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14 April 1980  
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TELEGRAM DATED 13 APRIL 1980 FROM THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN  
ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT  
TRANSMITTING A "DECLARATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN ISSUED ON 11 APRIL 1980"

American and British imperialists, Chinese hegemonists, and their flunkies are unceasingly carrying on their undeclared war against the people of Afghanistan, using the bases in the immediate neighbourhood of the country.

These forces, rallied around a reactionary axis, are resorting to any attempt for disrupting the normal peaceful life of our countrymen.

They shamelessly embarked on any indecent method to perpetuate their vicious aims and never renounce from any dirty act of destruction that is denounced by the United Nations and all democratic countries. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan brings to the attention of all moslem people of Afghanistan, all states and nations, and entire national and progressive forces of the world that:

As facts and realities evidenced in the course of the recent events, the subversive bands used, in their fight against the democratic Afghanistan, the country which is an independent member of the United Nations, and a member of the non-aligned movement, lethal chemical weapons.

On March 25th this year in the province of Herat a military security patrol of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan collided with a subversive band which had infiltrated the country from the outside. After wiping out the band they captured arms and weapons which were recognized as poisoning American-made chemical grenades, the lethal effects of which last for a long time in the atmosphere.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan government possesses irrefutable proofs that show the said grenades had been handed over to the subversive band from the outside of the country.

The government of Afghanistan expresses readiness to investigate and examine, along with competent international authorities, the use and the functioning of these American-made grenades and show how these exported mercenaries use them against the peaceful population. The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan deems it necessary to remind that in spite of international protests these chemical weapons were used by the USA in the criminal war waged against Vietnam to eliminate the civilian population and inflict serious damages to the environment.

As is known, it is not incidental that a few days ago the US mass-media, which is under strict control of the CIA and the Pentagon, voiced out hues and cries about the use of poisoning products by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan forces against subversive bands.

American and some West European press media even went further by saying that the limited contingents of the Soviet troops, requested for assistance by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in accordance with international law and the UN Charter, have used chemical weapons against the Afghan civilian population. These assertions can only be shameless lies and accusations if brought into the light of recent events and facts.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan expresses its deep indignation and wrath over the training and organization of these mercenary formations and resolutely protest against the infiltration of armed bandits with chemical weapons, which is done with the help of international imperialism, regional reaction, and who resort to savage murder of the civilian population.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan draws the attention of those neighbouring countries that put their soil at the disposal of mercenaries and subversive bands that they take the full responsibility of allowing American espionage organizations to operate chemical weapons by using their soil.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan calls on all democratic states, national and progressive movements and the entire world community to condemn the criminal US imperialist activities and prevent them from their aggressive plans and schemes against Afghanistan.

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I would like to request Your Excellency to have the above-~~declaration~~ published and circulated as an official document of the Committee on Disarmament.

(signed) A. Hadi Mokammel  
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Democratic Republic of  
Afghanistan