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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 28 June 1979 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that on 18 June 1979 the nine member countries of the European Community issued at Paris the following declaration on the situation in the Middle East:

"The Nine have examined the situation in the Middle East.

"1. They recall, in accordance with their prior declarations, in particular those of 29 June 1977 and 26 March 1979, that a just and lasting peace can be established only on the basis of an over-all settlement, which should be founded on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and on:

the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territories by force;

the need for Israel to end the occupation of territory it has held since the 1967 conflict;

respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries.

recognition of the fact that, in the establishment of a just and lasting peace, the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, including their right to a homeland, will have to be taken into consideration.

"2. The Nine deplore any action or declaration that might constitute an obstacle to the quest for peace. In particular, they consider that certain positions adopted by the Israeli Government and certain declarations it

* A/34/50.

has made are of such a nature as to represent an obstacle to the search for such an over-all settlement. This is particularly the case for:

Israel's claim of ultimate sovereignty over the occupied territories, a claim incompatible with resolution 242 (1967) which lays down the principle that the acquisition of territories by force is inadmissible;

the policy pursued by the Israeli Government of establishing settlements in the occupied territories, a policy that is illegal under international law.

"3. With regard to Lebanon, they support its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. They deplore any act which endangers the safety of the population and obstructs the restoration of the Lebanese Government's authority over its territory as a whole and the southern part of the country in particular. The Nine are gravely concerned over the difficulties encountered by UNIFIL, to which some of the member countries of the Nine belong, in the execution of its mandate, and they appeal to all parties to respect the decisions of the Security Council.

"Such are the observations which the Nine consider it necessary to make at this time. They reserve the right to revert to all these questions at a later date."

I should be grateful if you would issue this letter as an official document of the the General Assembly, under item 25 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Philippe HUSSON
Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of France
at the United Nations