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Biographical Note

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NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SYRIA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

The new Permanent Representative of Syria to the United Nations, Haissam Kelani, presented his credentials today to Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. He was accompanied by the United Nations Chief of Protocol, Sinan A. Korle.

Until recently, Mr. Kelani was his country's Ambassador to the German Democratic Republic.

Born in Hamah, Syria, on 5 August 1926, he was a graduate in 1948 of the Military College and, in 1953, of the Air General Staff College in Paris. He attended the High Military Air Academy in Paris in 1956, after which he became a general pilot in 1961.

Turning to a diplomatic career, he became Syrian Ambassador to Algeria in 1962 and to Morocco in 1965. From 1967 to 1969, he was Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He became Ambassador to the German Democratic Republic in 1969, remaining in that post until this year.

Mr. Kelani is the author of eight books and of articles in various Arab reviews.

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