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Thirty-seventh session Items 31 and 34 of the preliminary list*

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 5 July 1982 from the Alternate Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the annexed text of the message sent to us by His Excellency Dr. Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Council of State and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, in his capacity as Chairman of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries.

I request you, Sir, to have the annex to this note circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 31 and 34 of the preliminary list.

(<u>Signed</u>) Rolando LOPEZ DEL AMO Ambassador Alternate Permanent Representative

* A/37/50/Rev.l.

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Annex

Message dated 3 July 1982 to the Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

It is with great concern that we have received a message from Mr. Elias Sarkis, President of the Republic of Lebanon, in which he addresses a call to our Movement with a view to safeguarding the city of Beirut from approaching catastrophe and the resulting massacre of its population.

In line with previous requests, we appeal once again to all Non-Aligned Countries to direct our efforts towards halting the Zionist aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and achieving the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

Our Movement cannot remain indifferent in the face of this horrendous crime against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, and our condemnation should be unanimous and such as to make the invaders feel that the world's conscience will not permit it and that our peoples will respond with sufficient energy and decision.

We cannot permit the aggressors to continue to trample the most elementary rules of international coexistence, and it is imperative that the strength of our Movement should be felt as a decisive factor, capable of staying the hand of the aggressor.

In the city of Beirut Israeli forces are plotting genocide which is not aimed at the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples alone; it is also a challenge to humanity and outrages human sensibilities.

The world must not permit this act of barbarism, and, in conformity with the decisions of the most recent meetings of our Movement, I call upon you to offer with all your power solidarity with and support for the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, as well as to express the most severe condemnation of the Israeli aggressor.

(<u>Signed</u>) Fidel CASTRO RUZ Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries