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SITUATION IN THE ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations, Stephen Lewis, today issued the following statement on behalf of the Government of Canada:

The Ambassador stated that the significant elements of Resolution 605, adopted by the Security Council on Tuesday, December 22, on the situation in the territories occupied by Israel, represent an important contribution to the restoration of peaceful conditions in the territories. The Government of Canada strongly supports the appeal in the Security Council Resolution for the exercise of restraint, the need for which Prime Minister Mulroney has frequently endorsed, most recently in a television interview in Canada.

Canada has repeatedly stated that long years of occupation have led to more acute frustrations on both sides, resulting in the increased violence the world has recently witnessed. The Government deeply regrets this violence.

The Government of Canada calls upon the parties to step back from the violence, emphasizing that restraint is essential for the establishment of peace.

- 30 -