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LETTER DATED 3 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic regarding further escalation of aggression by the Republic of Armenia against Azerbaijan and mediation efforts being conducted by the Russian Federation in this respect (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Yashar T. ALIYEV Chargé d'affaires a.i.

<u>Annex</u>

[Original: Russian]

Statement issued on 3 February 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic

In connection with recent developments in the situation created by the new escalation of aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijani Republic, the related mediation efforts of the Russian Federation to promote a negotiated settlement of the conflict between the Republic of Armenia and the Azerbaijani Republic and the visit to Azerbaijan of the Special Envoy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. V. N. Kazimirov, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic is authorized to make the following statement.

As is well known, the Azerbaijani side has consistently advocated and continues to advocate a comprehensive settlement of the conflict between the Republic of Armenia and the Azerbaijani Republic by political means and, as a first step, the signing of a cease-fire agreement.

The Azerbaijani Republic has been and remains committed to the view that a cease-fire agreement must be signed with those who are in point of fact conducting combat operations in the territory of the Azerbaijani Republic, namely, the Republic of Armenia.

Consequently, the proposal by the mediator of the Russian Federation for the conclusion of an agreement on the cessation of military action has been noted by the leaders of Azerbaijan with considerable understanding and keen interest.

However, it must, unfortunately, be noted that, in spite of the efforts of the Russian Federation mediator, propaganda has once again prevailed over realism, and that this has caused the refusal by the leaders of the Republic of Armenia to conclude a truce with the Azerbaijani Republic and put an end to the bloodshed. This refusal has been coupled with the condition that the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic should be accorded international legal status, which would be at variance with international law.

One can only conclude from this that the real objective of the leaders of the Republic of Armenia is to carry out military aggression against the Azerbaijani Republic and to continue their occupation of Azerbaijani territory.

We call upon the international community and international organizations vigorously to condemn the annexationist policy of the Republic of Armenia, the pursuit of which dooms the peoples of the region to further loss of life and renewed suffering.
