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SECURITY COUNCIL

Fortieth year

Letter dated 6 November 1985 from the Permanent Representative
of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on the speech delivered by the President of the United States, Mr. Ronald Reagan, on the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations.

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English

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I have further the honour to request Your Excellency to arrange for the circulation of this letter and the statement as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 39, 57, 68, 72, 131, 132, 137 and 145, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Farid ZARIF
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Statement of the Government of Afghanistan

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan deems it necessary to issue, in the name of the people of Afghanistan, the following statement in reply to the statement delivered by the President of the United States of America, Mr. Ronald Reagan, on 24 October this year in the United Nations General Assembly on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations, which was full of falsifications and accusations levelled against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and a number of other revolutionary independent countries.

The statement of the United States President, the Head of the Administration of a country which, by virtue of its permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council, bears broad responsibilities for the maintenance of peace in our planet, has clearly and simply aroused desperation - even among countries close to the United States - and has evoked justified indignation of all peace-loving, progressive States and peoples.

Instead of paying serious attention to the solution of the most burning and crucial issues of the peoples of the world, that is, the inadmissibility of the militarization of outer space, curbing of strategic nuclear arms, banning of nuclear tests etc., as well as responding to the recent constructive and peaceful Soviet initiatives destined to bring about basic changes in the atmosphere of international relations, he has found nothing better than to resort to a spate of repeated offences and false rhetoric against socialist and non-aligned countries.

The Head of the United States Administration, by brazenly putting regional conflicts and controversies at the centre of his speech, tried to draw the attention of the world community to such problems in order to conceal thereunder the negative position of the United States vis-à-vis problems of disarmament and his country's refusal to give a positive response to the USSR proposals. Still there is nothing new in the United States President's speech on regional conflicts. Moreover his proposed prescriptions were but a blatant attempt aimed at justifying the United States and its dependent countries' interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Angola, Nicaragua, Kampuchea and Ethiopia.

By forcing the facts and falsifying the realities, Ronald Reagan endeavoured to blame others for all responsibilities. Washington is trying to cover up its own policy of state terrorism and economic blockade, as well as its outright military interference in the internal affairs of a number of revolutionary free countries by putting forward its self-styled thesis of the imposition of alien ideology upon other countries, which may lead to waging war against their own people and their neighbours.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan strongly protests against such hostile, irresponsible and interventionist tirade reflecting on the ill-intended interpretations of the events and realities in Afghanistan.

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The national, democratic revolution of 27 April 1978 in Afghanistan is a natural outcome of long struggles of our people against the feudal, monarchic despotism of the past. These régimes were retarding the development of the Afghan society towards progress, democracy and social justice. They did not bring about any democratic transformations and were suppressing progressive forces and had totally banned activities of political parties as well as other organizations of working people.

The revolution was carried out with a view to bringing fundamental changes in the Afghan society and realizing the national democratic aspirations of the masses of people.

Deep socio-economic changes, started immediately after the revolution, such as land and water reforms, democratization of the State administration system, eradication of national inequity and discrimination, ensuring genuine equality of rights for women, combat against widespread illiteracy, creation of conditions for a standard of living worthy of human beings, are being realized with the vast support and participation of the resolute majority of the Afghan people. The said changes take fully into consideration the local traditions and customs and are based upon respect for the holy religion of Islam. These transformations are of a national nature and in no way can be, as some circles claim, the result of some foreign imposition.

In the years of the peoples' sovereign rule the heavy burden of peasant indebtedness to feudal lords and usurers was alleviated and more than 120,000 families of landless and petty landholders received 700,000 hectares of land; the campaign against illiteracy is successfully moving onwards and the number of doctors, hospital beds and state-run pharmacies has doubled.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan attaches prime importance to raising the standards of living of the people, extending housing construction, creating pedagogic networks, and constructing new schools and hospitals.

In our country trade union, mass organizations of youth, women and creative intellectuals have been established and are successfully carrying out their activities. The NFF (National Fatherland Front) has rallied to its ranks more than 700,000 of the representatives of all strata and groups of society.

