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LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1970 FROM THE DEFUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic of 20 February 1970 on the situation in the Middle East.

I request Your Excellency to arrange for the distribution of this statement as an official document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly.

Please accept, etc.

(<u>Signed</u>) Buyantyn <u>PASHTSEREN</u>
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

^{*} Also issued under the symbol A/7956.

STATEMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

The situation in the Middle East continues to deteriorate as a result of repeated acts of aggression by Israeli militarists. For some time, Israeli extremists have been committing new and more dangerous acts of provocation against the Arab States and have been extending the scope of their military actions, as witness the barbarous aggression of the Israeli air force against Arab territory, notably the attack with napalm bombs and rockets on the iron and steel complex at Abou Zaabal, near Cairo.

It is quite clear that the ruling circles of Tel Aviv, counting on the direct aid and support of the United States and other imperialist Powers, are endeavouring to constrain the Arab peoples to accept the occupation of their territory, to impose a neo-colonialist order upon them and to weaken and overthrow the pioneering régimes of the progressive Arab States.

The Mongolian people, together with all men of good will, severely condemn the adventurism of the Israeli aggressors, who are guilty of serious violations of the rules of international law and of humanitarian principles. They express their profound solidarity with the Arab peoples, who are carrying on a just struggle to defend their liberty, their national independence and the territorial integrity of their countries, and approve the measures which they are taking to unify their efforts to secure a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Middle East.

The Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs affirms that the only reasonable solution of the Middle East problem is a peaceful settlement on the basis of the Security Council resolution of 22 November 1967, which provides first for the withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from all the occupied Arab territories. While this crucial issue remains unresolved, no lasting peace can be achieved in the Arab countries in the Middle East.

On the basis of this position, the Mongolian people and Government unreservedly support the important initiative of the Soviet Government as stated in the message addressed by the Head of the Soviet Government to the leaders of the United States, the United Kingdom and France. The positive measures described in that message are based on respect for the legitimate interests and rights of all peoples and Governments in the Middle East and fully satisfy the requirements for a settlement in the Middle East and the reduction of international tension.

The Mongolian people, like all the peoples of the socialist community and all forces of peace, call on the Governments of the United States and the other Western Powers to abandon, without delay, their policy of defending and supporting the aggressor and, responding to the peaceful initiative of the Soviet Union, to move towards an equitable settlement of the problem of the Middle East.