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ISRAELI AIR ATTACK

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, The Right Honourable Joe Clark, today released the following statement concerning the attack by Israel near the city of Tunis.

The Government of Canada deplores the Israeli air attack near Tunis which led to the killing and wounding of many civilians. This attack is the more regrettable in that it is a violation of the sovereignty of a country with which Canada has had excellent relations for many years.

Such actions, whatever their motivation, only exacerbate the cycle of violence in the Middle East, and involve a dangerous expansion of the area of confrontation in this tragic dispute.

This regrettable action demonstrates the need for real negotiations to achieve a political solution to the conflict in the Middle East. Canada's position remains to encourage, whenever we are able, all constructive efforts to lead the parties to the negotiating table.