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FOR NEWS DEPARTMENT

1. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE EVENING OF 17 MAY:

AS YOU KNOW, SIR ANTHONY PARSONS RETURNED FROM LONDON THIS MORNING AND IMMEDIATELY INFORMED ME OF THE BRITISH POSITION AS DEFINED DURING THE INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS HE HAD WITH HIS GOVERNMENT OVER THE WEEKEND.

THIS AFTERNOON I CONVEYED TO VICE MINISTER ROS THE INFORMATION I HAD RECEIVED.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT UNTIL I HEAR FROM THE PARTIES I HAVE NOTHING TO ADD EXCEPT THAT I AM MORE THAN EVER CONVINCED THAT TIME IS NOT ON THE SIDE OF PEACE. THEREFORE EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION WILL BE PURSUED WITH VIGOUR. THE NEXT FEW DAYS WILL BE DECISIVE.

PARSONS

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