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THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS
FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Letter dated 20 November 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security" and in particular to draft resolution A/35/L.12 on which the Cyprus delegation today abstained, I beg to reiterate the explanation given on 2 February 1980 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Nicos Rolandis, following the conclusion of the sixth emergency special session, which is very much valid today. Mr. Rolandis stated:

"We have participated in the vote and abstained in order to show our interest but also our objection, our protest, our grief and bitterness at the fact that six years after the tragic and condemnable events of 1974, the world community as a whole has not shown sufficient interest and has not found it possible to condemn the invasion effectively and free Cyprus from the occupation troops.

"While we are suffering from injustice and thousands of foreign troops are still on our soil, we are called upon to concern ourselves with other interventions. I consider this as contempt for our problem and an affront to the feelings of our people who are suffering and are being oppressed."

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 116.

(Signed) Andreas V. MAVROMMATIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations