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Thirty-ninth session

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY

PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED

NATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF

INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE DRAFTING OF

AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST THE RECRUITMENT,
USE, FINANCING AND TRAINING OF MERCENARIES

SECURITY COUNCIL

Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 20 December 1983 from the Permanent Representative
of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose some information with regard to the recently held National Convention of national and tribal leaders, former parliamentarians and high-ranking civil servants, retired generals and religious leaders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

I have further the honour to request Your Excellency to have this letter and the information annexed thereto circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States", "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security", "Peaceful settlement of disputes between States" and "Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Farid ZARIF
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

National Convention

KABUL, BAKHTAR: The National Convention of national and tribal leaders and social figures of Afghanistan opened here. Attending this National Convention, which is being held at the initiative of the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, are 423 former senators, former deputies of the parliament, heads of various tribes, representatives of different nationalities, distinguished former civil servants, scholars, intellectuals and religious leaders.

Today's session, which was presided over by Sultan Ahmad Olomi, a former deputy to Loya Jirgah (Grand Assembly) from Bund District of Kandahar Province, was addressed by five former deputies and senators, two retired generals, an educator and two other known social figures.

The participants of the session heard a message of Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and President of the Revolutionary Council, addressed to the National Convention, which was read by Saleh Mohammad Zearai, member of the Politburo and Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and Chairman of the National Fatherland Front.

The speakers at this grand meeting dealt frankly and in a democratic spirit with the issues of ensuring peace, national concord and all-round social progress.

A prominent social personality of the country, Mohammad Naeem Shayan, said: "The convocation of this National Convention of patriotic forces of Afghanistan is not some kind of political manoeuvre or exhibition vis-à-vis the enemies of the revolution. It is rather a vivid testimony to the solidarity and unity of the national, progressive forces of the country who, by gathering here, decisively nail down the false claims of world imperialism and regional reaction."

Another speaker, Ghulam Ali Hassib, former Deputy from Takhar Province, recalled the excesses and tyranny meted out by the past unpopular régimes to the people and said that the unflinching support of the people to the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was not an accidental or transient phenomenon.

Abdullah, another former Deputy from Kapisa to the Loya Jirgah, called upon the Afghan emigrates to avail themselves of the decree of general amnesty and to return to their ancestral land. He said that they should not allow themselves to be used by the enemies of the revolution against their own country.

Retired General Kohat Khan, a known social figure from Nangarhar Province, noted in his speech that the aggression and intervention of imperialists, headed by the United States of America, had failed to isolate the people from the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. He expressed the confidence that the people of Afghanistan, who had for centuries fought against the intervention and excesses of

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colonialists, would not be cowed down by the conspiracies of Reagan and the great enemy of the Muslims of the region, General Zia Ul Haq.

Ghulam Hazrat Ibrahimi, a former Senator from Herat, said that the Afghan people had not unleashed any war against any country or nation and want to live in peace and to have conditions of peace for making their country prosperous.

He added that the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has deep respect for peace-loving nations, especially for their great neighbour, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and wants to have good relations with the whole of mankind, especially the neighbouring countries.

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ANNEX II

Karmal's message to the National Convention

KABUL, BAKHTAR: Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the President of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, sent a message to the participants of the National Convention of the social figures and leaders and representatives of tribes and nationalities, which was held here.

Addressing the over 400 former senators and deputies to Parliament, retired generals, civil servants and heads of tribes, Babrak Karmal said:

"We firmly believe that the present convention of the esteemed figures of our country who have gathered together for defending peace and social progress, as well as for supporting the gains of the revolution and the sovereignty of the working people, will remain as a glittering point in the history of the recent period of our country. It will play an effective role in ensuring national peace in the country, complete national accord and the participation of all people in the construction of a new Afghanistan.

The April revolution put an end to the political and class rule of the tyrants and broke in this region of the world one of the black links of the chain of the domination of the imperialists headed by United States imperialism. The undeclared war unleashed by them against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is a clear indicator of the spiteful intentions of the enemies of the welfare and tranquillity of the working people of our society.

