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### CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### Second report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Dago TSHERING (Bhutan)

1. The Credentials Committee held its 2nd meeting on 13 December 1984.
2. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General, dated 12 December 1984, concerning the status of credentials of representatives of Member States participating in the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly. The memorandum contained information regarding the credentials of Member States other than those considered by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 11 October 1984, at which time the Committee had considered and accepted formal credentials submitted in respect of the representatives of 127 Member States (see A/39/574).
3. It was indicated in the memorandum, which was based on information received up to 12 December 1984, that, as at that date and since the 1st meeting of the Committee, additional formal credentials, in the form required by rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, had been submitted by the following 29 Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Democratic Yemen, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Gambia, Greece, Grenada, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Norway, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. In addition, the appointment of the representatives of two Member States - Angola and Vanuatu - had been communicated to the Secretary-General by means of a cable from the Head of the Government or from the Minister for Foreign Affairs concerned.
4. A statement relating to the memorandum by the Secretary-General was made by the representative of the Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel.

5. Statements relating to the credentials of the representatives of Grenada were made by the representatives of Cuba, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.
6. The representative of Cuba stated that his delegation wished to express its reservations on the credentials of the representatives of Grenada. It was well known that General Assembly resolution 38/7 had not been fully implemented. That resolution, inter alia, called for immediate cessation of the armed intervention and the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Grenada. There were still hundreds of military forces occupying Grenada and, consequently, the recent elections had been held in circumstances that did not allow for the free expression of the people of Grenada. He added that his delegation believed that the régime whose representatives' credentials were before the Committee represented only the interests of the occupying forces, principally those of the United States of America.
7. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that, as was known to everyone, the United States of America had on 25 October 1983 committed an aggression by performing an act of brigandage against Grenada. The people of a tiny country which had dared to assert its sovereignty had been deprived of its independence by force of arms. The inalienable right of the people of Grenada to determine freely its own destiny and the course of its development had been trampled underfoot. That direct aggression had been severely condemned throughout the world. The General Assembly in its resolution 38/7 had qualified the United States armed intervention as a flagrant violation of international law and had called for its immediate cessation and the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Grenada. One hundred and eight States Members of the United Nations, including the plenipotentiary representative of free Grenada, had voted for the resolution. The United States was still ignoring the explicit demand of the United Nations. The occupation of Grenada had now continued for more than a year. The uninvited masters had established complete domination over Grenada. Recently they had put on a spectacle of "elections" whose scenario and results had been predetermined in advance in Washington. The Soviet delegation believed that it was the duty of the United Nations to continue to speak out firmly in defence of Grenada's independence and sovereignty and against arbitrariness and illegality. There could be no doubt that the immediate cessation of the intervention and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the island had to be the main condition for a return to normalcy on the island. In a situation where the Grenadian people was being deprived of its right to an independent existence, acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of the puppet régime which the police forces in the service of Washington arbitrarily imposed could not be assessed otherwise than as an encouragement to aggression. Such a decision would be inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations and the resolution adopted by the General Assembly and would harm the Organization's prestige. Guided by these considerations, the Soviet delegation objected to the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of the puppet régime set up in occupied Grenada.
8. The representative of the United States of America stated that the comments made by the representatives of Cuba and the Soviet Union raised matters that were not before the Committee. The credentials submitted for the delegation of Grenada

were obviously in order and had been submitted in accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure. Consequently, there was no basis in fact or in law, for raising objections to the credentials of the representatives of Grenada. It should be remembered, while listening to pleas for self-determination by the previous speakers, that hypocrisy was the tribute which vice paid to virtue. In any event, courage should be taken from the fact that those who called for freedom might someday free their own people and those they oppressed including, in particular, the people of Afghanistan. The operation carried out by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States assisted by the United States could stand as a model for action in defence of freedom. It created the possibility for the people of Grenada freely to choose their destiny. The openness of the elections just held in Grenada was beyond question and if they were characterized as not being free, that merely reflected the bias of the speaker.

9. The Chairman then proposed that, taking into account the fact the statements that had been made in the Committee which would be reflected in its report, the Committee decide to accept the credentials of the representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraph 4 of the memorandum would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible. The Committee was informed that firm assurances to that effect had been given to the Secretariat by the authorities of the Member States concerned. Accordingly, the following draft resolution was proposed by the Chairman for adoption by the Committee:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General dated 12 December 1984,

"Taking into account the reservations made during the debate,

"Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the Member States concerned."

10. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote.

11. Subsequently, the Chairman proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 13). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

12. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

13. The Credentials Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the thirty-ninth session  
of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Approves the second report of the Credentials Committee.

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