

Euro-Arab Parliamentary group condemns Camp David

Mr. Raymond Offroy, honorary President of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab cooperation, last week issued the Association's press release on Camp David and this accompanying statement:

"The enclosed press release, published Sept. 16 in Rome following the Euro-Arab Parliamentary conference, demonstrates that the Arab nation in its totality — including the Egyptian parliamentarians who were present in Rome and who co-signed this text — condemn the capitulation of Sadat at Camp David and notably the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace.

"In our view, the accord signed last night will not only not bring peace to the region but will engender new conflicts."

The executive committees of the Arab Parliamentary Union and of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation met in Rome on September 15 and 16. Representatives of nine Arab parliaments, including those of the Palestinian National Council, and of the nine parliaments of the EEC, studied the critical situation which presently prevails in the Middle East.

Israeli intransigence, manifested by the continuation of its settlements policy in the occupied Arab territories, by the rejection of the United Nations resolutions and by the violation of international law, remains the major obstacle to peace.

If it should continue, this intransigence would lead to another war, the consequences of which would be tragic for the Middle East, for peace, and international security, and would bring considerable loss to the economic and social situation of Western Europe.

The meeting stressed that peace can only be achieved by a global settlement, thus reiterating the stated policy of the governments of the EEC.

The delegates agreed that such a solution must be based on the total application of resolution 242 and must include:

a) Israeli evacuation of all the territories occupied since 1967 and the security of all the countries and of all the peoples of this region within recognized and guaranteed borders;

b) recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to its self-determination, including the right to the establishment of a sovereign state in its homeland.

The parliamentarians stressed that they are deeply concerned by the sufferings of the Lebanese people and by the threat which weighs on the unity and integrity of Lebanon, a threat which is aggravated by the direct or indirect interference of Israel into the internal affairs of this country. They insisted on the necessity of a complete application of UN Security Council 425. The meeting examined current plans and proposals to develop Euro-Arab cooperation in the political, economic and cultural domains.