

PRIME MINISTER

75/21

FOR PRESS

NOVEMBER 23, 1975

THE DECISION BY THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND IMMIGRATION, MR. STREET, TO REFUSE A VISA TO A MEMBER OF A PALESTINE TERRORIST ORGANISATION HAS MY FULL ENDORSEMENT AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE STAND TAKEN BY THE LIBERAL AND NATIONAL COUNTRY PARTIES.

WE OPPOSED THE GRANTING OF VISAS TO PLO REPRESENTATIVES EARLIER THIS YEAR AND WE WILL NOT APPROVE THE SETTING UP IN AUSTRALIA OF A PLO INFORMATION CENTRE WHILE THE PLO CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL BY FORCE.

THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS THE RESOLUTION CARRIED EARLIER THIS MONTH BY THE UNITED NATIONS.

THIS RESOLUTION INCLUDED ZIONISM IN A CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTION AGAINST ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

IT WAS DISRUPTIVE AND UNWARRANTED, AN INCITEMENT TO ANTI-SEMITISM AND A COMPLETE DISTORTION OF FACT.

THE RESOLUTION WAS CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IT WAS DESIGNED TO DIVIDE PEOPLE RATHER THAN UNITE THEM.

THE RESOLUTION WAS PART OF A CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT ISRAEL AND LEAD EVENTUALLY TO ITS EXPULSION FROM THE UNITED NATIONS.

WE TOTALLY ABHOR THIS CAMPAIGN AND AS A GOVERNMENT OF AN INFLUENTIAL COUNTRY WE WOULD WORK TO PREVENT RESOLUTIONS SUCH AS THAT PASSED ON NOVEMBER 10 FROM RECEIVING MAJORITY SUPPORT AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

ANY SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST MUST ACCEPT THE EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL.

WHILE THERE IS VIOLENCE IN THE AIR DURING THIS ELECTION WE WILL NOT ALLOW PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENT ORGANISATIONS INTO AUSTRALIA. ANY SUCH APPLICATIONS WILL BE DEFERRED SO THAT THE GOVERNMENT AFTER DECEMBER 13 CAN MAKE THE PROPER DECISIONS CONCERNING THEM.

VIOLENCE HAS NOT BEEN PART OF OUR WAY OF LIFE AND PEOPLE WHO OPENLY ESPOUSE THE USE OF VIOLENCE MURDER AND TERRORISM MUST BE EXCLUDED FROM AUSTRALIA.
