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Twenty-fifth session  
Agenda item 73

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1971

Headquarters accommodation

Note verbale dated 7 December 1970 from the Permanent Representative  
of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request that the letter dated 27 May 1970 addressed to the Secretary-General by the representatives of Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Southern Yemen, the Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Republic and Yemen be circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

27 May 1970

Excellency,

We have the honour, upon instructions from our respective Governments, to bring to your attention the following:

1. On 22 May 1970, three Arabs were attacked in their offices with various instruments, including knives and clubs. The injuries inflicted upon them required hospitalization. One of them, Mr. Saadat Hasan, is a member of the Permanent Mission of the Yemen Arab Republic to the United Nations.
2. These two recent attacks constitute a part of a systematic pattern, started in 1966, of threats, harassments and aggressive acts against many members of our missions. Aside from all this, insults and obscene language by telephone and letters have quite frequently pestered members of our missions. Moreover, our offices have been subjected to invasion and forced occupation which often resulted in ransacking these offices and destroying furniture and files.
3. It is well known that the perpetrators of these dastardly acts are nationals of the United States of America, the host country of the United Nations. It is also well known that the majority of these criminals belong to, and are members of, two identifiable Zionist organizations. Despite these two facts, which are common knowledge to the United States authorities, none of the members of these two organizations who committed these aggressive acts have been apprehended or punished.
4. The aggressive acts against both the members and the premises of our missions are connected with and should be considered within the context of similar aggressive acts against members and premises of numerous missions to the United Nations.
5. Such a state of affairs becomes indeed intolerable and more ominous when attacks of this nature subject diplomats at the United Nations to bodily harm, sometimes endangering their lives. No less important an effect is the possibility of interfering, by intimidation, with their freedom of expression, without which the United Nations cannot function properly.

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York

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6. Therefore, we submit that it behoves the Secretary-General to take whatever steps he may deem fit to inform the United States Mission to the United Nations that, unless effective measures are adopted to put an end to such aggressive acts, in accordance with its responsibility as the host Government and in compliance with its commitment to the United Nations, the General Assembly will be apprised of this critical situation, with the hope that it will take appropriate action which will make it possible for diplomats to live and work in peace in the host country.

We have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

(Signed) Nouredine HABRI (Algeria)  
Tabib EL-SHIBIB (Iraq)  
Muhammad H. EL-FARRA (Jordan)  
Muhelhel Mohamad AL-MUDHAF (Kuwait)  
Edouard GHORRA (Lebanon)  
Wahbi EL-BOURI (Libya)  
Ahmed Taibi BENHIMA (Morocco)  
Jamil M. BAROODY (Saudi Arabia)  
Mohammad Ali ABDULLA (Southern Yemen)  
FAKHREDDINE Mohammed (Sudan)  
George J. TOMEH (Syria)  
Hédi DRISSI (Tunisia)  
Mohammad Hassan EL-ZAYYAT (United Arab  
Republic)  
Mohamed Said AL-ATTAR (Yemen)

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