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SSEA CALLS FOR RESTRAINT IN AFTERMATH OF VIOLENCE IN JERUSALEM

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today condemned the violence of the sequence of events which occurred on 08 October in the Old City of Jerusalem. "Canadians were shocked and horrified by the eruption of violence in Old Jerusalem today. Canada has expressed reservations about the degree of force used by the Israeli authorities in responding to these events. Canada calls upon all groups and individuals to refrain from attempts to alter the existing religious status quo in a city which has intense significance for Christians, Jews and Muslims".

In the aftermath of today's violence, Mr. Clark called for calm on the part of all parties involved, within Israel and the occupied territories, to avoid exacerbating the already dangerous situation in the region. "The tragic events of today highlight the urgent need for a resolution to the Palestinian question. international community must dedicate itself to finding a just and lasting settlement, based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338."

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