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### RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION

Letter dated 22 August 1994 from the Permanent Representative of  
Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba condemning the illegal use of Guantanamo naval base, and to request that this letter and the said text be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 97 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Fernando REMIREZ DE ESTENOZ  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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\* A/49/150.

ANNEX

Statement dated 19 August 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of Cuba condemning the illegal use of Guantanamo Naval Base

The President of the United States of America has announced that the Government of that country has decided not to permit Cuban citizens who emigrate illegally to enter United States territory, and to transfer any who may be intercepted at sea to the naval base at Guantanamo.

The Government of the Republic of Cuba vigorously protests the illegal use by the United States of a part of Cuban national territory in Guantanamo Bay, where it by force maintains a naval base; on this occasion, the United States Government declares that it intends to use the base as a concentration camp for Cuban citizens who leave their country illegally, prompted by the sordid and hostile policy that the United States has pursued with impunity for the last 35 years and that essentially consists of a criminal blockade which, in the present circumstances, is resulting in large-scale emigration.

The arbitrary use of that portion of Cuban soil has on repeated occasions been the subject of very strong protests by the Government and people of Cuba, who object not only to the presence of a naval base there against their will, but also to the use of national territory as a centre for processing Haitians and Cubans intercepted on the high seas and wishing to move to the United States.

In recent days the Government of the Republic of Cuba publicly expressed its grave concern at the violent clashes which occurred on 13 August and which recurred just recently between the military personnel of that base and the Haitian refugees being held within it in appallingly unhealthy and overcrowded conditions.

Despite this dangerous situation, the President of the United States has just announced that that military enclave will also be used to house Cuban citizens who are now being refused entry, thereby ignoring the consequences that may ensue, and the effect it will have on the health, stability and tranquillity of Cuban and neighbouring populations, as has already been stated on other occasions.

The Government of Cuba declares that the Cuban people object very strongly to this new decision of the White House, and reiterates yet again its vigorous rejection of the illegal United States military presence in its territory.

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