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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Item 69 of the preliminary list*
STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 7 April 1986 from the Permanent
Representative of Benin to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the declaration issued on 26 March 1986 concerning the grave situation which prevails in the Gulf of Sidrah and which has been the subject of meetings of the Security Council since 26 March 1986.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated to all Permanent Missions and delegations as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. I. OGOUMA
Ambassador

* A/41/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Declaration of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the
People's Revolutionary Party of Benin

Since Monday, 24 March 1986, the maritime waters and airspace of the Gulf of Sidrah, off the coast of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, have been the scene of United States-Libyan military confrontations which seriously threaten peace and security in that part of the Mediterranean and expose all mankind to the disquieting risk of a conflagration with incalculable consequences.

In view of the extreme gravity of this situation, the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, at the conclusion of an extraordinary meeting held today, Wednesday, 26 March 1986, has decided to issue the following declaration:

In the strategy of hegemony and colonial reconquest devised by imperialism in order to curb the liberation struggle of the peoples and perpetuate its domination over them, military manoeuvres today hold pride of place.

Deployments of military force in time of peace constitute the means which imperialism periodically uses in order to intimidate States and to undermine their legitimate will for independence by constantly holding over them the spectre of military intervention; the only objective of these tactics is the maintenance of an international political order favourable to the despicable designs of the forces of evil and the powers of money.

That is how the recent new round of manoeuvres of the United States Sixth Fleet off the Libyan coast, i.e., in that part of the Mediterranean and the northern sub-region of our continent that lies at the centre of the destabilizing designs of imperialist-Zionist forces, is to be understood.

By resorting to force and acts of deliberate provocation, the United States Administration has not shown the wisdom and balance that should characterize the action of a great Power, a permanent member of the Security Council of the United Nations, which has the noble mission of ensuring the safeguarding of international peace and security.

The Beninese people, its avant-garde Party, the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, and its revolutionary State, which suffered the bitter experience of the imperialist armed aggression of Sunday, 16 January 1977, express their total and unswerving support for the valiant Libyan Arab people amid these harsh trials imposed on it by aggressive and revanchist imperialism.

They appeal to the active solidarity of all peace- and freedom-loving peoples in resolutely opposing the destabilization attempts of which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is currently the victim.

The Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin warmly salutes the inflexible courage and determination of the intrepid Libyan Arab people and expresses its profound conviction that, under the guidance of its leader, Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, leader of the 1 September revolution, it will triumph over the criminal aggression perpetrated against its great and beautiful country.

Ready for revolution!

The struggle continues.
