



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/14796
16 December 1981
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 16 DECEMBER 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
ROMANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued by the Romanian Press Agency, "AGERPRES", concerning the decision of the Israeli parliament to annex the Golan Heights.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this statement circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Teodor MARINESCU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Socialist Republic of Romania to
the United Nations

Annex

Statement dated 15 December 1981 issued by the Romanian Press Agency -
AGERPRES - concerning the decision of the Israeli Parliament to annex
the Golan Heights

The Romanian Press Agency - AGERPRES - is authorized by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania to state the following:

Public opinion in Romania has learned with deep concern of the decision of the Israeli Parliament (the Knesset) to annex the Golan Heights, of territory belonging to the Syrian Arab Republic which was occupied by the Israeli military forces following the 1967 war.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania and Romanian public opinion regard as illegal and null and void this act by the Israeli authorities, which constitutes a flagrant violation of the principle of the inadmissibility of the annexation of territories occupied by force, and of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of an independent State.

At the same time, this act directly contradicts the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, accepted by Israel, which expressly state that Israel is under the obligation to withdraw from the Arab territories occupied in 1967.

The recent decision of the Israeli Parliament to annex the Golan Heights complicates the situation in the region, creates new obstacles to the comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict and increases tension in the area.

Experience undeniably shows that recourse to acts of force and expansion and the violation of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of other States constitute a permanent source of insecurity and further complicate the situation, with the most serious consequences for the peoples concerned and for all the peoples of the world.

The interests of the peoples of the region and of international peace and security require that Israel should stop engaging in actions such as the annexation of the Golan Heights and should evacuate all the territories occupied following the 1967 war.

Firm and consistent action should be taken with a view to reaching, through negotiations, a political solution which will lead to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

It was precisely in this spirit that socialist Romania has militated actively and persistently in favour of settling the Middle East conflict by peaceful means, and of bringing tranquillity and stability to this troubled part of the world. As Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu observed recently,

"We believe that intensified efforts should be made to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and on the solution of the problem of the Palestinian people, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian State.

"At the same time, the integrity and sovereignty of all the States in the area must be assured."

With a view to the attainment of these objectives, Romania has stated and continues to state firmly that it favours the establishment of a new framework for negotiations and the organization of an international conference, under the auspices and with the active participation of the United Nations, and with the participation of the countries concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Soviet Union and the United States, together with other States which can make a positive contribution to the resolution of the conflict in the area. We consider that in such a framework all the complicated problems of the area could be solved, including the withdrawal of Israel from the Golan Heights and the other Arab territories occupied following the 1967 war.

Taking into account the interests of achieving a comprehensive settlement and establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and the interests of the peoples of that region, including those of the Israeli people, the Romanian Government and Romanian public opinion consider that the Israeli Parliament and the Israeli Government should, forthwith, renounce and annul the illegal annexation of the Golan Heights, in the belief that that would help to strengthen confidence, to create a climate favourable to the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the area and to bring stability and tranquillity to that part of the world.