Our revolution relies on the great creative force of the country's working people and the assistance of our reliable international friends and, in the first place, of the Soviet Union, our great friend and neighbour.

The more than 60-year-old historical friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union not only has emerged victorious from the crucible of time but with the triumph of the April revolution and its new evolutionary phase has evolved to be the best historical example of friendship, good-neighbourliness and mutual co-operation.

The cause of peace in the region has an organic link with world peace.

We firmly believe that our peaceful policy will be victorious. We continue our struggle in this direction because the cause of peace and lessening of international tension still has innumerable enemies.

It is due to the adventurist and anti-human policy of these forces that the ominous and terrible threat of nuclear war looms large on our planet. To struggle against these forces of international reaction headed by United States imperialism and Ronald Reagan is the sacred duty of all conscientious people of our planet.

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The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has played and will play its befitting role in this grand historical struggle alongside the forces of peace and social progress with the Soviet Union being in the forefront.

We are deeply confident that the Soviet proposals recently put forward by Comrade Yuri Andropov, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, contain rational and realistic ways for the consolidation of the cause of peace and for the reduction of international tensions.

Now the grave historical responsibility for defending peace falls on all mankind and we must make an active contribution to this cause."

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ANNEX III

Resolution of the National Convention

KABUL, BAKHTAR: The participants of the two-day National Convention of social, tribal and national figures of Afghanistan which concluded here today called upon all Afghan people to come out in the defence of the revolution in order to defeat armed counter-revolution and imperialism and establish peace throughout the country.

In a resolution adopted at the Convention, the over 400 former parliamentarians, retired civil and military officers, heads of various tribes and prominent figures of different nationalities also invited the Afghan nationals living abroad to avail themselves of the general amnesty announced by the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and return to the homeland. The State of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, said the resolution, has created conditions conducive to leading a peaceful life for such people.

The participants of the Convention expressed their firm and all-sided support to the national and democratic April revolution and its new evolutionary phase. They pledged not to spare any efforts for the consistent and comprehensive fulfilment of the national and democratic tasks of the revolution.

The resolution described the five-year period since the victory of the revolution as a period of learning and experience for the Afghan people in the context of the correct recognition of their real friends and enemies.

During this period, the people of Afghanistan recognized the true face of the counter-revolutionaries and their direct link with the reactionary and imperialist forces and, in the first place, United States imperialism which, in collaboration with the regional reaction, especially the militarist circles of Pakistan, was sabotaging peace and tranquillity in Afghanistan.

The participants of the Convention, while demanding the cessation of all kinds of aggression and intervention against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, expressed their complete and all-round support to the peace-loving and non-aligned policies of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The prominent social figures of Afghanistan lauded the fraternal assistance which is being rendered by the Soviet Union to Afghanistan in different political, economic and military fields. The resolution, in particular, described the selfless help of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics consisting of the dispatch of her limited military contingents to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan as being an important factor in the preservation of the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan.

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The participants of the Convention came out in support of the continuation of the stay of Soviet contingents till such time as the aggression of reactionary and imperialist forces against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan does not end completely.

The representatives of the people from various parts of Afghanistan also addressed a message to the people of Afghanistan. The message noted that the fundamental rights of the Afghan people have been guaranteed in the fundamental principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and in other statutes of the country. The sacred religion of Islam is respected. The age-old yearning of the working peasantry is being fulfilled through land and water reforms. Tens of thousands of landless peasants and small holders have become the owners of their own land.

The message said that, had there not been the undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against Afghanistan, these achievements could have been much higher.

ANNEX IV

National Convention Message

KABUL, BAKHTAR: Message of the participants of the National Convention of prominent social, tribal and national figures of Afghanistan to the members of the parliaments of the world and prominent international social personalities:

Esteemed deputies,

We, the former deputies of the Parliament of Afghanistan and social figures of the ancient Afghanistan, have held a National Convention on 16 and 17 November 1983, in Kabul City, on the initiative of the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and have unanimously decided to address the following message to you, noble and peace-loving members of the parliaments and legislatures of different countries of the world.

