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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 17 December 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw to Your Excellency's attention the following statement, which was made by the Foreign Ministers of the 10 States members of the European Community in London on 15 December 1981:

"The Foreign Ministers of the States members of the European Community strongly deplore the decision of the Government and Knesset of Israel to extend Israeli law, jurisdiction and administration to occupied Syrian territory in the Golan Heights. Such an extension, which is tantamount to annexation, is contrary to international law and therefore invalid in our eyes. This step prejudices the possibility of the implementation of Security Council resolution 242 (1967) and is bound to complicate further the search for a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East to which we remain committed."

I request Your Excellency to arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. D. PARSONS
