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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 9 June 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the urgent instructions of my Government, I have the honour to communicate to you the official reaction and attitude of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Israeli military aggression against the nuclear reactor in Iraq on 7 June 1981.

Egypt views with the gravest concern the aggressive action committed by Israel by its strike against the Iraqi nuclear reactor in Baghdad and considers it a highly serious act which will lead to further escalation in a potentially explosive situation in the Middle East.

Strongly condemning this irresponsible act of aggression, Egypt deems it totally in contradiction of the peace process and the responsibilities incumbent upon all States to help create an appropriate atmosphere conducive to the establishment of confidence and bona fides.

This serious act totally contradicts the spirit which prevailed at the last meeting in Sharm El-Sheikh between President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin. Egypt agreed to convene such a meeting only as a manifestation of its consistent efforts to consolidate peace and stability in the region.

Egypt is deeply convinced that the military aggression committed by Israel against Iraq, wholly unwarranted and unjustifiable, will undoubtedly have a negative outcome for the stability and security of the region, diminishing any short-sighted military gain sought by Israel through this act of aggression. Such an act will lead to a considerable escalation and deterioration of the fragile situation in the Middle East.

* A/36/50.

A/36/314
S/14513
English
Page 2

Egypt, persistently working for peace in the region, cannot fail to condemn and denounce in the strongest possible terms this aggressive behaviour on the part of the Government of Israel and to express its deep regret for such an act which contradicts all international conventions and treaties as well as the peace efforts in the region.

I request you kindly to circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. Esmat ABDEL MEGUID
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