In our ancient country, the April Revolution triumphed at a time when conditions of an extreme poverty, illiteracy, disease and social injustice dominated all spheres of the people's life.

This revolution, being the result of the long struggles of the Afghan people under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan for their emancipation from the yoke of despotism and centuries-old backwardness, opened up a new chapter in the proud history of our country and paved the way for economic, political and cultural transformation in the interest of the vast masses of our country.

The State power was transferred to the Afghan people and effective steps were taken for improving the life of the people and emancipating them from the despotism and tyranny of the monarchical system.

The new revolutionary State respects the holy religion of Islam and the favoured traditions of nationalities, tribes and ethnic groups and endeavours to improve the living standards of the people. Therefore, it enjoys the resolute support of the majority of the people.

But international imperialism, with the United States of America at the head, embarked immediately after the triumph of the April revolution upon a course of action contrary to the interest of the people and, in close collaboration with its predatory international and regional allies, resorted to an undeclared bloody war against our country.

They created training bases for murderers, bandits and criminals and gave them massive financial and military assistance.

The counter-revolutionary bands headed by the notorious enemies of the people of Afghanistan, such as Gulbuddin, Rabbani, Nujadidi, Nabi, Gilani, Khalis, Sayyaf and others, perpetrate their acts of murder and homicide

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against our innocent people and reduce to rubble the schools, factories, hospitals, mosques, bridges and other places of public utility. They disrupt the security of our peaceable people and try to hinder the economic growth of the country. In order to attain their objectives, they spare no inhuman and ignoble ways and means.

During the more than five years of the post-revolutionary period, the people of Afghanistan have witnessed innumerable acts of crimes and, today, every Afghan citizen has fully realized the devilish nature of the counter-revolution and, therefore, they extend their resolute support to the revolutionary State.

Despite the fact that our people and prideful homeland have suffered innumerable miseries and pains from the imperialist undeclared war, still the West Europeans and the United States mass media have kept mum and are bent on the distortion of facts and slander against our country.

Honourable members of the parliaments:

By defending the rightful and just cause of our people, that is, the cessation of the imperialistic and reactionary undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in reality, you would be defending the cause of peace and the cause of our awakened people who are struggling for a prosperous life and defending their national homeland.

We, former parliamentarians of Afghanistan and social figures inspired by our desire for goodwill and peace, while highly appreciating the Geneva talks between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Pakistan, through the intermediary of the representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, and regarding it as a valuable step towards ensuring peace in the region and in the world as a whole, express our hopes that the indirect negotiation will become a direct one, so as to shorten the way for attaining a settlement to the present conflicts.

Dear friends,

In the present conditions, our globe has been drawn close to an explosive situation by the irresponsible and bellicose policies of imperialist circles, in particular the imperialism of the United States of America. The pressing cause of peace is confronted with a serious threat. In these conditions, the inhabitants of our planet are watching with distress and concern the acts of the war-mongering Reagan administration, which stubbornly tries to deploy Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe and thus to create stumbling blocks in the way of the Geneva talks between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America. On the other hand, to perpetuate armed aggression and interference in the affairs of independent and sovereign States such as, our country, Grenada, Lebanon, Nicaragua and others, they try to ever further aggravate the already tense situation of our world.

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In such a delicate and fateful moment in the history of mankind, we express our full support for the peaceful Soviet initiatives, particularly the statement of 28 September of Yuri Andropov and the statements of the Soviet delegation in the thirty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly, and call upon all peoples of the world and you, members of the parliaments, to play your effective role to save mankind and our planet from a nuclear holocaust and to respond to the demand of the millions of inhabitants of the earth for peace.

With regards,

Former parliamentarians and social figures of Afghanistan.
