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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 202337Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 509 OF 20 APRIL 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE TEL AVIV, WASHINGTON, AMMAN,

INFO PRIORITY BEIRUT, CG JERUSALEM, DAMASCUS, CAIRO, JEDDA, RABAT,

INFO SAVING PARIS, ALL OTHER ARAB POSTS, UKDEL UNESCO PARIS.

MIPT: SECURITY COUNCIL: DOME OF THE ROCK.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MY EXPLANATION OF VOTE:

MR PRESIDENT

MY GOVERNMENT, LIKE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THE DREADFUL CRIME COMMITTED AT THE DOME OF THE ROCK ON 11 APRIL. WE ARE GREATLY SADDENED BY THE INJURIES AND LOSS OF LIFE WHICH OCCURRED AND WISH TO EXTEND OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO ALL THOSE WHO WERE INJURED OR BEREAVED.

ALL OF US IN THE COUNCIL RECOGNISE AND ARE DEEPLY CONSCIOUS OF THE GREAT DEPTH OF FEELING WHICH ATTACHES TO ALL MATTERS CONCERNING THE HOLY PLACES IN JERUSALEM. THIS FEELING HAS FOUND EXPRESSION IN MANY OF THE STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE DEBATE. WE GREATLY REGRET THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE COUNCIL TO HAVE REACHED

THE HOLY PLACES IN JERUSALEM. THIS FEELING HAS FOUND EXPRESSION IN MANY OF THE STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE DEBATE. WE GREATLY REGRET THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE COUNCIL TO HAVE REACHED^{IN} CONSENSUS ON A DRAFT RESOLUTION AND IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES I THINK THAT WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES WHETHER IN THIS CASE THE INTERESTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WERE BEST SERVED BY HAVING A RESOLUTION AT ALL.

MY GOVERNMENT VOTED IN FAVOUR OF THE RESOLUTION BECAUSE WE WISHED TO ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH THE CONDEMNATION OF THE ACT OF SACRILEGE WHICH OCCURRED. WE DID SO HOWEVER ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE RESOLUTION CANNOT PREJUDGE THE FACTS OF THE INCIDENT WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS UNDER INVESTIGATION. WE TAKE FULL NOTE IN THIS CONTEXT OF THE CLEAR STATEMENT BY THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAVE PROMPTLY AND VIGOROUSLY CONDEMNED THE CRIME AND THAT THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND JEWISH PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD SHARE THE SENSE OF REVULSION AT THE DESPICABLE ACT.

I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE MY GOVERNMENT'S FIRM VIEW THAT THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION OF 12 AUGUST 1949 IS APPLICABLE TO ALL THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL SINCE 1967, INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM. WE HAVE FREQUENTLY MADE CLEAR OUR CONDEMNATION OF ISRAELI PRACTICES BOTH IN EAST JERUSALEM AND OTHER OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, BUT AT THE SAME TIME WE RECOGNISE THAT THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES HAVE IN GENERAL FULFILLED THEIR OBLIGATIONS ON ACCESS TO THE HOLY PLACES.

MORE WIDELY, I SHOULD LIKE TO REITERATE MY GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION, EXPRESSED IN THE VENICE DECLARATION OF 13 JUNE 1980, OF THE SPECIAL IMPORTANCE OF THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM FOR ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED. MY GOVERNMENT ADHERES TO THE POSITION SET OUT IN THAT DECLARATION THAT IT WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY UNILATERAL INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF JERUSALEM AND THAT ANY AGREEMENT ON THE CITY'S STATUS SHOULD GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF ACCESS FOR EVERYONE TO THE HOLY PLACES.

FCO PASS SAVING TO PARIS, UKDEL UNESCO PARIS, ABU DHABI, ADEN, ALGIERS, BAGHDAD, BAHRAIN, DOHA, DUBAI, KHARTOUM, KUWAIT, MUSCAT, SANAA, TRIPOLI AND TUNIS.

PARSONS

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