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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The International Committee of the Red Cross has communicated to the President of the Security Council the text of the following statement dated 5 October 1978:

"LEBANON - APPEAL FOR TRUCE

"The delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Lebanon launched on 4 October 1978 an appeal to the parties concerned to conclude a truce for the evacuation of the wounded in the eastern part of Beirut. The ICRC and the Lebanese Red Cross are finding it increasingly difficult to go to the relief of the combat victims. The ICRC emergency dispensary in the Ashrafieh district - which has already taken in dozens of wounded since the end of September - could not be reached with fresh supplies of medicaments and food on 4 October because of the intense gunfire.

"Another matter of concern for the ICRC and the Lebanese Red Cross is the situation of tens of thousands of East Beirut inhabitants who have fled to the mountains. A credit of 500,000 Swiss francs has been opened to enable the ICRC delegation to make local purchases of goods in aid of these refugees.

"In Geneva, the ICRC is taking steps to reinforce its delegation in Lebanon, which at present is composed of a dozen delegates and about thirty Lebanese employees. It intends to dispatch at short notice a dozen more delegates, doctors and nurses. In addition, an appeal is in preparation asking donors (mainly Governments and National Red Cross Societies) to come forward with more funds.

"This appeal will be launched as soon as cessation of the very severe fighting will allow an estimate to be made of the number of wounded, homeless and displaced persons."
