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LETTER DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1977 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF JORDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the complaint made by the Republic of Benin to the Security Council regarding an act of aggression committed by a commando unit of mercenaries who had landed on the airport of Cotonou on 16 January 1977.

..... I enclose herewith a communiqué issued by the Arab Group in this regard. I should be grateful if you would kindly have the communiqué circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sami I. GAMMOH
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.
and
Chairman of the Arab Group

Annex

Communiqué issued by the Arab Group

The Arab Group at their meeting at the Office of the League of Arab States on 8 February 1977, discussed the act of aggression committed by a group of mercenaries, who had landed on the airport of Cotonou in the People's Republic of Benin, on Sunday, 16 January 1977, causing extensive damage to several public buildings as well as loss of life, in an attempt to undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Benin.

The Arab Group expressed grave concern over the events which took place in Cotonou and its dangerous implications.

The Arab Group expressed deep satisfaction at the success achieved by the People's Armed Forces of Benin and the Government of Benin in repulsing the attack and declared its sympathy with the people and the Government of Benin on the loss of life and the damage caused as a result of the aggressive commando attack.

The Arab Group confirmed its solidarity with the Government and people of Benin in their determination to protect and preserve their independence and territorial integrity.

The Arab Group expressed the hope that the meeting of the Security Council, requested by the Government of Benin to discuss the question, would result in effective measures to deter and prevent such events in the future.

8 February 1977
