Security Council

LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement of the Director-General of the Public Information and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan on the Israeli bombardment in southern Lebanon. I should be grateful if you would have this statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Masahiro NISIBORI
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Extraordinary
Permanent Representative of
Japan to the United Nations

Annex

Statement dated 22 April 1982 of the Director-General of the Public
Information and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs on the Israeli bombardment in southern Lebanon

1.   The Israeli bombardments of Lebanon on 21 April are not only a serious
infringement upon the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence
of Lebanon but also an act impairing the momentum for peace which has been brought
about by the cease-fire agreement last July. The Government of Japan deplores such
action violating the cease-fire agreement. The Government also regrets that the
bombardments have caused many deaths and injuries among the Palestinians and other
inhabitants.

2.   The Government of Japan strongly requests that Israel and other parties
involved observe the cease-fire agreement to prevent the situation in Lebanon from
worsening.

3.   The Government of Japan is deeply concerned that the recent bombardments, in
addition to various measures of Israel disregarding the wishes of the people in the
West Bank and the Gaza strip, would increase the mutual distrust between the Arabs
and Israel, heighten the tension in the Middle East region and decrease the
possibility of peace in the Middle East.

4.   The Government earnestly hopes that the reversion of the Sinai Peninsula will
take place on 25 April as scheduled.