



DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS

NO

DATE

M/143

7 October 1973

FIGHTING IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, said today that the Australian Government deplored the resumption of fighting in the Middle East.

Australia hoped that the present hostilities would be brought to an end at the earliest possible moment and an effective ceasefire established.

Mr Whitlam said that the fighting which was now going on underlined once again the urgent need for a just and durable settlement of the Middle East problem.

The Australian Government would continue to support all efforts to bring such a settlement about. It believed that Security Council Resolution No. 242 of 1967 provided a sound equitable basis for a settlement.