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Thirty-sixth session  
Agenda item 33  
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 13 October 1981 from the Permanent Representative of  
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Government of the United States of America.

I request you, Sir, to circulate the text of this statement as an official document both of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) O. TROYANOVSKY

ANNEX

Statement by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
to the Government of the United States of America

In the last few days the United States of America has been exerting gross pressure on a sovereign State, the Arab Republic of Egypt. This is the only assessment that can be made of the action of sending United States warships to the coasts of Egypt, and of placing in a high state of military readiness units of the marines in the Mediterranean region and also the so-called "rapid deployment force" stationed in United States territory. Equally inadmissible are the statements by United States officials in which, in essence, attempts are being made to dictate to the Egyptians what they ought to do.

It is perfectly obvious that no internal events occurring in this or that State - in this case, in Egypt - can serve as justification for acts of this kind by a foreign Power which are incompatible with the generally-accepted norms governing relations between States.

Irrespective of whether a particular event in Egypt is or is not to the liking of the United States, it does not give the United States the right to exert pressure on this country and on its people, or to interfere literally from the very first moment in what is occurring there.

There cannot be two opinions about this: we are faced by an attempt at gross diktat from without, by an attempt to disregard the right of a people to determine its own destiny. If the action now being taken by the United States is not interference in the internal affairs of another State, then what indeed is such interference?

The Government of the United States of America must realize that its actions in connexion with what is occurring in Egypt are not only unlawful, but are also aggravating dangerous tension in the whole of this region.

All this inconsistent with the statements repeatedly made by the leaders of the United States of America regarding the need to display restraint in international relations and to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of other countries and peoples; it is directly at variance also with the task of reducing tension and strengthening international security, the task which is incumbent on all States and is now at the centre of attention at the present session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Soviet Government resolutely condemns attempts by the United States of America to interfere in any way in the internal affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt. What is happening around Egypt is bound to affect the security interests of the Soviet Union; and it will watch attentively the development of events.

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