



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/14344
23 January 1981

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 JANUARY 1981 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE
UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I wish to refer to the letter from the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, dated 15 January 1981, addressed to Your Excellency, and circulated as Security Council document S/14332.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations wishes to affirm the following:

1. The Basic People's Congresses in their Third Regular Session for 1980 have decided, in accordance with the legislative procedures followed in the Jamahiriya, to ratify the special agreement between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Malta and to submit the dispute over the continental shelf to the International Court of Justice, provided that no drilling in the disputed area will be allowed until the International Court of Justice has concluded its consideration of the matter.

2. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has stated, at the outset and during negotiations, that it will not accept commencement of drilling operations in the disputed area until a settlement has been reached for the dispute over delimitation of the continental shelf between the two countries. In this respect, I wish to reaffirm what was contained in paragraph 6 of Your Excellency's report on the Mission of your Special Envoy, document S/14256, which states that "Malta has confirmed that it had accepted an implicit understanding when the agreement was signed in 1976, that it would not begin drilling operations until the Court had reached a decision and an agreement on delimitation had been concluded in accordance with Article III of the agreement."

3. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya reaffirms its anxiousness for peace and security in the region and the world and again reaffirms its anxiousness for the continuation of relations of friendship, co-operation and good neighbourliness with Malta.

I would kindly request that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Awad S. BURWIN
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.