN US MORE TIME THAN WE EXPECTED BEFORE BEING FACED WITH A SANCTIONS RESOLUTION. DO THEY SEE ANY POSSIBILITY OF PERSUADING THE ISRAELIS TO MODIFY THEIR POSITION?

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