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LETTER DATED 24 NOVEMBER 1981 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya I have the honour to inform you of the following:

As a result of the civil war which lasted from 1965 to 1980, the deterioration of the security of our Chadian sister State, which worsened after the insurgency of the former Minister of Defence, Mr. Hissene Habre, against the Chadian Government, the total collapse of the country's political and economic state of affairs and the loss of thousands of innocent lives, the Chadian Government requested the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to help in putting an end to the civil war and re-establishing peace and security in Chad. In response to that urgent plea, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya dispatched some of its armed forces in late 1980 to support the Chadian Government on the following basis:

1. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is committed to the support of the Chadian Government by the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance concluded by the two countries on 15 June 1980 and registered at the Secretariat of the United Nations Organization in October of 1980. In article II, this Treaty provides that "both parties agree to exchange information in the military field and in the internal and external security fields and to provide support in the event either or both face any direct or indirect threat".

2. The seventeenth African summit conference in Sierra Leone called upon "all African States to support the Transitional National Union Government of President Goukouni Oueddi". In its resolution AHG/Res. 1011 (XVII), it reaffirmed its "support for the Transitional National Union Government headed by the President of that Government" and appealed "to all OAU member States to continue to support the Transitional National Union Government in its effort to resolve the Chadian crisis".

3. The support of the Transitional National Union Government of President Goukouni Oueddi and enabling it to control the situation were the only viable means to end the civil war and enable the Chadian people to avoid the further loss of innocent lives, to re-establish peace and to dedicate itself to national reconstruction.

The presence of the Libyan forces in Chad has contributed to the fulfilment of the task with which it was entrusted, in a manner which has put a final end to the civil war and re-established peace in all the regions of Chad, after 16 years of instability.

Right from the start, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya emphasized that the presence of its forces in Chad was a temporary measure and that they would be withdrawn just as soon as the Chadian Government requested them to do so.

In the first half of November, the Chadian Government requested the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to withdraw its forces from Chad. The withdrawal of the Libyan forces commenced immediately due to the commitment of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to earlier pledges. All the Libyan forces present in Chad were totally withdrawn by the third week of November 1981.

While pleased to inform you of the above, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya earnestly hopes that peace and security will continue to reign in Chad and that the brotherly Chadian people will thus be able to commence national reconstruction, with the help of all peace-loving forces. Any deterioration of the situation there would undoubtedly have negative consequences on neighbouring countries, including the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

I would be grateful, Excellency, if the text of this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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

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