The elections for the local organs of state power and administration, which are being held, are a vivid manifestation of democratization of life. The composition of these organs reflects a broad representation. Elected in these organs are the representatives of workers, peasants, intellectuals, the clergy and national bourgeoisie.

The decisions adopted by the historic loya jirgah (grand national assembly), convoked in the current year, which has been considered a superb and traditional form of expressing the will of all Afghan tribes and ethnic groups, as well as the decisions taken by the high jirgah of tribes along with messages addressed to the United Nations Secretary-General, are all indicative of the support of the entire

population of Afghanistan to the changes and the internal and external policies of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The wholesomeness of these reasons is directly contrary to what has been expounded by the United States President, as if the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has been waging a war against its own people. The war has been unleashed by armed CIA mercenaries with the active participation and direct military and financial backing of other imperialist States as well as Pakistan, Iran and China.

Social quarters of the world are clearly aware of the fact that this huge military and financial assistance is rendered to the counter-revolutionaries by those who are afraid of revolutionary and national liberation movements and who have always desired the backwardness of Afghanistan and its dependency on forces of imperialism and neo-colonialism.

Suffice it to note that in recent years alone more than \$1.5 billion has been allocated by Washington for aggression against our sovereign and independent country. This sum is spent for training and equipping murderous bands of terrorists in more than 120 military camps located in Pakistan, and for purchasing various forms of new weapons, including reactive missiles, recoilless guns, mines, anti-aircraft guns and machine-guns.

It is no secret that this year alone \$300 million has been allocated from the United States budget for assisting the Afghan counter-revolution, and in the coming year the figure is to be spiralled up to \$600 million.

If we add tens and hundreds millions of dollars given by Saudi Arabia, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and other countries to the total amount of the so-called humanitarian assistance to the bandits, it will exceed a billion dollars that is destined for keeping the flame of the undeclared war against Afghanistan ablaze.

It is therefore clear that seven years of imperialist and reactionary war against the peoples of Afghanistan has inflicted innumerable calamitous sufferings upon our people.

The damages inflicted on the economy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan run into 35 billion Afghanis, that is, three fourths of all the State investments in the economy in the past 20 years. The bandits have destroyed more than 2,000 schools, 130 hospitals, 500 mosques, 900 co-operatives and 14,000 kilometres of telephone lines.

In addition, about 2,000 teachers and 200 clergy have become victims of terrorist actions of the counter-revolutionary bands. It is sufficient to cite here some of the crimes committed by the hired murderers such as the blowing up of the mosque of Kabul Polytechnic Institute, the hall of Ariana cinema, Kabul airport, Mazari Sharif hotel, and the launching of a rocket attack on Herat congregational mosque. The citing of these few crimes helps unmask the nature of all the crimes committed by the bandits in our homeland who are enjoying the support of the so-called defenders of human rights in Afghanistan and those paying lip service to the solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

Isn't it now clear who is fighting against the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan and creating obstacles to the peaceful solution of the "Afghan issue"? The criminals, that is, the ringleaders of Afghan counter-revolutionary bands and their generous defenders in Washington and the capitals of some other countries, should be condemned by the international forums. As for the presence of the limited military contingents of Soviet troops in Afghanistan who are here upon the request of the State of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in accordance with the latter's right of defending itself, individually or collectively, it is the noble duty of the limited military contingent of the Soviet Union to help the people of Afghanistan in the defence of their freedom and independence and in their struggle against the enemies of peace-loving people and non-aligned Afghanistan.

This mission will be fulfilled only when a guaranteed cessation of any kind of intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is ensured. The right to solve this question belongs solely to the people of Afghanistan and their Government, in agreement with the friendly and fraternal Government of the Soviet Union.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan once again declares that the normalization of the situation around Afghanistan is possible only through the cessation of the assistance of the United States and its followers that is being rendered to the counter-revolutionary elements who have been thrown out by the people of Afghanistan, and through the full and guaranteed termination of the undeclared war and all forms of intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The people of Afghanistan are firmly determined to defend the gains of the April revolution, and no power is able to divert them from the path they have chosen.
