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Forty-second session  
Items 92, 104, 128 and 136 of the  
preliminary list\*

IMPORTANCE OF THE UNIVERSAL REALIZATION OF THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO  
SELF-DETERMINATION AND OF THE SPEEDY GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO  
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES FOR THE EFFECTIVE GUARANTEE AND  
OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

MEASURES TO PREVENT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WHICH ENDANGERS OR TAKES  
INNOCENT HUMAN LIVES OR JEOPARDIZES FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND STUDY  
OF THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THOSE FORMS OF TERRORISM AND ACTS OF  
VIOLENCE WHICH LIE IN MISERY, FRUSTRATION, GRIEVANCE AND DESPAIR  
AND WHICH CAUSE SOME PEOPLE TO SACRIFICE HUMAN LIVES, INCLUDING  
THEIR OWN, IN AN ATTEMPT TO EFFECT RADICAL CHANGES

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE DRAFTING OF AN INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION AGAINST THE RECRUITMENT, USE, FINANCING AND TRAINING OF  
MERCENARIES

Letter dated 13 July 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the  
Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations addressed to  
the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter of 9 July 1987 (A/42/393), I have the honour, upon  
instructions from my Government, to transmit herewith the text of an announcement  
issued by it on 9 July 1987 regarding the flare-up of terrorist and mercenary  
activities in Suriname (see annex).

\* A/42/50.

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English

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I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 92, 104, 128 and 136 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) W. H. Werner VREEDZAAM  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

## ANNEX

Announcement issued by the Government of Suriname on 9 July 1987

On the morning of Thursday, 9 July 1987, a combat unit of the National Army came across a band of terrorists in the south-eastern part of Suriname, about 125 kilometres (80 miles) from the border with French Guiana.

An armed combat started between the combat unit and the terrorists, which lasted about five hours. The terrorists numbered about 33 men, at least three of whom were white mercenaries.

Of these terrorists, two white mercenaries were fatally wounded in the combat, and presumably there were more dead and wounded among the terrorists.

The bodies of the two white mercenaries were easily recovered, because they were in the front lines during the combat. Both were dressed in uniforms of the French Foreign Legion.

On one of the two bodies, an identification card issued by the French Foreign Legion was found, as well as a travel permit, which was also issued by the French Foreign Legion at Aubagne, France.

Personal information

Name: Takacs  
Surname: Laurent  
Born at: Bienne (Switzerland)  
Born on: 11 April 1967  
Identity Card No.: 007416 D  
Rank: Legionnaire  
Recruit No.: 171.983  
Recruited at: Aubagne (France)  
Recruiting Officer: Lieutenant Tonon

The Chargé d'affaires of France, M. Gaston le Paudert, during a television interview on the same day, did not exclude the possibility that at least one of the two men killed belonged to the French Foreign Legion.

The Chargé d'affaires expressed the suspicion that we might be dealing with the corpse of a deserter of the French Foreign Legion.

This part of the statement has given rise to some doubt on the part of the Surinamese authorities, since normally the names and other particulars of deserters of the French Foreign Legion are communicated immediately to the Surinamese authorities, and the name of the person concerned does not appear on any list.

If, in this particular case, we were really dealing with a deserter, then the Surinamese authorities would be somewhat concerned regarding whether the French Foreign Legion is sufficiently contained to prevent a recurrence of this event, the more so as white mercenaries have been noticed in various terrorist attacks.

In the past, the Surinamese authorities have repeatedly pointed out that French territory is being used as a hinterland for terrorist activities.

For instance, during the above-mentioned armed combat, weapons of Italian make were captured, which had been transported via Cavenne to eastern Suriname.

The Surinamese Government has at its disposal information that at this very moment, a large quantity of weapons is on its way to eastern Suriname along the same route.

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