



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/36/434
12 August 1981

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH

Thirty-sixth session
Item 87 of the provisional agenda*

INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter dated 11 August 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a letter addressed to Your Excellency from Colonel Muammar Al-Qaddafi, Leader of the First of September Revolution, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, concerning the inhuman treatment of the Irish people by the British Government.

I wish to request, Excellency, that the text of the aforementioned letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 87 of the provisional agenda.

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

* A/36/150.

ANNEX

Letter from the Leader of the First of September Revolution,
Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, to the
Secretary-General

HIS EXCELLENCY
DR. KURT WALDHEIM
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF
THE UNITED NATIONS
UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

EXCELLENCY,

IT IS WITH REGRET THAT I DRAW YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION TO A VERY PAINFUL HUMAN TRAGEDY, A TRAGEDY THAT SHOULD HAVE SHOCKED THE CONSCIENCE OF THE ENTIRE WORLD. BUT IT APPEARS THAT THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE HAS LOST ITS CONSCIENCE DUE TO THE MANY VIOLENT SHOCKS IT HAS SUFFERED.

I WOULD LIKE TO DRAW YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION TO THE SERIES OF COURAGEOUS, BUT TRAGIC AND GRADUAL DEATH TAKING A TOLL, EVERY SIXTY DAYS, OF SOME OF THE BRAVEST SONS OF NORTHERN IRELAND WHO ARE PAYING WITH THEIR OWN LIVES FOR THE INTRANSIGENT ATTITUDE OF BRITAIN WHICH REFUSES TO GRANT THEM THE STATUS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS. THESE MEN SHOULD BE GRANTED A POLITICAL STATUS IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THEY ARE INDEED FIGHTING FOR A JUST AND SACRED CAUSE; THE FREEDOM OF THEIR NATION, WHICH IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S SMALLEST, BUT WHICH STILL HAS ITS PLACE UNDER THE SUN, FREE AS GOD CREATED IT.

EXCELLENCY,

IN SPITE OF THE GOOD RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND BRITAIN, I WISH FOR HUMANITARIAN AND REVOLUTIONARY CONSIDERATIONS AND NOT POLITICAL ONES AS I DO NOT ASSUME ANY POLITICAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION, TO CALL UPON YOUR EXCELLENCY, AND THROUGH YOU, UPON THE UNITED NATIONS, AND URGE YOU TO INTERVENE IN ORDER TO PUT AN END TO THE SERIES OF TRAGIC DEATHS. OTHERWISE, THE PRICE THAT WILL BE PAID BY ALL INTRANSIGENT PEOPLE AND FENCE-SITTERS MAY BE MORE DAMAGING AND PAINFUL.

IF WE CANNOT PUT A HALT TO THIS TRAGEDY, HISTORY, THE FUTURE GENERATIONS AND THE CONSCIENCE OF HUMANITY, WHEN RE-AWAKENED, WILL CURSE THE

A/36/434
English
Annex
Page 2

THE CIVILIZATION OF OUR TIMES AND LOOK ON THIS ERA AS A RELAPSE TO THE
HATEFUL DARK AGES, EVEN SURPASSING THEM IN DISCRIMINATION AND DEGENERATION.

EXCELLENCY,

I LOUDLY AND STRONGLY CONDEMN THE INHUMAN ATTITUDE OF THE BRITISH
AND THE FEEBLE STANCE OF THE WORLD TOWARD THIS HUMAN CAUSE, REGARDLESS
OF ITS POLITICAL ASPECT , WHICH IS EQUALLY JUST.

I BELIEVE THAT MY VOICE EXPRESSES THE OPINIONS AND SENTIMENTS OF
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHOSE VOICES CANNOT BE HEARD.

THUS, I PUT ON RECORD FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS A DOCUMENT OF THE
UNITED NATIONS THAT WILL SPARE MY COUNTRY AND MYSELF THE CONDEMNATION OF
HISTORY, AND WHICH ALSO CONSTITUTES A DOCUMENT IN DEFENSE OF A GROUP OF
HUMAN BEINGS DRIVEN TO THEIR DEATH AT AN AVERAGE OF ONE PERSON EVERY SIXTY
DAYS, A CASE REMINISCENT OF THOSE SAD AND TERRIFYING HUMAN OFFERINGS IN
THE AGES LONG PAST, WITHOUT ANY PROTEST FROM THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

COLONEL MUAMMAR AL-QADDAFI
LEADER OF THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER REVOLUTION
SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA
