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Special Representative of the
Government of Canada and
Ambassador-at-large



Représentant spécial du
Gouvernement du Canada et
Ambassadeur itinérant

October 26, 1979

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The Rt. Hon. C.J. Clark, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Room 409F, Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

NON - CIRCULATING /
CONSULTER SUR PLACE

My Dear Prime Minister,

Since my appointment in June as the Government's Special Representative, I have conducted a series of consultations in Canada with various departments of the federal government, interest groups, academics and others with expertise in the Middle East. I have also visited Israel, Turkey, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt as well as the United Kingdom. As a result, I have had the benefit of the candid and frank views of many foreign leaders, and of other informed opinion, on the wide range of subjects falling within my mandate. I have further consultations to complete and will require two or three more months before reporting to you fully. Nevertheless, appropriate recommendations regarding the location of the Embassy in Israel seem so clear following the consultations I have already held that I wish to submit them to you now.

I have approached the Embassy question on the premise that while Canada has important economic interests in the Middle East our most fundamental concerns in that region are the achievement of a just and lasting peace and the contribution that we can make to that end as Canadians.

Expectations arose with the conclusion of the Camp David Accords and the Peace Treaty between Egypt and Israel that there would be rapid movement toward a comprehensive peace settlement in the area which would include as one key element the question of Jerusalem. These expectations have not been met. Progress between Egypt and Israel in the autonomy talks concerning the West Bank and Gaza Strip has been slow. Many Arabs have serious reservations about this process. Under these circumstances much hard work and patience will be required to ensure that movement continues toward the achievement of a comprehensive peace accepted

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*Tabled by Mr Clark (Y)
October 29, 1979
MR.*

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