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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fifth session
Items 24 and 57 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 14 March 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement issued by the official spokesman of the Cabinet of the Arab Republic of Egypt on the decision of the Israeli Cabinet to confiscate Arab land in Jerusalem.

I kindly request that this letter and the text of the statement be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 24 and 57 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. Esmat ABDEL MEGUID
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/35/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued by the official spokesman of the
Cabinet of the Arab Republic of Egypt

The Egyptian Government has received, with profound dismay, news of the recent Israeli Cabinet's decision to confiscate Arab land in East Jerusalem. The decision reaffirms the Israeli Government's continued disregard for international law and the relevant binding international conventions. The Israeli Government's decision, moreover, creates serious obstacles which impede the faithful implementation of the Camp David Accords, under which Israel is committed to honour the rights of the Palestinian people.

The Egyptian Government strongly condemns such measures and considers them null and void. In this regard, the Egyptian Government stresses the special importance it attaches to the resolution of the question of Jerusalem so as to preserve the legal, historical and spiritual rights of all Arabs and Moslems in the Holy City in order to create conditions for coexistence among the adherents of the three monolithic faiths.

Furthermore, the Egyptian Government reaffirms that it will not permit the manouvres and actions of the Israeli Government to obstruct Egyptian endeavours - endorsed by world public opinion - to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. The Israeli Government's decision contravenes its international obligations and constitutes

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a flagrant defiance of the will of the international community, as expressed by the recent resolution, unanimously adopted, by the Security Council which deplored Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem. Peace should primarily be based on the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people on their territory and in their homeland. The Camp David Accord envisaged enabling the Palestinian people - after a transitional period during which they shall have the right to self-government - to exercise their right to self-determination without any form of pressure or external interference.

The official spokesman concluded his statement by urging Israel to honour its obligations and to cooperate in establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the interest of all the peoples in the region.
