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LETTER DATED 31 JULY 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey the attached letter, dated 30 July 1997, which I have received from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations (see annex). Attached to the letter is the tenth biweekly report on the multinational protection force for Albania requested by the Security Council in its resolutions 1101 (1997) of 28 March and 1114 (1997) of 19 June 1997.

I should appreciate your bringing the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

Annex

Letter dated 30 July 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit the tenth report on the multinational protection force for Albania (see appendix). The report is submitted pursuant to the requirement set out in paragraph 9 of Security Council resolution 1114 (1997) of 19 June 1997, in which the Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide reports, at least every two weeks, through the Secretary-General, to the Council. The ninth such report was conveyed to you on 16 July 1997 (see S/1997/551).

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and the tenth report circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Giulio TERZI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Appendix

Tenth report to the Security Council on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 March 1997, the Security Council adopted resolution 1101 (1997), in paragraph 2 of which it welcomed the offer made by certain Member States to establish a temporary and limited multinational protection force to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance.

2. On 19 June 1997, the Security Council adopted resolution 1114 (1997), in paragraph 2 of which it welcomed the readiness of the countries contributing to the multinational protection force to maintain their military contingents in Albania for a limited time. In paragraph 3 of the resolution the Council welcomed the intention of the countries contributing to the force to continue to facilitate the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance and to help create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance. It also took note of all the elements contained in the sixth report on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania (see S/1997/460), concerning, inter alia, the electoral monitoring mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). It decided that the operation would be limited to a period of 45 days from 28 June 1997.

3. In both resolutions, the Security Council requested the Member States participating in the multinational protection force to provide periodic reports to the Council through the Secretary-General, at least every two weeks. The first nine reports on the operation of the force were provided on 9 and 25 April, 9 and 23 May, 6, 13 and 26 June and 2 and 16 July 1997.

4. This is the tenth such report to the Security Council on the operation of the multinational protection force in Albania and the fourth report submitted to the Council pursuant to paragraph 9 of resolution 1114 (1997). The present report refers to the events up to 30 July and in particular to the activity of the force in the third phase of the operation, which entails the withdrawal from the area at the end of the mission, whose duration was limited by the Security Council in its resolution 1114 (1997) until 12 August 1997.

II. MULTINATIONAL PROTECTION FORCE

A. Political guidance

5. The Steering Committee, consisting of the political directors of the 11 troop-contributing countries and the Commander of the operation, continues to follow the overall situation on the ground and to ensure the full compliance of

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the activities of the force with the Security Council mandate. It held meetings on 4, 9, 14, 23 and 30 April, 6, 13, 14 and 22 May, 4, 10, 20, 25 and 29 June and 2, 15, 23 and 30 July.

6. Representatives of the following international organizations attended the meetings of the Steering Committee as observers, as appropriate: United Nations, OSCE, European Union (EU), Western European Union (WEU) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

B. Cooperation with Albanian authorities and with international organizations

7. The Ambassador of Albania to Italy attended the Steering Committee meeting on 23 July and provided information concerning the political situation in Albania after the elections.

8. The force has helped to create a secure environment during the electoral process, in particular for the OSCE/ODIHR missions, within the framework of the Security Council mandate.

9. The force facilitated the safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance, which resumed after the elections, and helped create a secure environment for the missions of international organizations in Albania, including those providing humanitarian assistance, in accordance with the mandate defined in resolution 1114 (1997).

10. On 30 July, the new Albanian Prime Minister, Mr. Fatos Nano, paid a visit to Italy together with Deputy Prime Minister Bashkim Fino, Minister of State Kastriot Islami, Foreign Minister Paskal Milo, Interior Minister Neritan Ceka, Defence Minister Sabit Brokaj, Finance Minister Arben Malaj and Minister of Justice Thimjo Kondi. They had meetings in Rome with Prime Minister Romano Prodi and their counterparts in the Government of Italy.

11. A second international meeting on Albania has been convened in Rome for 31 July 1997 under the chairmanship of the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Lamberto Dini. All the force-contributing countries and Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America have been invited to attend the meeting. The following international organizations have also been invited: the United Nations and related agencies, EU, OSCE, Council of Europe, WEU, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), European Investment Bank (EIB) and ICRC. Albania will be represented by the Prime Minister and the above-mentioned members of the Cabinet.

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C. Force deployment

12. At the conclusion of the electoral process the force started reducing its deployment, although continuing, as appropriate, its reconnaissance, patrolling and escort missions.

13. The operational plan for the withdrawal of the force provides for the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
19 July	Romanian contingent completed its withdrawal.
23 July	Spanish continent completed its withdrawal.
24 July	Belgian contingent completed its withdrawal.
25 July	Slovenian contingent completed its withdrawal.
26 July	Austrian contingent completed its withdrawal.
27 July	Danish contingent completed its withdrawal.
1 August	Greek contingent will complete its withdrawal.
	Turkish contingent will complete its withdrawal.
3 August	French contingent will complete its withdrawal.
4 August	Portuguese aircraft will stop providing flights.
11 August	Italian contingent will complete its withdrawal.
	Force headquarters in Tirana will close.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

14. The force has been an essential component of the response by the international community to the Albanian crisis. As the force carried out its mandate, a considerable amount of humanitarian assistance reached the Albanian population, elections took place and a newly elected Government was formed. However, the deep-rooted problems of the country will still need action by the international community. The experience acquired by the force will help in identifying possible measures to be taken.
