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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Note verbale dated 13 November 1974 from the Permanent Mission of the  
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed  
to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter of the Permanent Representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States addressed to the Secretary-General, dated 19 September 1974 (document A/9761 of 20 September 1974), concerning the 1972 edition of the United Nations Demographic Yearbook, the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations deems it necessary to reaffirm its point of view, as set out in its notes verbales dated 19 June 1974 (documents A/9648 and A/9649 of 20 June 1974).

The Soviet Union rejects, as having no legal or de facto basis, the assertions in the letter of the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States that the status of the capital of the German Democratic Republic and the status of the western sectors of Berlin are identical. As is known, the quadripartite agreements and decisions regarding the joint administration by the four Powers of Berlin which was the capital of the former Soviet occupation zone, were violated by the three Powers, while the western sectors of Berlin were cut off from their natural environment. The present situation in this area is characterized by the fact that for the past 25 years East Berlin has been the capital of the German Democratic Republic and an inseparable and integral part thereof, in which are situated the central State institutions of the Republic. The western sectors of Berlin on the other hand are still under the occupation of the United States, the United Kingdom and France and do not form an integral part of the Federal Republic of Germany.

With regard to the references by the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States to the Quadripartite Declaration of 9 November 1972 (document S/10955), the Soviet Union would like to emphasize that the attempts to represent the capital of the Democratic Republic of Germany as being one of the sectors having quadripartite status are completely groundless. They can in no way be passed off as quadripartite practice, as referred to in the said Declaration.

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requests that this letter be circulated as a General Assembly document under item 12 (Report of the Economic and Social Council) of the agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly.