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UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

(The following was received at UN Headquarters from the UN Public Information Officer with the United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission, Jerusalem.)

Continuing his trip to European and Middle Eastern countries, United Nations Secretary-General Trygve Lie this afternoon arrived at Lydda Airport outside Jerusalem. He was met at the airport by representatives of the President of Israel, the Foreign Ministry and the United Nations.

Upon his arrival, Mr. Lie had tea with the President of Israel, Chaim Weizmann, and in the evening he attended a dinner given by the Prime Minister.

At the airport Mr. Lie made the following statement to the press:

"I am very glad to be able to complete my tour of seven member countries in this part of the world by my visit to Israel.

"This country has special significance for the United Nations and for me as Secretary-General, because it is one of the new nations born since the United Nations was founded, and accepted into the world community as a member of the United Nations.

"I have long wished to accept the invitation of the Government of Israel to come and see for myself what is being created by the hands of the people of Israel and now, at last, I am here.

"I know that I come to a country which will support to the utmost the United Nations goals of peace and of economic and social development. From the first days of its membership in the United Nations, Israel has been an active participant in the efforts of member states to make progress towards these ends.

"I look forward very much to my visit in Israel, to talks I shall have here about United Nations questions of concern to this part of the world with the leaders of the Government of Israel and with the representatives of various UN agencies at the headquarters of the United Nations mission in Jerusalem."

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